

Places in Our State of Arkansas

Grade Level: 3rd grade

Curriculum Topic: Social Studies- Using Maps to Identify Places in Arkansas

Standard: G.8.3.2 Use thematic maps (e.g., climate, political, physical) and other geographic representations to describe physical and human characteristics of a variety of places in Arkansas and the interactions.

Tools: Google Maps and QR Code Reader App

Synopsis: After introducing maps to my students, we will as a class discuss the state of Arkansas and explore different places on the Arkansas map through Google Maps. We will identify Jonesboro, Little Rock, Monticello, Murfreesboro, Hot Springs, and Fayetteville. Students will be able to identify and use the map tools to explore Arkansas through a map. Thematic maps will be introduced to the students. I will explain how each of these thematic maps show us different characteristics of places. They will be able to identify these popular towns on the map along with physical and human characteristics of each place. Students will take a virtual field trip to each of these places through a QR Code Scavenger Hunt to be able to have first-hand experience on exploring physical and human characteristics of each of these popular Arkansas cities. Students will be divided into groups of four with one iPad going around the room in search of QR Codes. As each code is found, each student will take a turn scanning each code to reveal a video, pictures, and information on each city. Students will have a worksheet where they will have questions to answer about each city they tour. They must pay attention to the discoveries they make through scanning the QR Code to answer the question. Once each group has finished their virtual field trip, we will come back as a class to compare and contrast the different attributes of each place in Arkansas.