

Level 9 Geographies of Interconnection

1. RESEARCH AND MAPPING TASK

Objective: To find out how Australia is linked to other countries via trade.

1. Create map that links Australia to its trading partners around the world.
2. Include Australia's main export and import destinations
3. Provide a list of Australia's main import and export products.
4. Include information regarding the impact international import and export have on Australia's economy.

2. CLOTHESLINE SLEUTH

Objective: The student will trace the origins of various clothing items to their origins and their agricultural sources.

1. Where do you think your clothes come from?
2. What are they made of?
3. Which items came from animals? What animals?

You can find out what your clothes are made from by looking at the garment's label. By law each garment must be labeled to show the generic name of the fabric from which the garment is made, the percentages of fibers present, the manufacturer's name or registered identification number, the country where the garment was made and instructions for caring for the garment. Sometimes this information will be on more than one label.

Background:

- Cotton is the most common natural textile in use today.
- Most wool is produced by sheep. Some farmers also grow llamas for their wool. Mohair is softer than wool and is made from the hair of goats.
- Linen is made from the stalks of the flax plant. Most of the flax grown for linen is grown in European countries like Russia, France, the Netherlands and Ireland. Flax grown in the US is produced mostly for its seed. Linseed oil used for making linoleum and many other products comes from flaxseed.

3. ASSIGNMENT

Objective: To trace an item of clothing back to its origins

1. Use library resources to gather information about the material from which the garment is made.
2. Students should answer the following questions as they research the garment:
What raw materials were used to make this material?
Is this a natural or synthetic material?
Is this a material that is grown in Australia?
If not in Australia, where is this material produced?

What process is used to produce this material?

3. Look for the countries of origin on the labels of the clothes you are wearing and those of your class mates.
4. Pinpoint the countries on a world map.
5. List the countries on the board, and place a tally mark next to each one for every item of clothing that comes from there.

4. REPORT

Each group must prepare a report on the garment's origins to present to the class.