



CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY RELAY

Objectives:

- Students will explore the cultural geography of South America - including cuisine, dress, music, religion, and work life - by way of photographs and a fun relay activity.

Recommended Grades: 3-6

Materials (all included in the trunk):

- 20 Colored cones, 5 of each color (red, blue, yellow, green)
- Cultural Geography Relay cards (20)
- 20 Menu holders
- Hourglass (optional)
- Bell (optional)

Preparation: 5 minutes

- Distribute the colored cones and Cultural Geography Relay cards, with the photo sides down, at each Base Camp.
- Set 10 menu holders off to the side near the eastern edge of the map and 10 menu holders near the western edge.
- Preview the cards so you can help students locate the places if necessary.

Rules:



Shoes are not allowed on the map. Please have students remove shoes before walking on the map.



No writing utensils on the map.

PART 1: PLAY THE “CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY RELAY”

Gameplay

Divide the class into four teams—red, yellow, green, and blue—and instruct each team to line up on the gold-braided border near their “Base Camp” (the colored circles in the corners of the map).

Explain that each team will locate five places on the map using clues found on the photo cards. Working in pairs, students are to take turns following the clues and locating their places. They will need to take a cone with them as they set out. When they identify the correct location, the duo puts the card down on that spot and places the cone on top. Only one pair from each team will be on the map at a time. Teammates can help, but they must do so from the braid near their Base Camp.

After the players have placed their cone and card, they return to the Base Camp and tag the next pair of students. These two students draw a card, take a cone, and set off to find their cultural geography location.

Winning

Play continues until all of the cards and cones have been correctly placed. As each team completes its pile of cards, the entire team sits down in Base Camp. This helps identify which teams finish first, second, third, and fourth.

PART 2: EXPLORE THE PHOTO GALLERY

Direct the teams to take one menu holder to each of their locations, place the photo card in the holder on that spot, and return the cones to Base Camp. After the cards have been placed in the menu holders, have each team review their own team's cards, reading the facts on the back of each photo. After sufficient time, send the teams back to Base Camp. You may want to use the hourglass to time and the bell to signal that time is up.

Instruct the yellow team to visit the red team's cards and the red team to visit the yellow team's cards. Likewise, have the blue and green teams each view each other's cards. Students will stroll through the other team's "photo gallery" and learn more about the cultural geography of South America. Allow time for them to look at the photos and read the descriptions on the back. Then, send the students back to their respective Base Camps.

PART 3: SHARE THE CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Each student will have explored half of the Cultural Geography Relay cards. Lead a discussion about what the students have observed.

Ask students some of the following questions:

- What do people eat in South America?
- How do people make a living? What do they do for work?
- How do they make energy in South America?
- How do people entertain themselves?
- Did you notice anything related to religion?
- What did you learn about how people live?

Since students have not seen all of the photos, you may want to highlight certain photos by holding them up for students or passing them around as the discussion takes place.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION

Ask students: Based upon the photos you have seen today, where would you want to go? Why? This could be done in discussion or via a writing exercise back in the classroom.

