
NCSS Notable Trade Book Lesson Plan
Thailand: Enchantment of the World
Written by Mel Friedman

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Thailand: Enchantment of the World describes the southeast Asian nation of Thailand with recent photographs, maps, and figures accompanying the text. Graphic and text elements together build a description of Thailand today. History and geography are discussed as is the natural environment and a changing economy. Characteristics important to the establishment of the nation as a 21st century leader in its region are discussed. Students will enjoy a wide and deep range of photographs of Thai peoples, culture, and landforms from early in the 19th century through recent years. This book facilitates students' development of an understanding of the influences contributing to similarities and differences among Thailand and other nations.

Book Title	<i>Thailand: Enchantment of the World</i> by Mel Friedman (Notable, 2015) New York, NY: Scholastic, children's Press Ages 7-10 ISBN-978-0-531-20791-8 Recommended for grades 3-5 The lesson is designed for 3 to 8 social studies class periods.
Book Summary	Celebrating the diverse cultural heritage and natural environment, this book invites readers into a nation with strong impact in its region of the world. . Graphic and text elements together build a description of Thailand today. History and geography are discussed as is the natural environment and a changing economy. Characteristics important to the establishment of the nation as a 21st century leader in its region are discussed. Students will enjoy a wide and deep range of photographs of Thai peoples, culture, and landforms from early in the 19th century through recent years. This book facilitates students' development of an understanding of the influences contributing to similarities and differences among Thailand and other nations
NCSS Standards	I. Culture III. People, Places, & Environments
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Thailand: Enchantment of the World</i> by Mel Friedman• PowerPoint presentation "Teaching about Thailand" at http://education.ua.edu/centers/ortd/• Globe• Chart paper and markers or interactive whiteboard• Internet access
Objectives	Key Idea: We can use evidence to identify a nation's geography and climate, which influence its culture.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will identify similarities and differences between Thailand and the USA using evidence found within a set of comparison <i>PowerPoint</i> slides. 2. Students will use evidence from a set of comparison <i>PowerPoint</i> slides to describe the geography and climate of Thailand and the U.S.A. 3. Students will identify accurate and relevant evidence to support a conclusion.
<p>Procedures Exploration</p>	<p><i>Note.</i> Should be done over multiple days.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tell students we are going to be looking at some pictures from two countries, the U.S.A. and Thailand. Have students look at a globe to locate Thailand, and note it is about halfway around the world from the U.S.A. 2. Show <i>PowerPoint</i> slide 1 which says, in English, “Hello” and then shows the Thai equivalent, “Sawasdeekrab” for boys and “Sawasdeeka” for girls. Note that some languages, like Thai, use words that are different if a boy is speaking them and if a girl is speaking them. If you have students who speak a language which has gender differences depending on who is speaking, other than Thai, ask them to tell you how <i>Hello</i> or another word is different depending on the gender of the speaker. 3. Show slide 2, and ask what is similar about these two pictures. Ask what’s different. (Thai elephant, University of Alabama’s mascot [an elephant]). Start chart 1 on paper, the white board, or the digital board, dividing it into similarities and differences columns. Begin chart 1 with items identified in discussion slides 1 and 2 (e.g. gender differences in language, representation of an elephant). 4. Show slides 3-7, discussing similarities and differences and recording them on the chart. (<i>Note.</i> slide 3 – national flags, slide 4 – flowers, slide 5 – animals, slide 6 – currency, slide 7 – residence of U.S. President, Thai king.) 5. Assign partners. Tell students you will show the slides again. Provide them with a recording sheet with two columns. Have them label the left column as Thai geography. Ask, what clues do the pictures give you about the geography of Thailand? Tell student pairs to record clues in the slides as you show them again. Challenge students to identify only clues for which there is evidence in the pictures. Briefly share clues recorded. Follow up by having students label chart 2’s right column, U.S. geography. Show the slides again. Challenge students to identify only clues about geography for which there is evidence in the pictures. 6. Ask, what clues do the pictures give you about the weather or climate of Thailand and the USA? Provide students with chart 3 containing two columns, Thai climate on the left and U.S. climate on the right. Challenge students to identify only clues for which there is evidence in the pictures and record in the appropriate column. As needed, show slides again or have students access them on their laptops. 7. Ask, how sure are you about the clues? Why or why not? Then ask, do you have any ideas about where we might look to find more information? Record ideas on board or a chart. <p><i>Assessment:</i> Review pairs’ responses to determine how relevant and accurate</p>

