

Lesson Plan: South Asia Secondary Lesson Plan

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Title:	Hinduism & The Caste System
Grade Level:	Middle Grades
Subject:	Social Studies/Language Arts
Course:	South Asia
Unit Plan:	South Asia
Lesson Goals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Gain farther insight into Indian culture. ❖ Classify how Hinduism impacts Indian society. ❖ Evaluate the purity of the Giver Ganges.
Duration:	1-3 days (60 minute class days) <i>*This may vary based on the students</i>
Teacher Materials:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indian Caste System MS Word Doc. 2. River Ganges Polluted Article 3. River Ganges Questions Doc. 4. River Ganges Questions rtf. (Answers) 5. Hinduism Power point 6. Videos: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Varanasi City of Light Video • Hindu Funeral Rights Video • Religions of the World: Hinduism Video
Student Materials:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scissors 2. Highlighter (optional) 3. River Ganges Polluted Article 4. River Ganges Questions Doc.
Procedures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start off class by giving the students a piece of colored paper or construction paper. Direct students to fold/cut the paper to create a triangle with a top and bottom piece. • After they have a triangle, put the spine of the triangle to their left and have the students draw five evenly spaced lines. They will use these spaces to write down the levels of the Hindu Caste System later. • Show students the religions of the world: Hinduism video. • After the video, take several minutes to discuss with the students what they saw on the video. • Display the Indian Caste System MS Word document, have students copy the levels of the Caste system. • Show students the Varanasi City of Light Video. • Show students the Hindu Funeral Rights Video. • After both videos, allow the students 3-5 minutes to create a list displaying of religious practices they saw in the video's that differ from their own. • As a whole group, discuss each of the group lists. See how many times particular differences are listed by the students. This activity would be more interesting in a very religiously diverse classroom and could spark equally stimulating conversations. • Start Hinduism PowerPoint, have the students use the inside and back of their triangle to take notes. • Distribute River Ganges Polluted article. Teacher can opt to have students

		<p>read it on their own, (or for differentiation) students can take turns reading aloud to each other, or teacher can read aloud.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute <i>Giver Ganges</i> Questions and allow students at least 20 minutes to read through the article and the questions to complete them. • After all students have finished, go over each question and answer with them. Often times, at this point a lot of questions will emerge about the cleanliness of the water and how Hindu's view it.
Assessment:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Ganges Questions. • Verbal assessments in class. • Allow the students to predict solutions for the River Ganges
Supplemental Resources:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Geographic Article: (http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0306/feature1/index.html) • Hinduism (http://www.religioustolerance.org/hinduism.htm) • River Ganges Polluted (http://web.bryant.edu/~langlois/ecology/gangessolutions.htm)

