

Social Studies

Related Essential Questions:

1. How do our choices affect the way we live now and in the future?
 2. How does landscape affect community development?
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They will:

1. Discuss settlement patterns in China to make comparisons to our state (by looking at maps). Why do cities develop where they do?
2. Discuss how Gorge Dam has/will affect(ed) the geology of China.
3. Discuss *China Trade* – when trade opened up did the landscape of China change? How does this compare to the downtown partnership?
4. What goods from China would be needed for our Downtown Partnership Project?
5. Discuss some of Mansfield's history:
 - Was Mansfield ever industrial like China?
 - Will changing the rural nature of the town change the character of the town?

Class work as it applies to the objectives above:

1. Student groups are given a packet of three maps of China (population, climate and physical maps) and a series of questions to answer within each group. (Questions and maps attached.)
2. Students will view a Discovery film, THE THREE GORGES, highlighting the pros and cons of the current dam project on the Yangtze River. Discussion following the film will touch on the geological effects of the project now and in the future.
3. China Trade discussion. While we discuss the origins of America's China Trade, and its effects on the U.S. economy, we will relate those effects to the commercial effects we hope are realized when the Downtown Partnership is completed.
4. Goods from our classroom that are produced in China or Taiwan include computers, scissors, staplers, staple remover, paper clip dispenser, calculator, athletic shoes, etc. Students will reference the almanac, their text, and related classroom sources to answer the question, "What goods from China would be needed for our Downtown Partnership?" Students may speculate that iron, steel, cement, and other building materials may come from China, as well as some of the goods to be sold in the shops.
5. Mansfield has had small industries in the past. Students may speculate how some road names were given: Saw Mill Brook Lane, Clover Mill Road, Stone Mill Road. What industries might have existed in those areas? Why is Mansfield no longer an industrial area?