

# Social Studies

# Lesson Plan

Bike Across Europe



Classroom #	Teachers:	Subject: Social Studies	Date:
Grade: 6	Unit:		
State Standard(s):	Use map and globe skills learned in prekindergarten to grade five to interpret different kinds of projections, as well as topographic, landform, political, population, and climate maps. Provide examples of currencies from several countries and explain why international trade requires a system for exchanging currency between nations.		
Objective:	Students will gain research and writing skills by reporting on geographic locations and historic events based on a selected route through the European continent.		
Key Vocabulary Terms:	European Union Schengen Area		
Lesson Outline: Students are asked to 1) select a bicycle route on the European continent and 2) determine which major geographic and civic landmarks it runs through.		Student groupings:	
Accommodations and Modifications:	Use of a more detailed map of Europe for research purposes.		





## Bicycling in Europe

Now that you have chosen your route, consider the following questions:

1. What languages will you need to learn?
2. What geographical elements should you be prepared for (name any rivers, mountains, deserts etc. you may encounter)?
3. Draw your route on the map below, what is the distance (in kilometers) of your chosen route? How long will this trip take you?



## Bicycling in Europe

Research the history and geography of the region you will travel through and answer the following questions:

1. Choose a region that your route passes through and identify a significant historical event from that region: \_\_\_\_\_
2. What major cities will you pass through?
3. Based on the climate of your route, what is the best time of year for your trip?
4. How many types of currency will you need?
5. Are the countries you pass through part of the European Union?
6. How does the European Union make travel between countries easier?
7. What is a Schengen Area country? Does your route pass through any Schengen Area countries?



# Bicycling in Europe

Research and define the following vocabulary terms:

1. European Union:

2. Schengen Area:



## Activity: Plan a Bike Trip in Massachusetts

Use [TrailLink](http://www.traillink.com) (www.traillink.com) to plan a bike trip in Massachusetts. How does the local network of trails compare to the European network?

Resources:

- [Baker-Polito Administration Celebrates 150 Miles of New Trails for Walking and Biking](https://blog.mass.gov/transportation/uncategorized/baker-polito-administration-celebrates-150-miles-of-new-trails-for-walking-and-biking/) (https://blog.mass.gov/transportation/uncategorized/baker-polito-administration-celebrates-150-miles-of-new-trails-for-walking-and-biking/)
- [Trail Link](https://www.traillink.com/) (https://www.traillink.com/)
- [National Geographic MapMaker](https://mapmaker.nationalgeographic.org/) (https://mapmaker.nationalgeographic.org/)



## Vocabulary Term Answer Key

### 1. European Union:

An association of European nations formed in 1993 for the purpose of achieving political and economic integration. Incorporating the European Community, the European Union's member states are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. In 2016 the United Kingdom voted by referendum to withdraw from membership in the European Union. Abbreviation: EU

### 2. Schengen Area:

Today, the Schengen Area encompasses most EU States, except for Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland, Romania and the United Kingdom. However, Bulgaria and Romania are currently in the process of joining the Schengen Area. Of non-EU States, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein have joined the Schengen Area.

[https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/borders-and-visas/schengen\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/borders-and-visas/schengen_en)

