

National Geographic Connections

The team that brings you this *World Cultures and Geography* program is proud of its many connections with the National Geographic Society. The partnerships forged with so many talented and dedicated National Geographic experts—and the NG resources gathered for you and your students—will enhance the teaching and learning in your geography classroom.

Mark H. Bockenbauer



This program strongly supports and dramatically benefits from the National Geographic Society's mission: inspiring people to care about the planet. As you and your students use this new program, you'll have numerous opportunities to access the unrivaled expertise and educational resources of National Geographic. The following is a sample of the many connections that have been developed for you and your students.

MISSION PROGRAMS

National Geographic Mission Programs work in various ways to support education and expand the frontiers of knowledge. The Explorers Program, the Committee for Research and Exploration, and the Expeditions Council are key efforts to support scholars and explorers worldwide. *World Cultures and Geography* features 32 of these groundbreaking explorers and scientists—Explorers-in-Residence, Emerging Explorers, Fellows, and Grantees. These include some of the world's best-known scholars as well as some young, talented researchers and explorers just emerging onto the world stage of discovery.

For example, legendary oceanographer and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Sylvia Earle shares her deep understanding of the marine world—"the cornerstone of our life support system"—and invites us to join the NG-supported, action-oriented marine conservation initiative, Mission Blue. Emerging Explorer Zeb Hogan's work to protect endangered giant fish species in Southeast Asia is profiled as well as the efforts of the Enduring Voices Project to preserve vanishing languages and cultures. For each of these profiles, the program provides links to further resources online, including **Explorer Video Clips**. These video clips provide an engaging introduction to the lessons featuring the explorers.

In order to build upon the National Geographic mission, 12 lessons cover global issues—current trends affecting our world, such as climate change, public health, population growth, and migration.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

National Geographic Education creates and disseminates programs for educational settings both in and out of school. It focuses on promoting geo-literacy—the ability to make decisions based on an understanding of how the world works and how people and places are connected—through the delivery of first-rate instructional activities and innovative uses of technology. One such technology, the **Interactive Map Tool**, is featured extensively in the *World Cultures and Geography* program. This online tool allows your students to acquire geo-literacy by exploring a place or a region with multiple layers of geographic data.

A second goal of NG Education is educational outreach. Through the National Geographic Education Foundation, the program awards more than five million dollars annually to support teacher training and outreach programs to promote geo-literacy. Key to the work of the NG Education Foundation is the Geography Alliance Network. Three of the *World Cultures and Geography's* Program Consultants are actively involved in the educational outreach efforts of the Geographic Alliance Network. The network is comprised of grassroots organizations of K–12 educators and university faculty that operate in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Alliances work to strengthen geography education in multiple ways: conducting pre-service teacher education and in-service professional development, assisting with state-specific curricula and materials development, and providing support and networking opportunities for educators.

MAPS

National Geographic Maps is among the world's most famous cartographic operations. Its expert handiwork is visible in the superb maps—more than 300—featured throughout the student text and related materials. These maps skillfully illustrate world regions, geographic concepts, economic activities, and events both historical and current. For example, a lesson on Japan today includes a map showing the seismic activity of the country's massive 2011 earthquake.

GLOBAL MEDIA

Everyone, everywhere, knows the National Geographic Channel. It has delivered amazing television specials and series for over ten years. Additional media assets are offered through the channel's partners—NG Digital Motion and NG Digital Studio. NG Digital Motion contains a captivating digital film archive from

a vast collection of award-winning content captured by talented and adventurous filmmakers. NG Digital Studio is responsible for producing short-form video content. From these partners, you and your students will find **GeoVideos** about different geographic regions and more than 1,000 images in the **Photo Gallery** of the program's **Digital Library**. Many of the images selected to illustrate the program were taken through the lenses of the world's best-known photographers—those of National Geographic.

In addition, collaboration with National Geographic Weekend—a weekly radio program—has produced interviews with the 32 explorers featured in the *World Cultures and Geography* program.

These outstanding National Geographic resources will undoubtedly enhance students' understanding of the world in which they live and provide an authentic geographic experience.

Explorer lesson with
Sylvia Earle

2.6 SECTION 2 PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

TECHTREK myNGconnect.com For photos of oceans and an Explorer video clip. Maps and Graphs Digital Library

Exploring the World's Oceans

with Sylvia Earle

Main Idea The oceans, a natural habitat for thousands of plant and animal species, face many challenges.

Life in the Ocean

As a child, Sylvia Earle loved oceans. This love continued into her adult life. In over 50 years, Explorer-in-Residence Sylvia Earle has led roughly 70 diving expeditions to explore **marine life**, or the plants and animals of the ocean. During these dives, she has seen the incredible variety of ocean life—more than 30 major divisions of animals.

However, Earle has also seen the different ways people have harmed the oceans. "Taking too much wildlife out of the sea is one way," she claims. "Putting garbage, toxic chemicals, and other wastes in is another." Earle has witnessed a huge drop in the number of fish in the ocean. She has also noted pollution's destructive **impact**, or effect, on the oceans' coral reefs. These "rain forests of the sea" house one-fourth of all marine life.

myNGconnect.com For more on Sylvia Earle in the field today

Earth's "Hope Spots"



Critical Viewing This satellite map of the world shows the location of 17 "hope spots," places that are important to the overall health of Earth's oceans. What patterns, if any, do you notice about the location of these spots?

Mission Blue

Many people believe human activity has no effect on the vast oceans. They also do not understand the impact oceans have on all forms of life. "The ocean is the cornerstone of our life support system," says Earle. "Take away life in the ocean and we don't have a planet that works."

Earle is trying to educate the public. In 2009, she launched Mission Blue, a program that seeks to heal and protect Earth's oceans. One of the program's goals is to establish marine protected areas (MPAs) in endangered hot spots, or "hope spots" as she calls them. These spots are ocean habitats that can recover and grow if human impact is limited.

Voice of the Ocean

Earle's efforts to save Earth's oceans have earned her many awards and honors, including the title "Hero for the Planet." She continues to work tirelessly to protect the world's oceans.

In 2010, the Gulf of Mexico was hit with the largest oil spill in U.S. history. Earle went before Congress to testify about the impact of the spill on the Gulf's natural resources. "I really come to speak for the ocean," she began.

Before You Move On
Summarize According to Sylvia Earle, what challenges do our oceans face?

ONGOING ASSESSMENT

READING LAB

1. Monitor Comprehension What does Sylvia Earle hope to accomplish through the Mission Blue program?

2. Analyze Cause and Effect How has human activity affected the world's oceans? Use a chart like the one below to list some of the causes and effects of these activities.

Cause	Effect