<p>Development</p>	<p>each pair's response was on a scale of 5 (relevant and accurate) with a midpoint of 3 (partially relevant and accurate) to 1 (mostly irrelevant and inaccurate).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Show and discuss <i>PowerPoint</i> slides 8-11. (<i>Note.</i> slide 8 locates Thailand on a world map, slide 9 compares size, slide 10 provides distance from Chicago, Illinois to Bangkok, Thailand, and slide 11 provides some facts about weather and time difference.) Return to chart 1. Have children decide in which column (similarities or differences) size should be recorded (slide 9). Return to slide 11, facts, adding information about weather and seasons to the appropriate column. Remind students that weather differs across the USA so they should consider whether it may differ in various parts of Thailand, even though it is a smaller region. 2. Tell students the <i>PowerPoint</i> presentation contains information gathered from several sources. Introduce a source book available in class, <i>Thailand: Enchantment of the World</i> (Friedman, 2015). Show and read Chapter 1, pp. 9-13, which has information extending that found in the slides, such as a photo of the King of Thailand. Return to the concept of evidence. Ask, How might this book help us find out more about the weather or climate and geography of Thailand? The slides gave us some information but not very much. 3. Discuss how geography and climate affect how we live, where we live, what we eat, and what we do for work and play. Have students give local examples. Tell students we will gather evidence to tell us more about Thailand today and how its climate and geography affect its people and their lives. 4. Show slides 14 and 15 on Thai food. Ask, does any of this food look familiar? What can you tell me about it? Have any of you been to a Thai restaurant? If so, tell us about the food. Give examples that would be understandable and relevant to students. For example, climate affects what can be grown; we don't grow oranges in very cold climates (e.g. Michigan) but pears do well in cold climates. Geography also has an effect on what we eat because some plants and animals do well in a place where there are mountains (e.g. pine trees in the Rocky Mountains, azaleas in the Appalachian Mountains) while others need swampy land (e.g. cattails, poison ivy, sundew). See also photos in Friedman, pp. 13, 19, 77, 104, 126. U.S. web sources for mountain plants are The Mountain Environment and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. U.S. web sources for swamp plants are websites describing The Great Swamp of New York state and Georgia's Natural Wonders: Okefenokee Swamp. See URL's for these sources below. 5. Show slide 16 on traditional Thai clothing. What do you notice that is similar and different? Tell students we will also look at children in modern clothing. Show slides 18-20 (children in schools). Ask, what is similar and different in their clothing? How would climate affect what these children wear every day and traditional clothing for special days? Ask and discuss, do you see any evidence that geography is influencing these children's
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clothing? See also Friedman, p. 54, 55, 89.

6. Show slide 17 on traditional Thai houses. Discuss similarities and differences. Ask and discuss, how might the climate or geography be influencing the style of these houses?
7. Tell students they will be gathering evidence to find out if their ideas are supported. Set up pairs or small groups who choose a topic (or may be assigned topics) to investigate. Provide a set of guiding questions. Ask each group to present a chart or *PowerPoint* with the question followed by bullet points of evidence relating to the question. (See note below for an optional activity).
 - Thai food. What important crops are grown? What domestic animals are raised or caught? How does the climate and geography of a region of the country effect what crops and animals are found there? (resource: Friedman, pp. 13, 17, 101, 104, 113, 114)
 - Thai animals. What wild animals are found in Thailand? Where do they live? Are some of them endangered? How are people trying to save them from disappearing? Some animals work in Thailand; what can you find out about them? How do climate and geography influence what kinds of animals are found in Thailand? (resource: Friedman, pp. 29-39)
 - Thai history and how the nation came to be. Wars have been fought over centuries to decide who will live in Thailand. Who fought in some of those wars? What happened? Who are some famous people in this history? (Examples from Friedman of two women are Queen Suriyothai and Grandma Mo). How has geography lead to people fighting wars in Thailand?
