

Introduce an Unfamiliar Part of the World

GEOGRAPHY



Overview

Students research and present a location they've never visited, developing geography knowledge and cultural awareness while practicing informational presentation.

Steps for Teachers

1. Have students identify places they're curious about
2. Students choose a location and research its geography, culture, and daily life
3. Students identify 5 interesting facts viewers might not know
4. Students write a script as if giving a tour of the location
5. Students find or create backgrounds representing the location
6. Students record their 'virtual tour' with enthusiasm and detail
7. Create a class world map marking all locations presented

Example

A student introduces Madagascar. A character stands in front of a baobab tree: 'Welcome to Madagascar, an island off the coast of Africa! Did you know 90 percent of the animals here exist nowhere else on Earth? Like the lemurs—they're primates but not monkeys! The people here speak Malagasy and French. Let me show you the Avenue of the Baobabs, where trees that are 800 years old line the road like giants...'

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing
Geographic Accuracy	All facts are accurate and well-researched	Most information is accurate	Contains geographic or cultural errors
Cultural Respect	Presents culture respectfully and authentically	Generally respectful presentation	Contains stereotypes or disrespectful content
Interesting Content	Unique, surprising facts that engage viewers	Reasonably interesting information	Basic or boring facts only
Visual Representation	Backgrounds and visuals accurately represent the location	Visuals generally match the location	Visuals don't represent the location