

CultureGrams Back-to-School Update

Released August 2017



CultureGrams: Where Research Starts



CultureGrams editors have added over 100 new **videos!** Watch **traditional musicians** in Ethiopia, **kids gathering water** in CAR, and **a wedding procession** in Cameroon, among many others! For more on CultureGrams, visit our **blog** and follow us on **Twitter**.

World Edition



CC Image courtesy of Beth Scupham on Flickr

Kids Edition



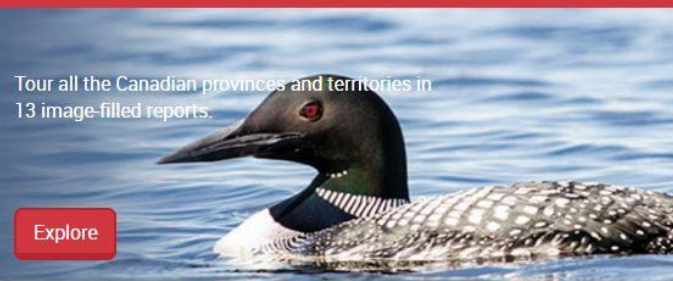
CC Image courtesy of Beth Scupham on Flickr

States Edition



CC Image courtesy of Beth Scupham on Flickr

Provinces Edition



CC Image courtesy of Beth Scupham on Flickr

Use this guide for the upcoming school year to teach students about

- [Global Awareness](#)
- [Reading Informational Texts](#)
- [Media Literacy](#)
- [Critical Thinking](#)
- [Effective Communication](#)
- [Analysis of Information and Data](#)
- [Learning Across the Curriculum](#)

All critical skills emphasized are aligned to national, state, and provincial standards

Global Awareness

Teach global awareness through

- Country, state, and province reports
- Multimedia
 - [Photos](#)
 - [Slideshows](#)
 - [Video](#)
- [Interviews](#)
- [Famous people bios](#)

New 2016-2017 Content!
The Kids Edition is now complete
and matches the World Edition with
209 reports

The screenshot shows the ProQuest CultureGrams website for Brazil. The top navigation bar includes 'Photos', 'Slideshows', 'Videos', 'Interviews', 'Famous People', 'Recipes', 'Flags', and 'Graphs and Tables'. The main content area features a map of Brazil, a 'Did You Know?' section with facts about the Amazon rain forest and Japanese community, and an 'Infographic: Average Person' section. A sidebar on the left lists categories like 'Background', 'The People', and 'Customs & Courtesies'. A right sidebar offers options like 'Listen', 'Save to Google Drive', and 'Add to Google Classroom'.

The Photo Gallery for Brazil displays four images with captions: Iguazu Falls, Forest-Covered Mountains, Samba de Roda, and Work Night.

The CultureGrams Simple Map shows a map of Brazil with major cities and regions labeled, including Belem, Fortaleza, Recife, Salvador, Curitiba, and Porto Alegre.

Reading Informational Texts

Students experience reading informational texts written at their level

- CultureGrams [editions](#) are written for students at different grade levels
- Many engaging [teaching activities](#) correlate to national literacy standards for Grades 3-12, including this one: [Comparing Interviews](#)
- CultureGrams offers primary sources for students to read and analyze in the form of [interviews](#) and other content; targeted teaching activities foster close reading and analysis

425+ total interviews!

CultureGrams—Teaching Activities: Comparing Interviews

Posted by [Rachel Ligairi](#) on September 30th, 2014

Did you know that CultureGrams offers almost 80 [free teaching activities](#) to its subscribers? If you don't have access to CultureGrams, enjoy this free teaching activity today and sign up for a [free trial](#) of the product to access more.



Common Core State Standards Initiative

- **Anchor Standards for Reading:** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.1* Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
 - **Reading: Informational Text (Grade 4):** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1* Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
 - **Reading: Informational Text (Grade 5):** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.5.1* Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

Media Literacy

Foster media literacy with these resources:

- CultureGrams offers a variety of media—photos, slideshows, video, infographics, flags, maps, and audio files so that students gain experience interpreting these various media types
- Learning activities also target media literacy skills--
[Geography Bee](#), [Developing Visual Literacy](#), [Tanzanian Life](#), [Campaign for the Olympics](#), and many others
- Students can use CultureGrams multimedia to create their own media presentations

Multimedia Content

9,600+ photos, 840+ slideshows, 725+ videos; new multimedia content added every year!

Developing Visual Literacy

Posted by [Rachel Ligairi](#) on June 12th, 2017



When I was in Morocco this spring, I took pictures of all the usual things, like stunning geometric architecture, carefully piled spices for sale, and lines of camels walking among majestic Sahara dunes. But this image, of no great photographic value, turned out to be one of my favorites because it suggests a story.

