

TCH 347 Social Studies Methods for the Elementary School  
**Strategies for Teaching Geography**

#	Methods	Grade	Example/Rationale
<b>Basic Approaches</b>			
01	Concept clusters	All	River, lake, sea, ocean
02	Graphic organizers	All	Compare, summarize, chain, cause-effect
03	Extremes	All	Nile is the longest river in the world.
04	Mnemonics	All	HOMES, NEWS, Mr. Help
05	Curriculum Integration	All	Timeline of transportation tool evolution
<b>Instruction Activities</b>			
06	Dress Up	All	Dress up as rain, snow, cloud, plants, animals
07	Role Play	All	Food, clothing, shelter,
08	Dramatize	Upper	Short skit: Taste the Food, Experience the Weather
09	Interview	Upper	What is the weather like in your hometown?
10	Story Telling	Upper	Trade books
11	Visit Museums	Upper	Natural Museums
12	Field Trip	Upper	Conduct investigation
13	Virtual Zoo	All	Visit virtual Zoo, such as DC Zoo Live Cam
14	Guest Speaker	Upper	Invite experts to the classroom
15	Daily Weather Reporting	All	Have somebody on duty to report weather using proper meteorological vocabularies
16	Where Am I	Lower	Give out clues and let others to guess
17	What Am I	Lower	Give out clues and let others to guess
<b>Projects</b>			
18	Identify Five Themes	Upper	Five themes in my home town
19	Classroom Green House & Conduct Research	All	Keep a greenhouse in the classroom for some plants, animals, or insects. (Cross curriculum)
20	Draw Map/Diorama	All	My school/neighborhood/community
21	Optimize Travel Routes	Upper	Travel from Philadelphia to Johannesburg
22	Where Did My Ancestor Come from?	All	People, places, culture, 10 themes
23	History of Transportation	Upper	A time line of how transportation tools evolved over time (Cross curriculum)
24	My Favorite State	Upper	US States
25	My Favorite Country	Upper	World geography
26	World Population Growth	Upper	Globalization
27	Daily Life in A Mongolian Community	Upper	People adapt to and depend on environment
28	Identify Environmental Pollution in Your Community	All	Humans modify nature
<b>Technology Tools</b>			
29	Google Map, Google Earth, <a href="#">Google Sky</a> , Map Generator, GPS, GIS	All	Free online tools for teaching and learning

*Lower = Grade K-2*

*Upper = Grade 3-5*