

Host Countries

AIMS

Students use appropriate mapping skills.

Students draw conclusions from data.

Students find information to assist in drawing conclusions.

Students examine the equity of Olympic host city arrangements.

LINKS

S&E (Place and Space, Resources, Investigation, Communication and Participation), English (Reading, Writing)

MATERIALS

Blank world map (Available at <http://www.globaleducation.edna.edu.au/globaled/go/pid/3428>)

Computers with internet connection and printer (or printed copy of Olympic host cities, paper and pens)

LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Show students the list of Olympic Games host cities.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Summer_Olympic_Games#List_of_modern_Summer_Olympic_Games

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winter_Olympic_Games#List_of_Winter_Olympic_Games

Ask students to use atlases to map host cities. What do students notice about the host countries? Are they wealthy countries? If students don't know, ask where they can find out. Which continents are most of the host cities located on? Which country has hosted the Olympics the most often? Why haven't any cities in South America or Africa hosted the games?

Ask students to research one country that has hosted the Olympic Games and one that hasn't. Do students think that hosting the Olympics would have more costs or benefits for their country that hasn't been a host? Create a class reference book with these country profiles.

VARIATIONS/EXTENSIONS

- Students to research list of host cities on their own.
- Assign different map projections (e.g. Peter's map, spaceship, Mercator) to different groups of students. Discuss why they look different. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each? See http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/mapping_our_world/ or Mapping the World: an innovative approach to mapwork for ages 9-13 by Bernie Ashmore (available at the One World Centre) for more information

