



Dinosaur Travel

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Grades: 5-8

Time: 2-3 classes

Geographic Theme

Comparing environmental resources with dinosaur migrations and present day fossil fuel locations.

Purpose

The students will study fossil evidence of dinosaurs as possible fuel locations. This will lead us to hypothesize how the dinosaurs traveled from continent to continent.

Objectives

- To understand how plate tectonics caused the movement of the continents.
- To find places where fossil fuels are found around the world.
- To make a choropleth map of fossil fuels.
- To find places where dinosaur fossils have been found.
- To explain what dinosaurs and fossil fuels have in common.

Materials

- World map of dinosaurs
- World map of fossil fuels
- Map of Pangaea or textbook
- Map of energy consumption

- Map of the world (political- to be written on by the students)
- Colored pencils

Procedures

1. Show the students a picture of Pangaea (in the textbook).
2. Discuss plate tectonics.
3. Label each continent on their map.
4. Using the fossil fuel map have each student locate OIL on their map. Use a color to mark the place (one color for each fossil fuel).
5. Locate a dinosaur for each continent- use a picture or symbol for each on their map.
6. Analyze any patterns that they may notice.
7. **Vocabulary Words:** pangaea, plate tectonics, migration, dinosaurs, continent, fossil fuel, choropleth.

Extension Activities

1. What problems does supply and demand raise?
2. Who is OPEC? And how can they fix prices?
3. How are different fossil fuels used?
4. How are fossil fuels transported?

Evaluation

The students will have a map showing the following information: continent names, location of fossil fuels, location of dinosaurs.

National Geography Standards:

8: The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems on the Earth's surface.

11: The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on the Earth's surface.

15: How physical systems affect human systems.

16: The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources.



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