

Appendix - K

Lesson Plan - Traditional Lesson

VIII Std

Date: 29-8-1975

Geography

Topic: North America, Location, Size, and Coast line

- T. Why was America called the New World?
- S. As America was discovered rather recently, it was called the New World.
- T. Good. What was the discovery of Columbus?
- S. Christopher Columbus, in his attempt to reach India by travelling via west from Europe, reached an island off the main land of North America. He called these islands 'Indies'.
- T. Name the peoples who established colonies in North America?
- S. The British, French, Spanish, etc. established colonies in North America.
- T. In what regions did they establish their colonies?
- S. The English established colonies along the mid Atlantic coast, the French held parts of Canada. The Spanish settled in around Gulf of Mexico.
- T. Very good. These Europeans settled in the most convenient and fertile places. Let us in this class learn, the details of North America's location, size and coastal lines. Which is the largest continent of the world?
- S. Asia.
- T. Right. Africa is the second largest continent. Next comes North America. (To ask them to look into the globe) You will notice that the continent of North America lies entirely in the northern hemisphere. Name the oceans which surround the continent.
- S. Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Artic Ocean.

- T. Very good. (To write them on the black board with their direction) North America lies between 7° N and 80° N latitude and between 20° W and 120° W longitude. (The teacher writes them on the black board and shows it on the map. (Showing the Bering Strait, he asks) what is it?
- S. Bering Strait.
- T. What is a strait?
- S. A narrow passage of water connecting two oceans.
- T. (if not given by the pupils, the teacher tells it) Bering Strait separates North America from Asia. So Asia is very near to North America. Likewise, Ice land, one of the European islands is also close to Greenland. (teacher to show them on the map) Do you know the extent of India roughly?
- S. About two and a half million sq km.
- T. North America is about eight times, the size of India. It is roughly about 20 million sq km. It is like a triangular in shape, with its base in the north and tapers towards south. What will be the shape of S. America roughly?
- S. It is also like a triangle.
- T. Yes. (To ask a student to show the tropic of cancer). Where does the tropic of cancer cut the continent?
- S. The tropic of cancer cuts through the narrow part of the continent.
- T. It cuts through the tip of the Californian peninsula. Latitude 40° N cuts across the United States from the centre of California to New York. (To ask them to look on the map). The whole of U.S.A. is outside the tropics, while the West Indies is entirely within the tropics. So how will be the climate of West Indies?
- S. It will be almost similar to India.
- T. Yes. Now let us see the coastline of North America. North America has got a longer coast line. (To show on the map) It is longer than S. America. There is a difference between Atlantic coast line and Pacific coast line of North America. The Atlantic coast is broken by deep, broad mouthed inlets. This may be because of the drowning of ancient river valleys. The Pacific coast is not like it. Have you heard of the term 'indented coast line'? (To write it on the black board)

S. A zigzag coast line.

T. Yes. (if not given the teacher is to tell) He draws a diagram to show it. A long and highly zigzag coast line with alternate creeks and caps or bays and head lines is known as indented coast line. What will be the result of this feature?

S. There will be more harbours in the Atlantic coast than Pacific coast.

T. Very good. Indented coast line is best suited to the harbours. The bays and headlines, give protection to ships in the barbours from cyclones, and high waves. (Showing the Canadian Pacific Coast) But the Canadian Pacific coast is equally indented as the Atlantic coast.

The teacher closes the lesson by asking the following questions.

1. Between which latitudes does North America Lie?
2. Between which longitudes does North America lie?
3. What is the name of the strait that separates N. America from Asia?
4. What is the extent of North America?
5. Why there are more harbours in Atlantic coast of North America than Pacific coast?