Introduction to Culminating Projects

Since our unit on states and capitals and map skills is such a large one, there are a few culminating projects that are detailed in the following pages. There are culminating projects for both the states and capitals and map skills separately; along with a final competition with the fifth graders known as “The Geography Bee” that all the students look forward to.

For the states and capitals portion of the unit, the final project is multi-faceted. Each student will be researching a particular state and writing an informative paper about that state. They are also then presenting the information to the class. As a visual aide, each student will design a travel brochure for their state.

To incorporate both portions of the unit, students are creating state and capital games in groups. While it is very important that their game can be used as a learning tool, it must also incorporate at least two map skills. This is a way to bring the whole unit together at the end.

Finally, the students participate in “The Geography Bee” with the fifth grade students. The honor of winning the competition is very valuable to the students and is great motivation for them to practice their states and capitals.