



# Creation Lens

*Exploring the World, Discovering God*

*Grade Level: Grade 5*

*Title:*

## **Whole Country and its Regions & Whole Church and its Regions**

*Denomination: Catholic*

*Lesson ID: OS-G5-04-CA*

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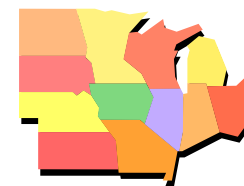
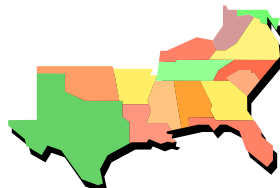
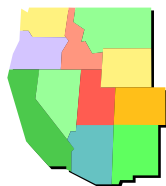
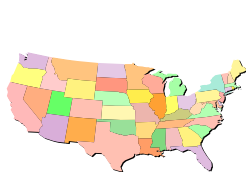
ITEST web site: [www.faithscience.org](http://www.faithscience.org)

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***Note: Web sites referenced in this lesson were valid at time of publication.***

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## **OTHER SUBJECTS: SOCIAL STUDIES & RELIGION - GRADE 5 - CATHOLIC**

### **LESSON TITLE: Whole Country and its Regions & Whole Church and its Regions**

**GENERAL CONCEPT:** Learning about a country and its regions and learning about the church and its regions

#### **SOCIAL STUDIES LESSON CONCEPT**

- Students will learn more about the United States of America and its regions

#### **GOAL OF SOCIAL STUDIES LESSON**

- To understand that a country is divided into regions.
- To learn about the diversities between the regions.
- To be able to name the regions.
- To be able to describe and account for the diversities between regions. (landforms, size, settlement patterns, religions)

#### **RELIGION LESSON CONCEPT**

- Students will learn more about the structure of the whole Church and its regions

#### **GOAL OF RELIGION LESSON**

- To know the basic structure of the Universal Church. (Rome, Pope, College of Cardinals, Roman Curia)
- To know the national structure of the Church. (USCCB, Archdioceses and Dioceses)
- To know the local structure of the church. (role in the parishes, pastor, lay Chancellor of a Diocese, DRE, teachers, principals)

## **OUTCOME EXPECTED**

- Students will have greater knowledge of each region of the country.
- Students will be able to account for settlement patterns, speech differences, food preferences, etc., between regions.

## **MATERIALS NEEDED**

- Social Studies Textbook
- Social Studies Notebook
- Pen or pencil
- Map of the United States with all 50 states – wall size or a map of your own country with divisions
- Desk sized copies of an outline map (1 per student)
- Desk sized copies of a map of the United States with all 50 states or your own country with divisions (1 per student)
- Computer

## **OUTCOME EXPECTED**

- Students will be able to construct a chart of the Church's Vatican hierarchy using computer programs and internet information.
- Students will be able to construct a chart of their own Diocesan or Archdiocesan hierarchy using computer technology and internet information.
- Students will be able to construct a chart of the hierarchy of their local parish using computer technology and internet information.

## **MATERIALS NEEDED**

- Wall sized chart of the Hierarchy of the Catholic Church (Pope, College of Cardinals, various bureaus and departments, and the Vatican Curia)
- Wall sized chart of the Hierarchy of the United States Catholic Church (USCCB, Archdioceses and Dioceses)
- Desk-sized outline map of parish boundaries for your diocese
- Cardboard pieces (2 inches by 6 inches approximately) labeled: Pope's name, College of Cardinals, Secretary of State, the various Vatican departments and bureaus
- Cardboard pieces (2 inches by 6 inches) labeled with the name of the Archbishop or Bishop, Auxiliary Bishops, and other hierarchy positions

- GIS software program or similar program
- Color printer
- Reference books reserved in the library for use by the students
- Books on various provinces and regions in your country or the United States and its regions in your own classroom library

## SOCIAL STUDIES METHODOLOGY

- **SHOW** the students the map of the United States.
- **SAY:** Here is a map of the United States. What can we learn from looking at this map of the entire country?
- **ACCEPT and RECORD** the students' replies. Their replies should be general and national.
- **ASK:** Is there a more scientific, organized approach to our study of the United States? (get to regions)
- **SHOW** the students the regions on the United States map.

- Cardboard pieces with the name of the person holding that position in the Universal Church headquartered in Rome, USA National Conference and the names of all the Archdiocese and Dioceses or at least the Archdiocese and Diocese in one State
- Computer
- Color printer
- Religion notebook
- Pen or pencil
- Specific directions for what is to be included in the report and due dates (see Methodology section)

## RELIGION METHODOLOGY

- **SHOW** the students the wall-sized chart of the hierarchy of the Catholic Church and point out that the Church's headquarters are located at the Vatican State in Rome.
- **ASK:** Who is the Head of the Catholic Church? (Jesus)
- **ASK:** Who is the visible head of the Catholic Church on Earth? (Pope)
- **ASK:** What is the Pope's name?(Benedict XVI)
- **ASK:** What office did he hold before being elected Pope by the College of Cardinals? (Defender of the

