

A TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF KOREA

GRADES: 3-6

AUTHOR: Barbara Sohler

SUBJECT: Geography

TIME REQUIRED: Eight class periods

OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand the shape, size and landforms of the Korean peninsula.
2. Be able to apply basic map skills when drawing a picture of Korea.
3. Create a three-dimensional map showing mountains, rivers, plains, oceans, directions and map key.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

- Map of the Korean Peninsula
- Pencil
- White glue
- Bowl
- Water
- Large piece of cardboard
- Tempera paint and paintbrush

BACKGROUND:

The Korean peninsula is slightly larger than Hungary but a little smaller than Iceland. It extends southward from eastern China and Siberia. The northern border of the Peninsula extends along the boundary of China and touches Russia in the northeast. Korea is situated between China to the west and Japan to the east. About 70% of Korea is mountainous, mainly to the north and east, with plains along the coasts. The northern border is mainly formed by two large rivers—the Amnok-kang (Yalu River) and the Tuman-kang (Tumen River). In the south, the Han River flows through the Peninsula's largest city and capital of South Korea, Seoul. The Peninsula is divided into two countries, North Korea and South Korea, at the 38th parallel.

PROCEDURES:

1. With a pencil, draw an outline of the Korean peninsula on the cardboard, sketching the rivers, mountains, cities, etc.
2. Tear scrap paper into small pieces and soak in water for a short time.
3. Mix and blend the soggy paper with glue to make pulp. This makes a stiff modeling material.
4. Use the pulp to fill in the outline of Korea, building the mountains and valleys.
5. Place the model in a warm spot and let it dry for several days.
6. Paint the map, perhaps the mountains brown, valleys green, seas, rivers and lakes blue.
7. When the first layer is dry, create a map key and label important cities, rivers, seas and especially the 38th parallel. Map directions should be labeled clearly.

EVALUATION:

- Assess whether all of the required criteria of a map, such as a map key, directions and major locations of importance must be shown.
- Observe how the students listen and follow directions.
- The map must have some resemblance to the map of Korea.

RESOURCES:

Children's Illustrated Atlas, World Book, Inc. 1996.

Choi, Woun Sik and Gordon, Douglas. *Modern Korea*. Korea Educational Development Institute. Seoul, Korea: Korea Textbook Cooperation. 2002.