Critical Thinking

- CultureGrams provides a valuable opportunity for students to develop their [critical thinking](#) skills
- The [Teaching Activities PDF](#) includes classroom activities specifically designed to foster critical thinking via Creative Projects, Discussion, Games, Problem Solving, Research, and Writing.

New 2016-2017 Content!
New ideas on using critical thinking using CultureGrams

CultureGrams: Critical Thinking

Posted by [Kip Clark](#) on September 19th, 2016

A great way to foster critical thinking and engaged learning in your students is to help them learn to ask good questions, to push beyond the obvious, to see purely factual data points in a broader context. Asking good questions promotes independent thinking, stimulates curiosity,

Cricket and Colonization

Problem Solving and Discussion

Grade level
6-8

Objective
Students will understand the long-lasting effects of colonization.

Common Core State Standards Initiative

- **Anchor Standards for Reading:** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.1* Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
 - **Literacy in History/Social Studies (Grades 6–8):** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1* Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
- **Anchor Standards for Reading:** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.2* Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
 - **Literacy in History/Social Studies (Grades 6–8):** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.2* Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
- **Anchor Standards for Reading:** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.7* Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
 - **Literacy in History/Social Studies (Grades 6–8):** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.7* Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

Effective Communication

- Use one of nearly a dozen CultureGrams [teaching activities](#) categorized under “Presentation” to spark a debate, plan a campaign, play a game, or offer ideas for oral presentations
- There are also nearly a dozen writing activities in the [Teaching Activities PDF](#) to encourage written communication

Campaign for the Olympics

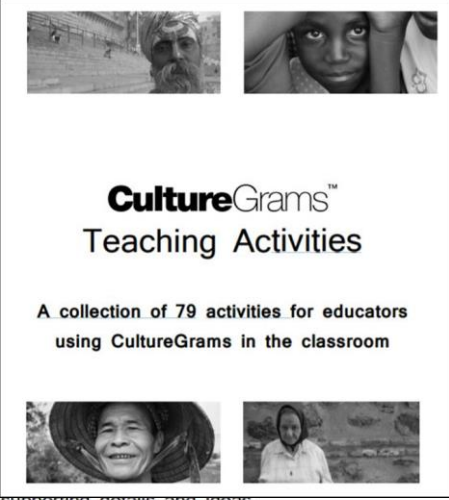
Presentation

Grade level
6-8

Objective
Students research an assigned country and develop a PowerPoint that should host the next Olympic Games. Students will gain a sense of the world while presenting their argument to the class.

Common Core State Standards Initiative

- **Anchor Standards for Reading:** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCR.1.1* Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, drawing on such things as details from the text, the ideas and perspectives that a central figure or issue advances, the specific words and phrases that make an argument or add to its meaning, and the rhetorical techniques commonly used in a particular medium (writing, speaking, or media presentation).
- **Anchor Standards for Reading:** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCR.1.2* Analyze a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
 - **Literacy in History/Social Studies (Grades 6-8):** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.2* Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
- **Anchor Standards for Reading:** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.7* Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
 - **Literacy in History/Social Studies (Grades 6-8):** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.7* Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
- **Anchor Standards for Reading:** *CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.8* Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and significance of the claims.

