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Where Does Our Stuff Come From?

This lesson and its partner lesson, *Product or Resource?*, are informed by the big ideas of Community and Connectedness. Students learn what regions or countries that commodities come from by mapping the origins of products commonly found in the home. Students explore what transportation methods bring these goods from their point of origin to their destination.

CLASSROOM TIME REQUIRED

Approximately 50 minutes

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Students will:

- Identify the country of origin of products that students in Prince Rupert use
- Identify the top ten countries to which Canada and British Columbia send their exports and from where they receive their imports
- Describe the importance of trade for Prince Rupert, British Columbia and Canada by using maps to locate major trading partner countries

MATERIALS REQUIRED

- A package of small arrow-shaped sticky notes
- Pictures of resources and products traded through the Port of Prince Rupert
- The tables of *Goods Traded Through the Port of Prince Rupert* for teachers and for students (see *Attachments* below)
- Tables of *Top 10 Countries Importing Goods to Canada / British Columbia* (see *Attachments* below)
- Outline of world map (ideally, this should be Pacific-centric – [click here](#) for some options)

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES REQUIRED

Optional: Computer with a projector, overhead projector, Smart Board

TEACHER PREPARATION

- Ensure students understand the concepts of “natural resource” and “product”. (See the lesson *Product or Resource?*)
- **The day before you are to teach the lesson**, ask students to choose 5 products at home for which they can identify the country where they were made. Have students make a note of what each item is and its country of manufacture and bring their notes to class the next day.

CRITICAL VOCABULARY (see Glossary for definitions)

Commodity	International trade	Resources
Export	Natural resource	Transport mode
Good	Needs and wants	
Import	Product	

LESSON DEVELOPMENT

Activity 1:

- Introduce the topic of the lesson by referencing the following quote from Martin Luther King:

Before you finish breakfast you will have depended on half the world.

Ask students what they think this statement means. Can they give examples of how each one of us depends on other people and countries in the world?

Activity 2:

- Using your own clothing as a model, demonstrate how to find out where an item of clothing was made (i.e. look at the label). Use the world map in the classroom or a map displayed on a Smart Board or a projector to locate where the items were made.
- Have students look at the labels in their coats, sweaters, shoes and and/or shirts.
- Ask each student for one or two examples of where their clothing was made, and locate students' answers on the world map. Mark the locations with a small arrow-shaped sticky note.
- As a class, look at the map and observe any trends or patterns (e.g. the country represented the most or least).

Activity 3:

- Have each student map the origin of the 5 products that he/she found at home on a printed map.
- Place students in groups of four. Ask them to combine their findings and represent the totals for each country in a table and/or as a bar graph.
- Have each group report their findings. With the students' input, combine the groups' findings into a chart and then represent as a graph on the board.
- Discuss the findings:
 - Where are most of the items made?
 - Why do they think this is?
 - How did the items get from these countries to Canada?
- Display the tables of the *Top 10 Countries Importing Goods to Canada / British Columbia*. Ask students to identify the similarities between the countries in the tables and the in-class chart and graph.

Activity 4:

- Show students the table of *Goods Traded Through the Port of Prince Rupert*. Lead an exploration of the data in the tables by asking students the following questions:

- Where are the resources from and where are they going?
- Where are the products from and where are they going when they leave the Port?
- Which of the goods are imports and which are exports?
- Are any of the 5 products the students found at home included in the list of products that arrive in the Port of Prince Rupert?
- Are any of the products that students found at home made from resources that move through the Port of Prince Rupert?

ASSESSMENT

- Explain to the students that they will each create a presentation on one resource or product that is exported or imported through the Port of Prince Rupert.
- Lead students through the development of an evaluation rubric. (You can do this as the lesson is taught, or at the end of the lesson.) The process of developing the rubric with the students could include:
 - Students brainstorm criteria;
 - Teacher and students negotiate criteria; and
 - Using the students' language, co-develop standards or a rubric outlining the content to be included, the depth of information, and conventions.
- The presentation should:
 - Track one product or resource that is exported or imported through the Port of Prince Rupert from its origin to its destination.
 - Include the following information about the resource/product:
 - Where it is from
 - Where it is going to
 - 3 – 5 facts about how it is produced
 - What modes of transportation are used to move it from its origin to its destination
 - Include a map showing its route from origin to destination
 - For a resource, give 1 or 2 examples of what is produced from that resource
 - For a product, give the main resource or resources that the product was made from
 - Provide relevant pictures to support the information
 - Provide 1 or 2 interesting facts about the product or resource
- Students can choose to present their findings as:
 - A poster boards
 - A mobile
 - A flow chart

MODIFICATIONS

Integrate the lesson with a visit to the Port of Prince Rupert Interpretive Centre:

- Complete Activities 1 and 2 in your classroom.
- At the Interpretive Centre, use the interactive Import/Export Map to illustrate mapping and as a

research resource. Have the students identify and note:

- The products and natural resources that move through the Port Of Prince Rupert
 - Where the products and resources are from and where they are going
 - The modes of transportation used to move the products and resources from their country of origin to their destination
- Back in the classroom, you can complete Activities 3 and 4, or move straight to the Assessment activity (the student presentation).

