

Title: Analyzing Population Demographics: Botswana, Southern Africa & Africa

Global Competence Connection: Examine local, global and intercultural issues

Overview: In this lesson, learners analyze graphs, population pyramids and choropleth maps. Learners then consider scale as they compare and contrast demographic change in Botswana with that of Africa and Southern Africa and summarize their findings in a 3 Circle Venn Diagram.

Objectives:

- To analyze graphs, population pyramids and choropleth maps.
- To compare and contrast demographic change in Botswana with that of Southern Africa and Africa by creating a 3 Circle Venn Diagram.
- To consider the importance of scale in geographic analysis.

Grade Level: 9

Time: 3 class periods if no pre-teaching necessary

Required Materials:

- Internet access: <https://botslessons.weebly.com>
- Analyzing Population Demographics: Botswana, Southern Africa & Africa Google Slides
- 3 Circle Venn Diagram Planning Document
- 3 Circle Venn Diagram Template (1 copy per learner)

Minnesota Social Studies Standards - 9-12 Geography

Substrand 1: Geospatial Skills

Standard 1. People use geographic representations and geospatial technologies to acquire, process and report information within a spatial context.

Benchmark 9.3.1.1.1

Use tables, graphs, charts, diagrams and various kinds of maps including symbol, dot and choropleth maps to depict the geographic implications of current world events or to solve geographic problems.

Benchmark 9.3.1.1.2

Apply geographic information from a variety of print and electronic sources to interpret the past and present and plan for the future; provide rationale for using specific technologies for each application.

Substrand 2: Places and Regions

Standard 3. Places have physical characteristics (such as climate, topography and vegetation) and human characteristics (such as culture, population, political and economic systems).

Benchmark 9.3.2.3.1

Make inferences and draw conclusions about the physical and human characteristics of places based on a comparison of maps and other geographic representations and geospatial technologies.

Substrand 3: Human Systems

Standard 5. The characteristics, distribution and migration of human populations on the earth's surface influence human systems (cultural, economic and political systems).

Benchmark 9.3.3.5.2

Use the demographic transition model to analyze and explain the impact of changing birth and death rates in major world regions.

Benchmark 9.3.3.5.3

Compare the population characteristics of places at a range of scales using population pyramids, birth and death rates, and other key demographic variables.

Suggested Procedure:

Before Day 1

1. Pre-teach any necessary concepts. Demographic indicators, population pyramids and choropleth maps are typically included in the Intro and/or Population Units of a high school Human Geography course.

Days 1 and 2

2. Introduce learners to the Weebly site and inform them that the materials for this lesson are paperless, with the exception of the 3 Circle Venn Diagram. Note the option to create the 3 Circle Venn Diagram using an online tool such as Canva.
3. Introduce the Analyzing Population Demographics: Botswana, Southern Africa & Africa Google Slideshow. Remind learners to use the Speaker Notes at the bottom of each slide in the Google Slideshow.
4. Learners will be assessed informally based on their participation in class discussion and formally based on their 3 Circle Venn Diagram. Review the 3 Circle Venn Diagram rubric found on the Weebly.
5. Circulate and provide assistance as learners work on their 3 Circle Venn Diagram Planning Document.
6. When learners have made significant progress, facilitate a discussion of Botswana, Southern Africa and Africa demographic trends using the discussion questions provided in the Speaker Notes of the Analyzing Population Demographics: Botswana, Southern Africa & Africa Google Slideshow. Use this discussion to identify areas where learners need assistance in order to better understand the demographic indicators, population pyramids and choropleth maps in order to successfully create their 3 Circle Venn Diagram.

Day 3

7. Circulate and provide assistance as learners work on the final copy of their 3 Circle Venn Diagram.
8. Collect and assess learner materials.

Extensions:

- Teacher sharing of resources and additional insights gained through Fulbright DAT Inquiry Project in Botswana.
- Supplement with additional information gleaned from Resources page on Weebly.
- Create or access graphs, population pyramids and choropleth maps for other countries and/or regions and compare and contrast those to Botswana, Southern Africa and Africa.

Assessment:

- Informal: Class Discussion
- Formal: 3 Circle Venn Diagram

Credits:

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