

SIXTH GRADE SCHOOL TOURS AT THE HACKETT HOUSE Cuenca, Ecuador

GREETING: BUENAS DIAS

I. Location/Geography (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.G1.1, 6.G2.1, 6.G3.2, 6.G4.1)

A. Hemisphere/Continent

1. Ecuador is on the continent of South America in the southern hemisphere
2. The country rests along the equator and Cuenca is on the southern end in a valley surrounded by the Andes Mountains. It is at an elevation of about 8400 feet as compared to Tempe that is about 1100-1500 feet.
3. Subtropical highland climate; mild climate year-round- days warm and night cool enough for a sweater. Rainy season is from mid-October until early May.
4. Average temperature 58 degrees

B. Influence of Water on Development

1. “The dominant features of the city's geography are also the source of its name in Spanish: the four rivers of *Cuenca* (meaning a basin made by a confluence of rivers). These rivers are the Tomebamba (named after the Cañari culture), Yanuncay, Tarqui and Machangara, in order of importance. The first three of these rivers originate in the Páramo of Parque Nacional Cajas to the west of the city. These four rivers are part of the Amazon river watershed. Cuenca is surrounded by mountains on all sides, with passes to the west, south and east.”

2. The real name of Cuenca is Santa Ana de los Cuatro Rios de Cuenca
3. The Cuenca people are very proud of the fact that they manage their own water distribution and are self-sufficient in that area. They do not depend on the government for help with this.

II. Historical Perspective (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.SP1.1, 6.SP1.3, 6.SP2.1, 4.H1.1)

- A. 9000 year history can be divided into five eras: Pre-Columbian, The Conquest, The Colonial Period, The War of Independence and the Republican Era. Remind students they may have studied about South America in 4th grade.
1. First evidence of man in 8060 BC in the Cave of Chopsi. They hunted in the paramo which is the alpine tundra ecosystems (Paramo is only in this part of the world where the land is between the forest line and below the permanent snow line.)
 2. Later after 5585 BC - started to become agricultural. Grew potatoes, squash, and quinoa. Had llamas and alpacas.
 3. After 2000 BC - people became more highly organized society and started to manage water with irrigation practices and controlled plagues. People separated into administrative and religious authorities (shamans)
 4. Canari settlement called Guapondeleg - believed to be founded around 500 AD
 5. Guapondeleg translates into “land as big as heaven”

- B. Inca next inhabitants (Inca is only the “king”; rest of people called indigenous) in the 1500’s AD. Remind students they may have studied about the Incas in 4th grade.
1. After hard battle, conquered Canari and occupied Guapondeleg and surrounding area.
 2. Inca had their own architecture but kept the Canari achievements of astronomy and agriculture.
 3. Inca commander, Tupac Yupanqui supposedly built beautiful city in what is now Cuenca. There was so much gold in the city and it was built to rival Cuzco which was the capital of the Inca empire in Peru.
 4. The story of this area is very similar to the story of the “seven cities of Cibola” in Arizona. But, in Cuenca there really was gold.
 5. Abandoned by Canari and Inca - sparsely populated until 1550’s
- C. Spanish founded city that exists today in 1557. Remind students they may have studied about Spanish explorers and settlements in South America in 4th grade.
1. Named after Andres Hurtado de Mendoza’s (Viceroy of Peru) home town of Cuenca, Spain
 2. It grew in population and importance during the colonial era and reached it’s peak during the first years’ of Ecuador’s independence from the Spanish which was November 3, 1820.

III. Cultural/Connections (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.SP1.2, 6.SP1.3, 6.H1.2, 6.H3.2)

A. How are we in Tempe connected to Cuenca?

1. Early civilizations started managing water with irrigation as did the Hohokam in our area.
2. Tempe's eighth Sister City in 2009
3. Capital of the Azuay province, the 3rd largest city in Ecuador
4. Preserved history as we preserve our Hackett House; Hayden Flour Mill; Monte's
5. Honors cultural traditions as we do the many cultures that make up our state.
6. Discovered one of our Sister City members has relations in Cuenca - the Borota's - Richard Borota is Mark Borota's 2nd cousin

B. UNESCO World Heritage Trust Site (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)

1. They are proud of being designated Cultural Patrimony of Humanity by UNESCO on December 1, 1999
2. In 2002, it was named the Cultural Capital of the Americas
3. Recognized for cultural richness where they have been able to blend a modern city with the colonial charm of yesteryear.
4. The combination of past and present is seen in the narrow cobblestone streets to the traditional agricultural

practices of the ancient Canari to the preserved Inca ruins to the Cathedrals build by the Spaniards.

IV. Economic/Trade (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.E3.2, 6.E5.1, 6.G3.1, 6.G3.2,)

A. Trade

1. Panama hats are the trademark of Cuenca - first made in the Cuenca area and still produced there. They are called Panama hats because Panama is their point of international sales. They were made for the workers of the Panama Canal to protect them from the intense sun. Fine Panama hats take 2-4 months to weave.
2. Old World, Spanish colonial feel to town: flower boxes on windows wrought-iron balconies, red-tile roofs, cobblestone streets, lively markets
3. Center for arts and crafts - many of the things sold in Quito and Guayaquil come from this area.

V. Conclusion

Cuenca attracts many visitors to it's city from around the world. The designation given by UNESCO in 1999 allows the city to undertake preservation projects that help the city grow without sacrificing it's wonderful heritage. Citizens of Cuenca are very proud of their heritage and after the the UNESCO announcement was made they said "Que Viva Cuenca Hoy Y Siempre. ("Long live Cuenca today and always!")"

Timeline

1. Canari settlement in 500 AD
2. Inca's came next
3. Spanish control in 1557

4. Named to UNESCO in 1999
5. Sister City to Tempe in 2009

ARTIFACTS FROM CUENCA:

ARTIFACT GIVEN TO STUDENTS: Small FROGS SYMBOLIZING THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Clothing indigenous to the country

Panama hat - 10,000 feet high so people wear hats; during the construction of the Panama canal they imported the hats from Ecuador for the people. Can be crushed, folded and then come back to natural form.

Pictures of life in Cuenca

Purse: Shigra - originally carried by Indians to carry seeds for planting - hand woven. Colors are dyed naturally.

Clothing really worn only by peasant people

Lots of gold

Lots of churches

Vibrant, lively colors

Lot of fruits and vegetables and flowers due to climate.

FLAG OF ECUADOR:



DESCRIPTION: The current flag of Ecuador was officially adopted on September 26, 1860 and finalized in 1900 with addition of the coat of arms. The coat of arms depicts the Andes Mountain Range; steamboat represents first seaworthy steamship built in Ecuador; condor at top symbolizes power, greatness, and strength of Ecuador. The red, green and blue are the colors of *Francisco de Miranda*, the South American revolutionist and adventurer. Yellow is the color of the federation, red is said to indicate courage and blue symbolizes independence from Spain. The centered coat of arms is topped with a condor.