

# European Geography & Cultures Class

## Summary & Class Structure

### Weeks 1 & 2 Lesson Plans & Checklists

#### **SUMMARY**

1 - World

2 - Europe

3 - The British Isles: United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, N. Ireland) and Ireland

4 - Nordic Countries (Iceland, Finland, and Scandinavia: Norway, Sweden & Denmark)

5 - Germany

6 - Alpine States (Switzerland, Austria, Lichtenstein, and Slovenia)

7 - The Low Countries (The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg)

8 - Central Europe (Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary)

9 - Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania

10 - European Russia

11 - Italy, Greece and Bulgaria

12 - Spain and Portugal

Bonus - France

*See related blog posts on <http://CottonRidgeHomeschool.com> for free PDF Files and images. The blog posts also have links to Map Folder, Stamp Album, and Card File instructions.*

# Coop Class Structure

**Note:** This plan calls for two lessons per Country or Region of Europe at coop, plus two lessons at home. This structure starts with the Week 3 Lesson Plan – The British Isles. Modify the structure to fit your needs.

## Lesson A - Coop

1. Pass out Map Folders and Mini Stamp Collecting Albums, applicable postage stamps and hinges.
2. Read Galloping the Globe if applicable.
3. Read Children Just Like Me if applicable.
4. Have students take turns reading A True Book or A to Z or similar book about the country.
5. Read/review the applicable pages in the DK Where on Earth? Atlas and the DK Children's World Atlas. Color in the country of the week on folder map.
6. Card Files: work on Flag, Map, Country Information, and Category cards while listening to an *Around the World Stories* audio story. Have cards made that they can copy.
7. Students may work on additional worksheets (coloring pages, etc.) after they are done with the card files while listening to the audio story. They may also color in the oceans on their folder map.

## Lesson A – Home (Art, Music, or Family Consumer Sciences)

1. Listen to music CDs from composers of the country.
2. Choose one project or meal to make (while listening to music if possible).
3. Listen to *Around the World Stories*.

## Lesson B – Coop

Art or Cooking Class

## Lesson B – Home (Art, Music, or Family Consumer Sciences)

1. Choose one project or meal to make.
2. Read a biography or another short book about the country.

## General Instructions for Card Files

- 3" x 5" or 4" x 6" white and colored index cards (pre-punched with hole in corner)
- 3" x 5" or 4" x 6" cardboard rectangles (pre-punched with hole in corner)
- Book rings (1-3/4" or 2" size)
- *World Map* card file pages
- *Compass Rose* card file pages
- *List of European Countries* card file pages
- *5 Themes of Geography* card file pages
- Sharpies or letter stickers
- Pencils and Colored pencils
- Glue sticks
- Laminator and laminating sheets (optional)

### a. Front and Back Cover Cards

*Front Cover:* Write name and date, write "Geography" or "Europe" with Sharpie or use letter stickers over the world map. Glue on front of a **colored** index card.

Label compass rose and color if desired. Glue on back of Front Cover Card. Laminate when glue is dry.

*Back Cover:* Use 3" x 5" or 4" x 6" cardboard rectangle for back cover.

### b. Flag and Map Cards

Color the map and flag. Choose one to be your "Cover Page" for this country. Trim pages so that the flag and map fit on a **colored** index card, then glue, one on each side. Be careful not to cover up the hole.

### c. General Country Information Card

Fill out the information on the general information card for the country you are studying. Search on the internet for the current population. Cut this out and glue to the front of an index card. On the back of the index card, write in your own words about something you learned about the country.

### d. Category Cards

Write the category and country name in the upper right-hand corner of the card. Cut out images for each of the categories you are studying. Glue two images on each index card – one on front and one on the back. Leave room to write on the card next to the image. Be careful not to cover up the hole.

On each card, write additional information as you learn it. For example, on the Wild Animals card, next to the picture, write other wild animals that are common in the U.K.

