

1.2 GEOGRAPHY AND FIFA WORLD CUP SOCCER

? FOCUS QUESTION:

- What factors contribute to the selection of a city as a venue for an international athletic tournament?

STANDARD #1 CULTURE.

STANDARD #3 PEOPLE, PLACES AND ENVIRONMENTS.

LESSON OVERVIEW:

The Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) is an association governed by Swiss law founded in 1904 and based in Zurich. It has 208 member associations and its goal is the constant improvement of football (soccer). This lesson focuses on the different cities that have served as venues for either the Men's FIFA World Cup (2006) or the Women's FIFA World Cup (2011) as a vehicle to examine the different *Länder* in Germany. Many geographic factors impact the selection of cities as venues for athletic events. After locating these cities on the map of Germany and researching the history, economics, etc., students should be able to discuss why these sites were selected. Students will have the opportunity to locate these cities on a map of Germany and after investigating each, create a promotional brochure.

TEACHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2006, Germany hosted the Men's World Cup in Soccer in 12 cities. The Women's World Cup in Soccer took place in 9 cities in 2011. Only two of the venues were the same: Berlin and Frankfurt/Main. Where are these 19 cities located? Are there any specific reasons why these locales might possibly have been chosen to host the tournament events? The paucity of sites in the former East Germany has raised questions.



The FIFA website has complete information about the specifications of venues for the World Cup: <http://www.fifa.com>

🕒 TIME:

(3) 45 minute class periods

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES:

- Atlas of Germany
- Access to computer and internet
- Outline Map of Germany (**Handout 1.1.4 on Instructional Resource Disc**)
- Trifold Brochure (**Handout 1.1.5 on Instructional Resource Disc**)



PROCEDURE:**DAY 1:**

- **ANTICIPATORY SET:** The teacher should direct the students to identify factors which might be taken into consideration in deciding where to build a city, a school, or any other structure which might attract people to settle or attend.
- The teacher should then show students highlights of the 2006 Men's FIFA World Cup and the 2011 the Women's FIFA World Cup, both of which Germany hosted. Official video clips may be found on FIFA's website, www.fifa.com.
- The following cities were venues in 2006: Berlin, Dortmund, Frankfurt/Main, Gelsenkirchen, Hamburg, Hanover, Kaiserslautern, Cologne, Leipzig, Munich, Nuremberg, Stuttgart. The following cities were venues in 2011: Augsburg, Berlin, Bochum, Dresden, Frankfurt/Main, Leverkusen, Mönchengladbach, Sinsheim/Hoffenheim, and Wolfsburg.
- The students should be given the blank outline map of Germany (**Handout 1.1.4 on Instructional Resource Disc**) and using a political/topographic map of Germany, locate all 19 cities. They might want to use a different colored pencil or marker for each date (2006 or 2011). The teacher should then discuss with the students if there is any conclusion they could draw based on the locations. (For example, only two cities in each tournament are in East Germany).

**DAYS 2-3:**

- The teacher should assign each student a different city to investigate. The goal of this research is to create a promotional tri-fold brochure (**Handout 1.1.5 on Instructional Resource Disc**) to convince Americans (and other visitors) to visit the city for the game and other attractions. They must present the history, economic livelihood, interesting buildings or sites, interesting facts about life in the city, etc. Where is the city located, in which *Land* (state)? It might be helpful for the teacher to model the brochure by creating a mock-up using the students' hometown as an example. The students should brainstorm the general topics which they might incorporate in their brochures. Refer to the promotional brochure instructions on the next page.

WHOLE GROUP REFLECTION:

- The students should share their brochures with the rest of the class. The teacher should facilitate the following discussion: What criteria do you think the FIFA organizers in Germany used to determine which cities were used?

MODIFICATION:

- Instead of a brochure, this assignment could be easily changed into a PowerPoint presentation, a promotional video, a tri-fold exhibit board, or a travel poster or any combination.

EXTENSION:

- The teacher should direct the students to write an editorial or an OpEd piece, reflecting on the fact that there are only a few cities in the former East Germany which were venues for the World Cup games in 2006 and 2011.