



# Africa-European Imperialism

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Grade: 7

Time: 5 Days

## DAY ONE: Colonization

Time: 1 Class Period

Geographic Theme

Location

Purpose

How the colonization of Africa was carried out by Europeans over a relatively short span of time.

Materials

- Historical Atlas
- Blank map of Africa
- Transparency showing European colonization of Africa

Objectives

- Students will recognize which European nations colonized Africa.
- They will create a colonial map of Africa.
- Students will discuss the Berlin Conference of 1884. They will understand how Europeans colonized Africa. They will prepare maps with keys to show which nations colonized which areas of Africa. They

will realize that only two areas remained independent- Liberia and Ethiopia.

National Geography Standards

6: How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions.

## DAY TWO: Africa- Writing to Learn

**Time:** 1 Class Period

Geographic Theme

Human-Environment Interaction

Purpose

The causes and effects of European Imperialism

Materials

- Class will produce a transparency of the causes and effects of European Imperialism
- Blank transparencies
- Markers

Objectives

- Students will list the long range and immediate causes and effects of European Imperialism. (see following page)
- Teacher will need to prompt students and give clues. However, students will be able to come up with notes such as those on the following page.

13: Forces of cooperation and conflict that shape the Earth's surface.

## Day 2 Transparency: European Imperialism Causes and Effects

### Long Range Causes

- Industrial Revolution
- European Nationalism and desire for colonies

### Immediate Causes

- Availability of raw materials in Africa
- Potential of new markets in Africa
- Internal rivalries and weaknesses of some African governments
- Superior weapons of Europeans

### Long Range Effects

- Breakdown of traditional culture
- New transportation systems in colonies
- Improved health care in colonies
- Growth of nationalism in colonies

### Immediate Effects

- Exploitation of colonial resources
- Collapse of local economies
- Poor treatment of local populations
- Worldwide impact of European conflicts
- Spread of Christianity

## DAY THREE

The teacher will ask students to imagine that they live in an African colonial city in the late 1800's. They have been forced to give up their traditional ways of life and must now attend a European-style school, study European history, and adopt Christian beliefs. Students will write a letter to a cousin in a different village describing the effects of colonization on their family's way of life. Students may use their text and any class notes for ideas to include. Student letters should show that European rule caused the breakdown of many African social and economic conditions and traditions. People felt they had to conform to European ways in order to succeed.

## DAY FOUR AND FIVE Africa- Present Day

**Time:** 2 Class Periods

### Materials

- Texts
- Maps
- Atlas
- Almanacs
- Other references
- Materials on African countries

### Objectives

- Students will describe how African nations won independence.

### Procedure

Students should choose an area in Africa. Using their text and other resources they should research the following questions:

1. In present day Africa, what country or countries exist in that location?
2. How did the nation or nations win independence?
3. What kind of government rules this country or countries today?

Students will create a booklet about contemporary Africa. They should include their written answers to the above questions. They could include a population distribution map of their country. They could find out the official languages. Information on the economy should be included. Student findings could be presented in a brief essay on "The Road from Colonization to Independence." Students could exchange booklets and thus learn about countries other than the one they had chosen.

#### National Geography Standards

17: How to apply geography to interpret the past.



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