# Week 1 - World

## A. Introduction

1. **Welcome**, introduce teachers, and review class rules.
2. Introduce the **Five Themes of Geography**. We are going to be learning the following about the countries in Europe:
  - **Location:** Longitude and latitude; or where a place is located in relation to another place.
  - **Place:** Physical characteristics such as animal, plants and landforms; also languages, buildings, food, and transportation created by humans.
  - **Region:** An area of the world that has certain characteristics in common.
  - **Movement:** How people and ideas get from one place to another.
  - **Human-Environment Interaction:** How humans and the environment affect one another.

## B. Maps Lesson

1. Read Maps & Globes pages 12 – 20.
  - Kids color *Globe Craftivity* pages while listening. (<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/The-World-A-Globe-Craftivity-for-Social-Studies-1450798>)
  - Try to finish coloring the pages and cut out the globes. **Have students write their names on the base of one of their globes.** Turn in unfinished pages at end of class to complete next week.
2. **Continents Games**
  - Print Continent Cards (in Geography file). See <https://www.mamaslearningcorner.com/learn-continents-free-printable/> for games.

## C. Folders and Mini Stamp Albums

- Color each country on folder map as we learn about it. Color oceans when they have extra time. Map of Europe for the front of the folder: <http://atlantislsc.com/printable-map-of-asia-with-countries-and-capitals/printable-map-of-asia-with-countries-and-capitals-free-printable-maps-europe-in-printable-map-roundtripticket/>.
- Pass out hinges and postage stamps; instruct them on how to use the hinges and mount the stamps. (For this week, choose stamps from countries you won't be covering in class.)

See related blog post on <http://CottonRidgeHomeschool.com> for free PDF Files and images. The blog post also has links to Map Folder, Stamp Album, and Card File instructions.

## Checklist

- Globe
- Maps & Globes book
- Globe Craftivity* pages – 2 for each student
- Continents Game Cards and Instructions
- Folders for each student with map of Europe on front
- Stamp Albums, stamps, hinges for each student
- School supplies tote (colored pencils, scissors, glue, tape, etc.)
- Sample of completed *Globe Craftivity*
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## Week 2 - Europe

### A. Europe Lesson

1. **Read** A True Book: Europe.

- Have students take turns reading the book.
- Finish coloring *Globe Craftivity* and cut out if not completed while listening.

2. **Find** Europe on Globe.

### B. Map Folders and Mini Stamp Collecting Albums

1. Pass out Map Folders. If students complete additional worksheets, keep them in this fold.

2. Distribute Mini Stamp Collecting Albums, hinges and stamps; instruct them on how to use the hinges. (For this week, choose stamps from countries you won't be covering in class.)

### C. Assemble Card File

1. **Cover Card**

- *Front:* Write name and date, write "Geography" or "Europe" with letter stickers over the *World Map*. Glue on front of a colored index card.
- *Back:* Label *Compass Rose* and color if desired. Glue on back of cover card.
- Laminate at home when glue is dry.

2. **Five Themes Card and European Countries List Card**

- Trim *Five Themes of Geography* card file page and glue onto white index card.
- Trim *List of European Countries* card file page and glue onto white index card.

3. **Back page** is the cardboard rectangle.

### D. Complete Globe Craftivity

Label continents and ocean according to the sample. Fold each globe in half and glue together according to the sample and *Globe Craftivity* instructions. Students should take completed globe home.

### E. Additional Worksheets

If there is extra time in class, pass out additional worksheets. Check education.com for "Continents" worksheets and "Color the World" pages. Keep these in the Map Folders.

See related blog post on <http://CottonRidgeHomeschool.com> for free PDF Files and images. The blog post also has links to Map Folder, Stamp Album, and Card File instructions.

## Checklist

- Globe
- A True Book: Europe book
- Globe Craftivity* pages from last week
- Folders for each student with map of Europe on front
- Stamp Albums, stamps, hinges for each student
- School supplies tote (colored pencils, scissors, glue, tape, etc.)
- Sample of completed *Globe Craftivity*
- 4" x 6" colored and plain index cards (pre-punched)
- 4" x 6" cardboard rectangles (pre-punched with hole in corner)
- Book rings (1-3/4" or 2" size)
- World Map* card file pages
- Compass Rose* card file pages
- List of European Countries* card file pages
- The 5 Themes of Geography* card file pages
- Letter stickers or Sharpies
- Sample of completed Geography Card File
- Additional worksheets
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