LESSON PLAN RESOURCES

- Pictures of resources and products traded through the Port of Prince Rupert
- A range of Pacific-centric maps

ATTACHMENTS

- Tables of *Goods Traded Through the Port of Prince Rupert* for teachers and for students (below)
- Tables of *Top 10 Countries Importing Goods to Canada / British Columbia* (below)

GOODS TRADED THROUGH THE PORT OF PRINCE RUPERT			
Goods	Country/Regions of Origin	Destination Country	Comments
Coal	Canada: British Columbia & Alberta. United States: Montana & Wyoming.	Japan, China, South Korea	Export – Dry Bulk Carrier
Electronics	China, South Korea	Canada: all of Canada	Import – Container Ship
Feed Barley	Canada: BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan & Manitoba	Southeast Asia: Japan. Saudi Arabia	Export – Dry Bulk Carrier
Household goods	China	Canada	Import – Container Ship
Logs	Canada: British Columbia	Japan, South Korea, China	Export - Bulk
Lumber	Canada	Japan, South Korea, China	Export – Container Ship
Oats	Canada	Many countries	Export – Dry Bulk Carrier
Petroleum Coke	Canada: Alberta	Asia: Japan	Export – Dry Bulk Carrier
Pulp & Paper	Canada	Asia	Export – Container Ship
Retail Goods	China	Canada	Import – Container Ship
Scrap Steel	Canada & the United States	China	Export -Container Ship
Soybeans	Canada: BC, Manitoba, Ontario & Quebec	Asia: Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam Western Europe: Netherlands, Norway, Belgium	Export -Container Ship

GOODS TRADED THROUGH THE PORT OF PRINCE RUPERT			
Goods	Country/Regions of Origin	Destination Country	Comments
Textiles	China	Canada	Import – Container Ship
Waste Paper	Canada & the United States	China	Export – Container Ship
Wheat	Canada: Alberta, Saskatchewan & Manitoba	Asia: Japan China, Indonesia, South Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan Thailand Western Europe:	Export – Dry Bulk Carrier
Wood Pellets	Canada	European Union	Exports – Dry Bulk Carrier

Goods Traded Through the Port of Prince Rupert - For Teachers				
Resources	Products	Country of Origin	Destination Country	Comments
Coal		Canada: British Columbia & Alberta. United States: Montana & Wyoming.	Japan, China, South Korea	Export – Dry Bulk Carrier
	Electronics	China, South Korea	Canada: all of Canada	Import – Container Ship
Feed Barley		Canada: BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan & Manitoba	Southeast Asia: Japan. Saudi Arabia	Export - Bulk
	Household goods	China	Canada	Import – Container Ship
Logs		Canada: British Columbia	Japan, South Korea, China	Export – Dry Bulk Carrier
	Lumber	Canada	Japan, South Korea, China	Export – Container Ship
Oats		Canada	Many countries	Export – Dry Bulk Carrier
	Office Supplies	China	Canada	Import – Container Ship
Petroleum Coke		Canada: Alberta	Asia: Japan	Export – Dry Bulk Carrier
	Pulp & Paper	Canada		Export – Container Ship
	Retail Goods	China	Canada	Import – Container Ship
	Scrap Steel	Canada & the United States	China	Export - Container Ship

Goods Traded Through the Port of Prince Rupert - For Teachers				
Resources	Products	Country of Origin	Destination Country	Comments
Soybeans		Canada: BC, Manitoba, Ontario & Quebec	Asia: Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam Western Europe: Netherlands, Norway, Belgium	Export - Container
	Textiles	China	Canada	Import – Container Ship
	Waste Paper	Canada & the United States	China	Export – Container Ship
Wheat		Canada: Alberta, Saskatchewan & Manitoba	Asia: Japan, China, Indonesia, South Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand Western Europe:	Export - Dry Bulk Carrier
	Wood Pellets	Canada	European Union	Exports – Dry Bulk Carrier

TOP 10 COUNTRIES - INTERNATIONAL TRADE
CANADA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

Top 10 Countries receiving Canada's Exports

Canada 2011 Export Country	Top 10 Exports Value (\$Cdn)	%
United States	307,210,098,835	82%
United Kingdom	18,256,975,332	5%
Mainland China	16,382,555,791	4%
Japan	10,532,259,560	3%
South Korea	5,035,532,747	1%
Mexico	4,676,924,960	1%
Netherlands	4,605,425,720	1%
Germany	3,674,726,387	1%
France	2,864,253,016	1%
Norway	2,757,796,965	1%
Total	375,996,549,313	100%

Top 10 Countries Importing Goods to Canada

Canada 2011 Import Country	Top 10 Imports Value (\$Cdn)	%
United States (U.S.)	220,902,000,000	63%
China	48,160,000,000	14%
Mexico	24,572,000,000	7%
Japan	13,058,000,000	4%
Germany	12,793,000,000	4%
United Kingdom (U.K.)	10,329,000,000	3%
Korea, South	6,617,000,000	2%
France (incl. Monaco, French Antilles)	5,552,000,000	2%
Algeria	5,485,000,000	2%
Italy (includes Vatican City State)	5,107,000,000	1%
Total	352,574,000,000	100%

Top 10 Countries receiving British Columbia's Exports

British Columbia 2011 Export Country	Top 10 Exports Value (\$Cdn)	%
United States	14,019,998,045	48%
Mainland China	4,843,407,065	16%
Japan	4,645,612,357	16%
South Korea	2,731,627,146	9%
Taiwan	723,568,321	2%
Brazil	706,562,973	2%
Netherlands	621,247,043	2%
Italy	515,238,991	2%
United Kingdom	417,506,119	1%
Germany	280,887,841	1%
Total	29,505,655,901	100%

Top 10 Countries Importing Goods to British Columbia

BC 2011 Import Country	Top 10 Imports Value (\$Cdn)	%
United States (U.S.)	17,424,973,000,000	50%
China	9,314,744,000,000	27%
Japan	2,525,559,000,000	7%
Mexico	1,466,504,000,000	4%
Korea, South	1,109,051,000,000	3%
Taiwan	837,258,000,000	2%
Peru	592,852,000,000	2%
Germany	536,970,000,000	2%
Thailand	512,180,000,000	1%
Australia	426,152,000,000	1%
Total	34,746,243,000,000	100%