 - Modern Thai government. What sort of government does Thailand have now? Who makes the rules? What is the job of the King? Does geography or climate influence the kind of government Thailand has?
 - Working in Thailand. What kinds of work are done by a lot of people? How does the work people do change in different regions of the country? What modern jobs do people do? What sorts of jobs are traditional? Can you identify jobs that are influenced by the geography of the country? Can you identify jobs that are influenced by the climate?
 - Thai cultures. What kinds of heritages are found in Thailand? Do some regions mostly have one kind of culture? What differences in clothing, work, or language do you find by region? Does climate influence what you find out about the clothing, work, or language in different parts of Thailand?
 - Thai religion. What are the most important religions in Thailand? What is life like for Buddhist monks? What is a wat? How did the location of Thailand influence the religions people follow?
 - Thai culture. What is special about traditional Thai architecture?

<p>Expansion</p>	<p>How do the climate and geography influence the architecture? What sports are Thai and what sports do Thais play that are found in other parts of the world? How do climate and geography influence sports? What is a Thai wai? How do you do it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thai schools. What subjects do students study? How long is the school day? How long is the school year? Do students wear school uniforms? Do students have school sports teams or clubs? How does climate affect what you do in school and when you do it if you live in Thailand? <p><i>Note.</i> An option is to read chapters two to ten to the class. The topics and questions given above often refer to information found in more than one chapter. Questions can be identified for a specific chapter and provided to students on chart paper or a digital board. Students should make notes for each question as the chapter is read. As a follow-up, students in small groups or as a whole group share notes and develop bullet points for each question.</p> <p>8. Allow students time to gather evidence. Suggested additional sources beyond the Friedman book are the following (see URLs for these websites below). Thai fast facts. http://www.tourismthailand.org/Thailand/fast-facts Maps. http://www.mapsofworld.com/world-map-viewer.html National Geographic World Atlas. http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids-world-atlas/maps.html#</p> <p>9. When the investigations are complete, have students present their questions and bulleted responses to the class. Have class members decide if there is sufficient evidence presented to give a response to the question. After each presentation, have the students formulate a response to the question, how does Thailand’s geography and climate affect XXX (the food they eat? The kinds of animals found? The country’s history? and so on). Write the response together as a class on the board.</p> <p>10. Closure: Have the class look at the responses formulated for the question “How does Thailand’s geography and climate affect XXX?” to develop a summary closure statement. Write the statement on the board and ask students to edit it until consensus is reached.</p> <p><i>Assessment.</i> Have students respond to the following. Write down one example of how you think geography effects some part of Thai culture. Then, write down one example of how you think climate effects some part of Thai culture. Read each example to decide if it is based on the evidence presented in the class investigations.</p> <p>1. Show slide 12 in the <i>PowerPoint</i> to explore Thai numbers and the Thai alphabet. Discuss observations made in response to the following questions. What do you notice about the style of the numbers and alphabet? How many letters does the Thai alphabet have? Why do you think there is a picture with each letter? Which pictures show something you recognize? Which pictures show something you cannot identify or</p>
