

Welcome to the Wonder-filled World of G.E.O.N.



Origin/Affiliation:



- ✧ G.E.O.N. = Geographic Educators' of Nebraska
- ✧ Created in 1990 as part of the National Geographic Network of grassroots affiliates
- ✧ Purpose to advance geographic literacy by improving teaching of geography in K-16 classrooms
- ✧ Literacy is improved by increasing students' knowledge & application of the following themes:
 - ✧ Place-Physical, Cultural & Urban Systems
 - ✧ Location-Maps, Map Interpretation & GIS
 - ✧ Human-environment Interaction-Desertification
 - ✧ Movement-Migration, Diffusion & Trade
 - ✧ Regions-Interpreting & Analyzing Earth's Complexity

Methodology

Provides teachers with professional experience/training in geographic content, methods & experiential learning

G.E.O.N. treats teachers like professionals with free or low-cost professional development programs in methods, curriculum, assessment & outreach

Since 1990, thousands of K-12 teachers have attended G.E.O.N. summer institutes & week-end workshops, as well as involvement in related curriculum projects



Impact On Students

Tens of thousands of students have been impacted by hands-on experiences, lesson plans, & curricular materials brought back to classrooms by G.E.O.N. trained teachers

Likewise, tens of thousands of students & families have participated in the Nebraska State Geography Bee Program, the Kids Explore Children's Learning Festivals, Geography Awareness Week, & the "Where In The Omaha World Herald" Family Geography Project



Current Efforts

Summer Institutes (2012-2013)

- ✧ Geography of the Frontier
(Chadron)
- ✧ Geography of the City
(Omaha)

Year Round Efforts

- ✧ Geography Awareness Week
Training & Materials
- ✧ National Geographic Webinars
- ✧ Development of a 4th Grade
Nebraska Atlas
- ✧ AP Geography Training (Omaha)
- ✧ State Geography Bee Sponsors (at
UNO each spring)



Resources:



In-class Materials

- ✧ National Geographic Maps (40' X 25')
- ✧ GeoNebraska.org
- ✧ Nationalgeographic.org Websites
- ✧ Geography Awareness Week teaching materials
- ✧ Large Classroom Maps of Nebraska (20' X 16')
- ✧ Geography Bee Materials
- ✧ Teacher-developed; standards-based & interdisciplinary curriculum units



Continued: Continuing Education Programs



- ✧ Teacher Training & Mentoring at weekend workshops
- ✧ Standards-based curriculum development at summer institutes
- ✧ Low-cost credit courses in geography
- ✧ GIS/GPS course development
- ✧ Collaboration with other curricular projects such as the Jason Science Project, CASDI & NASA
- ✧ Leading edge AP course information in Nebraska
- ✧ Stipend-assisted attendance at state & national conferences, such as the National Conference of Geographic Educators & the Nebraska State Council of Social Studies
- ✧ Best of all, an association with highly motivated & dedicated career educators. Their enthusiasm is too exhilarating for words.

Questions?