- **NAME AND USE A MARKER TO MAKE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE REGIONS.**
- **HAVE** the students use a marker to outline each region and name it: West, South, Midwest, East.
- **ASSIGN** a specific region to a student or group.
- **TELL** the students that they will be using the computer for their research, the GIS software program or similar program, their textbooks, the internet, and other reference books to create a report on their region. They should choose criteria which makes their assigned region different from the others. The report should include at least two different maps of their area. For example: the students could use a weather or rainfall map, altitude map, soil map, population density map, or landform map. They could use the Inspiration Program to develop concept maps. They should write a summary of their region. They should include at least one spreadsheet and one graph about the region.
- **TELL** the students or groups that they need to select 5 criteria that make their region unique and different from the other regions.
- **SUGGEST** that some criteria might be language, ethnic diversity, landforms, population density, religions, weather and climate, proper manners and speech.
- **GIVE** the students the specific directions and requirement sheet for this project including the due dates.

Faith)

- **ASK:** What was his name before becoming Pope? (Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger)
- **ASK:** Who else serves at the highest levels of the Catholic Church? (College of Cardinals)
- **ASK:** What do they do? (administer Archdioceses, administer departments in the church, advise the Pope, bury a Pope when he dies, and elect a new Pope)
- **CHECK** the chart for positions and then have the students label the positions with the name labels.
- **SHOW** the students the map of the United States of America or your own country.
- **ASK:** What are the Church territories in the United States or your country? (diocese and archdiocese)
- **RECORD** student answers. They do not have to know the entire diocese but should realize that most states have at least one Diocese or an Archdiocese and 1 or 2 smaller dioceses. For example: Missouri has the Archdiocese of St. Louis, the Diocese of Jefferson City, the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, and the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Each archbishop or bishop runs his own diocese and is responsible to the Pope.
- **LOOK** at your own diocese. Who is the Bishop? Auxiliary Bishops? Chancellor? Other officials?

- **SHOW** the students how to use the GIS software program.
- **ALLOW** them some time to experiment on it.
- **START** the groups working.
- **MONITOR** the work and progress being made.
- **DEADLINE:** Once the deadline is reached, collect the reports and then assign dates on which the reports will be presented.
- **SUGGEST** that having some items (crops, foods, and ethnic dress) will make the report more interesting. Whatever props they use should be mentioned in the written report.
- **HAVE** the students take notes on all the reports.
- **DISCUSS** the criteria that the student/group used in making their presentation.
- **ASK:** Is every region the same? Are they totally different or do they share some of the same criteria?
- **POSIT:** Breaking down the whole country into regions makes learning easier. Technology offers us a more efficient method of getting information.

- **SAY:** An Archdiocese or Diocese is divided into parishes. We belong to \_\_\_\_\_ Parish. Your assignment is to use the computer to show our parish boundaries, tell who is in charge of the parish, who the Parish Staff are that assist the Pastor. How long have we been a parish? When we were founded, was our parish land taken from another parish or have many parishes been formed from land that was once ours. Give specific directions for length, sources, maps, graphs, that you want to be included. You may report on your own parish or another parish.
- **ALLOW** students time to work on research and on the computer to complete the report.
- **HAVE** the students present their reports.
- **STUDENTS** are to take notes as the reports are presented.
- **CREATE** a display of the hierarchy charts and the reports.
- **POSIT:** Our church is organized on several levels. Technology can help us organize and illustrate our reports to demonstrate our learning about the hierarchy of the Catholic Church.

## SOCIAL STUDIES LINKS

[www.digitalwish.com/dw/digitalwish/disp\\_plan?id=4357](http://www.digitalwish.com/dw/digitalwish/disp_plan?id=4357)

[Digital Wish - Lesson Plans: Regions of the USA](#) Regions of the USA. Social Studies. Grade Level. 4th grade. Approximate Time Needed. •About 5 ... TLW explain and compare the cultural identities of various regions ...

[www.dembsky.net/regions](http://www.dembsky.net/regions)

[United States Regions](#) You can find information about each state from these web sites on the Internet. ... Kidspace@The Internet Public Library. Web site created. by Jill Dembsky ... Good place for finding other relevant web sites.

## RELIGION LINKS

[www.bible.ca/catholic-church-hierarchy-organization.htm](http://www.bible.ca/catholic-church-hierarchy-organization.htm)

[The organization of the Roman Catholic church](#) There are a total of at least 30 Roman Catholic denominations in the world. ... means that a Roman catholic can attend any one of 222,530 local churches in the world. ... Good diagrams and information on the organizational structure of the Catholic Church.

## KEY WORDS

- COUNTRY
- REGION
- VARIABLES
- SETTLEMENT PATTERN
- SPEECH DIFFERENCES
- FOOD PREFERENCES
- CLIMATE
- GEOGRAPHY

## KEY WORDS

- HIERARCHY
- STRUCTURE
- ORGANIZATION
- POPE
- BISHOP
- PASTOR
- DIOCESE
- PARISH