

SIMULATED AIR TRIP TO SEOUL, KOREA

GRADES: K-8

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SUBJECT: Society/Culture

TIME REQUIRED: One class period

OBJECTIVES:

1. Stimulate students' interest in Korea
2. Introduce students to Korean culture
3. Help students visualize Korea's geography
4. Acquaint students with chopsticks and Korean food

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

- Wall map of Korea
- Video on Korean life or culture
- Chopsticks for each student
- Bowls of rice or noodles, or other food
- Books or magazines on Korea, or Xerox copies of a Korean folk tale
- Optional: Culture box
- Optional- Table outside classroom for scanning luggage, remote control (to use as a metal detector), announcement sign
- Time and flight number to Seoul, Korea
- Handmade ticket for Seoul Korea, optional handmade passports for students

BACKGROUND:

The simulated air flight provides an interesting format to begin a unit or lesson on Korea. It gives a brief overview of the country. Explain to your students that during the next class they are going to take a simulated flight to Korea and begin learning about this beautiful and fascinating country. You will be their flight attendant. This should build interest and anticipation as you outline the areas they will be studying. The simulated flight provides an opportunity for you to discuss Korea's geography in a relevant way to the students. Where is the country located? How long will it take to get there? And what will students see when they land?

As students check in and take seats, they can look over selected literature provided at each seat. Since snacks or food are usually served on flights, the use of chopsticks and an introduction to Korean style foods can be incorporated. The standard in-flight movie provides an opportunity to show a segment of a video focusing on the aspect of Korea you want to stress. If there is remaining time, a greeting or a simple phrase may be taught.

When the period ends, the flight is over. The next time students walk through your door they will enter Korea. This would be the time to introduce a culture box, if you have access to one, or invite a Korean guest speaker. Then students will be prepared to experience the new lesson or unit you have selected, whether it be language, geography, history, literature, economy, or art.

PROCEDURE:

1. Before students arrive, the classroom needs to be rearranged with desks in two rows similar to the seating arrangement on an airplane. The teacher becomes a flight attendant and greets each student at the door. (If the teacher has the opportunity, passports and tickets can be made and given to the students the prior to their flight. Tickets would then be collected at the door.)
2. Outside the classroom door, a sign should be made stating the time of departure, and the destination, Seoul, Korea. (Optional: Cones could be placed outside the door to keep students in line as they enter the aircraft. If you have a parent or student helper, a table could be used as the security check for their carry-on baggage. A helper could also use a chalk eraser or remote control to scan the students for metal detection.)
3. When students enter the plane and choose their seats, they will read the selected literature until all the students have been seated. Books can be obtained from a library, or a short Korean folk tale could be copied for each student.
4. The teacher/flight attendant will welcome the class on the flight to Seoul, Korea. She will tell the students what to expect during the flight.
5. Using a map, the teacher will show where Korea is located and present an interactive geography lesson. The length is dependent upon the teacher and the time available.
6. Next the teacher will serve a snack and demonstrate the use of chopsticks. Mini-marshmallows or Cheerios are good for practicing with chopsticks. If the teacher has help, instant noodles could be used. This is the time to discuss differences in food.
7. When students are nearly done, the teacher will begin an in-flight video on Korea. The teacher will show a segment of the video. Again the amount of discussion time will depend on the teacher and time available.
8. If there is any time left, a word or phrase in Korean could be taught.
9. As the class ends, so will the flight and the students will land in Korea. They will be ready to begin a lesson on Korean language, history, economics, literature, or art during the next class.

EVALUATION:

Using a teacher generated post card; students will write to a friend and share what they learned about Korea on their simulated flight.

RESOURCES:

- **PLANE TICKETS:** You can create a simple ticket or boarding pass by printing the time and destination on a paper that can be copied. If you have access to an old ticket, use white out where needed and enter Seoul, Korea and other data. Then photocopy the ticket.
- **PASSPORTS:** In grades 3-8 teachers could prepare passports for their students. I photocopied the cover of mine to use for the student passport covers. I created an inside page for the student's name and information, which I copied on white paper. I stapled the white paper inside the cover. Students can fill in their passport information. Additional pages can be stapled to create a mini journal, so at the end of the unit the students would have a booklet for notes and documentation. All passports should be stamped when the unit is completed.
- **POST CARDS FOR EVALUATION:** Enclosed is a copy of a postcard that you can use for an evaluation with your students. You can use your own postcard, or select a photograph

from a book or the Internet. Since these postcards won't be mailed, you can create them at any size.

- VIDEOS:

- Families of South Korea*. For ordering information, contact Families of the World, 1105 North Franklin Street, Wilmington, DE 19806. Phone 800-656-1338.

- Korea: Land of the Morning Calm*. Boulder, Co, Centre Productions, 1985.

- Discover Korea*. New York, NY: The Asia Society, 1987.