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	<p>don't know? Which pictures give you some hints about Thai geography? About Thai climate?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Show slide 13 showing examples of words and phrases written in English and in Thai. The URLs for YouTube videos in which Thai numbers, Thai consonants, and Thai vowels are pronounced and written appear below. Note that the Asian elephant is native to Thailand because the geography and climate provide a good natural environment for it. We have seen the elephant often in the resources we have used. Show slide 22, the Thai Elephant song. Read the song with the students, then click on the URL for a YouTube video in which the song is sung in Thai (see web resources below for two song videos). Lesson summary. Draw two rectangles on a board or digital screen and divide each in half with a line. Label one rectangle geography and the other rectangle weather and climate. On the left side of each rectangle write Thailand and on the right side, USA. Have students develop a sentence to summarize the geography and weather and climate for each nation, writing a consensus statement in the appropriate rectangle. <p><i>Assessment:</i> Show slide 21 in the <i>PowerPoint</i>. "If you could go to Thailand ... What would you do? What would you see? Where would you go? What would you bring to Thailand? What would you bring back home?" Have children select two of the questions and write or draw a response. Consider the response's accuracy in relation to the content studied and score on a five-point scale from accurate (5) to some inaccuracies (3) to mostly inaccurate (1). Qualitatively, consider the range of responses to identify patterns of interest among the students.</p>
Assessment	<p><i>Assessment:</i> Have students select a slide of a view from Thailand and one of a view from the USA. Or, select one view from each nation and have students individually consider only those views. Possible sources are USA views from Google and 7 Incredible Thailand Views (see URLs for these websites below). Have students identify evidence from each slide indicating geography and the weather and climate in the nation. Review evidence to determine (1) the extent to which the slide contains what the student has described and (2) whether the evidence cited is relevant.</p>
Digital Resources	<p>The Great Swamp of New York state (plants). 2016. Retrieved from http://frogs-ny.org/TreesAndPlants.shtml</p> <p>Georgia's natural wonder plants: Okefenokee Swamp. 2016. Retrieved from http://www.okeswamp.com/about-the-park/swamp-plants</p> <p>The mountain environment. 2016. Retrieved from http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/mountains/nature.htm</p> <p>Appalachian Trail Conservancy. 2016. Retrieved from http://www.appalachiantrail.org/about-the-trail/plants-wildlife/plants-shrubs</p> <p>Thai fast facts. 2016. Retrieved from http://www.tourismthailand.org/Thailand/fast-facts</p> <p>Maps. 2015. Retrieved from http://www.mapsofworld.com/world-map-viewer.html</p>

	<p>National Geographic World Atlas. 2015. Retrieved from http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids-world-atlas/maps.html#</p> <p><u>Pronouncing and writing Thai numbers.</u> 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aXz7dZXmHL0</p> <p><u>Pronouncing and writing consonants in Thai.</u> 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I80vtEHrBro</p> <p><u>Pronouncing and writing vowels in Thai.</u> 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bEjrBuHwYw</p> <p>David's Easy Thai Lessons. 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H87EN5oeZA&list=PLuiSXR08bb-6u6q0jzYsBVJy1t1AnY-4P</p> <p>Lesson 1. Thai language and vocabulary. 2015 Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YuVnT1hsZcU&list=PLuiSXR08bb-428xBOsIpcnfkIU1-xpZau</p> <p>Lesson 2. Questions in Thai: What? When? Where? Why? Who? and How? 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1yhYy5apR30&list=PLuiSXR08bb-5DhsCbtvpJ6JEBFnG66-Pv</p> <p>Lesson 3. General Greetings in Thai. 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H87EN5oeZA&list=PLuiSXR08bb-4vH63h34Yz2xnPjhdix8R4</p> <p>Lesson 4. Days of the week in Thai. 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qem0yp9P8Js&list=PLuiSXR08bb-4wjyDggygbld_131T4F0CK</p> <p>Lesson 5. Thai weather conversation. 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLUe8evJ60g&list=PLuiSXR08bb-4oJWIGeJcX0ztAtnLRIPjS</p> <p>Lesson 6. Shopping in Thailand. 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AvyYG8t2oo&list=PLuiSXR08bb-5T8IOdFAYVdhWYJIS8P0S0</p> <p><u>Thai Elephant Song.</u> 2015. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZL3U-Bo7rI and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3-WH_c8DjQ</p> <p>7 incredible Thailand views. 2015. Retrieved from http://www.thomascook.com/blog/holidays/7-breathhtakingly-incredible-thailand-views/</p> <p>USA views. 2015. Retrieved from https://www.google.com/search?q=USA+views&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0CCQ</p>
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