

populations

Differences in social, economic, and even political factors among countries around the world contribute to differences in people's life style, priorities, and attitudes, among other things. If we want to understand a country and those who live there, it's important to

learn about and analyze its health, economic, and other data.

In this lesson, students will research data for various countries and compare the information to world data and to statistics from the United States to analyze the relative well-being of each.

TECH SMART TIPS

WIRELESS WEB BROWSING

A wireless web browser is a software application that allows you to access and interact with information and images on the World Wide Web without a wired connection.

CONNECTING

The new palmOne Wi-Fi (802.11) Secure Digital Input/Output (SDIO) card for T3 and Zire 72 handhelds makes connecting to the world just a stylus-tap away. The Tungsten C handheld has Wi-Fi built right in! Zire™72, Tungsten™ T, T2 or T3 handhelds have Bluetooth technology that works with Bluetooth-enabled phones to provide web connectivity. (ISP and/or data service provider required.)

Discussion

1. What do such factors as population growth, literacy, or any of the categories you chose to look at mean for a country's relative well being?
2. How do the countries researched compare with the United States? With other countries?
3. What solutions can help poor countries to improve?

LESSON

around the world

Subject Area: Social Studies **Grade Level(s):** 4-8

Software: Browser – Palm™ Web Pro

<http://www.palmone.com/us/wireless/webbrowser.html>

Technology: Handhelds by palmOne™

Lesson Description: Students research facts about populations around the world and discuss the implications of various social and economic factors.

Objectives: Students use the web to gather information.
Students analyze data about world populations.
Students evaluate data and decide what the implications are.

Before the Lesson:

1. What does being a rich or poor country mean?
2. What are examples of some rich and poor countries?
3. What kind of information tells us the relative well being of countries around the world?

Lesson:

1. Turn on your handheld and open your Web Pro browser.
2. Go to www.cia.gov.
3. Scroll down and tap on The World Factbook in the left navigation bar.
4. Select the World from the Select a Country pull-down menu.
5. Scroll down to the sections on People, Government, and Economy to learn global facts.
6. Find three categories of information that you think provide interesting information. Choose from such things as population growth, literacy, and household income.
7. Scroll back up and select the United States to use as a baseline. Note the data in the same categories.
8. Scroll back up and select a different country, one that you want to learn about.
9. Note the data in the same categories.
10. Go to the World Health Organization's Countries list <http://www.who.int/country/en> and to Fact Monster's World and News pages <http://www.factmonster.com/world.html?link=fmhpnp> to gather additional information about the country that you are researching.
11. Prepare a report or presentation that analyzes the country and its place in the world.