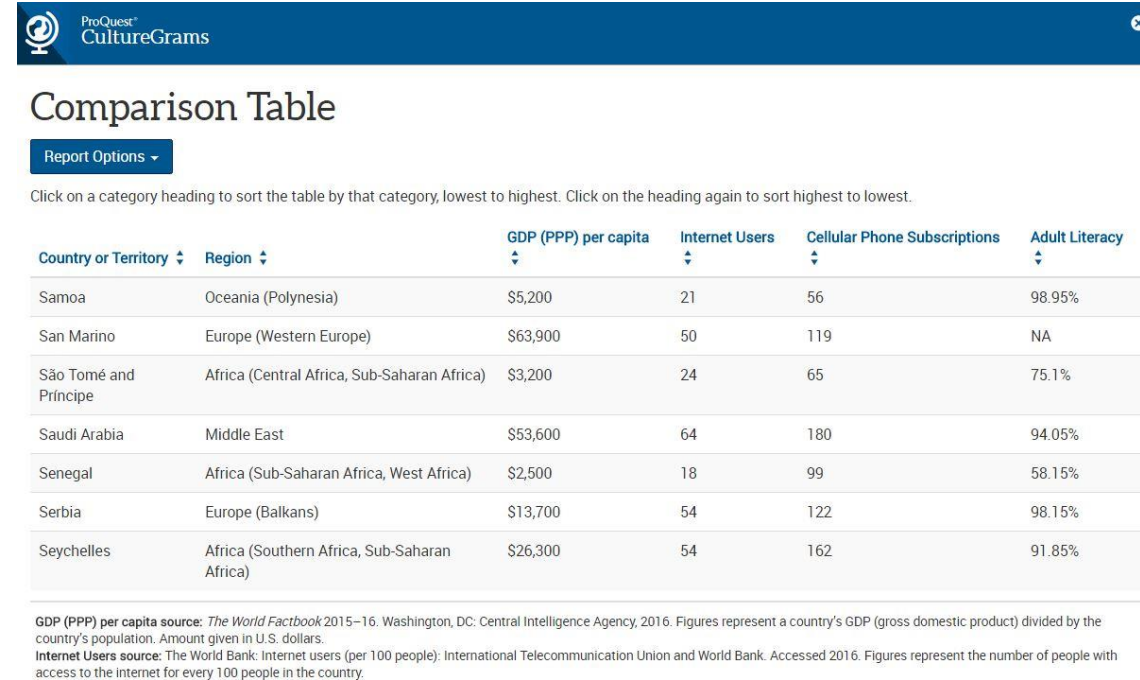


The presentation slide features the title 'CultureGrams Teaching Activities' and a subtitle 'A collection of 79 activities for educators using CultureGrams in the classroom'. It includes four small images: a man in a turban, a woman's face, a woman in a headscarf, and a man in a white shirt.

Analysis of Information and Data

Curriculum standards require students to be able to use, analyze, and understand data. CultureGrams data tables teach data skills.

- Teach students how to work with data using these activities: [Tips and Tricks: Build-Your-Own Graphs and Tables](#), and [States Edition Data Extremes](#).
- The [Teaching Activities PDF](#) includes a variety of activities related to the data tables: Interpreting Data, Graphing Regional Statistics etc.



ProQuest CultureGrams

Comparison Table

Report Options ▾

Click on a category heading to sort the table by that category, lowest to highest. Click on the heading again to sort highest to lowest.

Country or Territory ▾	Region ▾	GDP (PPP) per capita ▾	Internet Users ▾	Cellular Phone Subscriptions ▾	Adult Literacy ▾
Samoa	Oceania (Polynesia)	\$5,200	21	56	98.95%
San Marino	Europe (Western Europe)	\$63,900	50	119	NA
São Tomé and Príncipe	Africa (Central Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa)	\$3,200	24	65	75.1%
Saudi Arabia	Middle East	\$53,600	64	180	94.05%
Senegal	Africa (Sub-Saharan Africa, West Africa)	\$2,500	18	99	58.15%
Serbia	Europe (Balkans)	\$13,700	54	122	98.15%
Seychelles	Africa (Southern Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa)	\$26,300	54	162	91.85%

GDP (PPP) per capita source: *The World Factbook* 2015–16. Washington, DC: Central Intelligence Agency, 2016. Figures represent a country's GDP (gross domestic product) divided by the country's population. Amount given in U.S. dollars.
Internet Users source: The World Bank: Internet users (per 100 people): International Telecommunication Union and World Bank. Accessed 2016. Figures represent the number of people with access to the internet for every 100 people in the country.

All of CultureGrams data tables are updated annually!

Learning Across the Curriculum

Do you think CultureGrams is just relevant to world geography? Think again! CultureGrams can be used across the curriculum. Our [activities](#) correlate with a wide range of curriculum standards. In addition to reading and literacy, CultureGrams meets other standards as well:

- Cricket and Colonization (social studies)
- Flag Creation (visual arts)
- AIDS in Africa (health)
- Fractions and Food (mathematics)
- And more



CultureGrams™ Teaching Activities

**A collection of 79 activities for educators
using CultureGrams in the classroom**



Learning about CultureGrams

CultureGrams Kids Edition Scavenger Hunt



CultureGrams™

CultureGrams Learning Activity

Student _____ Date _____ Grade/Team/Section _____

Use the World Edition (logon from home > URL = ? Username = ? Password = ?)

Part 1: Gathering and Summarizing Facts

1. Name of your assigned country _____ The capital is _____
2. What significant symbolism or colors are integrated into the flag? _____

3. What is the population? _____ How fast is the population growing or declining? _____%
4. What percentage of the population lives in urban areas? _____
5. If a textbook costs \$35 in the U.S., how much would it cost in their currency? _____
6. What time is it in the capital city of your country right now? _____ AM/PM

by [Kip Clark](#) on June 5th, 2017

to be successful in using a research database, students need to learn how that works, of course—what content it offers, how the database can best be navigated, what tools and features are available to help them in their research. And with all the search engines and other online resources out there, it is a real challenge to find the time to train students on how to use the wide array of resources that are available to them.

Kids Edition

Child's-eye view of daily life
tries around the world.

Explore

But all is not lost! We've come up with a new scavenger hunt to help students become familiar with the [CultureGrams Kids Edition](#). This is in addition to the [scavenger hunt](#) that we already developed for [CultureGrams](#) more broadly. By working through these twenty questions, either

Help your students learn about the content and features available in CultureGrams!

We have product scavenger hunts!

- [CultureGrams Scavenger Hunt](#)
- [Kids Edition Scavenger Hunt](#)—
New for 2017!

For more information...

<http://www.proquest.com>

<http://blogs.proquest.com>

