So maybe you can’t pronounce it (it’s KEER-giz-stan), or you’re not quite sure exactly where it is (Central Asia), but Kyrgyzstan is a culturally rich, democratic country in the heart of an area that will play a big role in the global future. Why Kyrgyzstan? Why not?

A User-Friendly, Elementary Level Curricular Unit

Jennifer L. Zunk
Monroe County intermediate School District
Monroe, Michigan
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Can you find Kyrgyzstan?

Kyrgyzstan is shaped like this:

Can you find Kyrgyzstan on this map of Central Asia?

Color Kyrgyzstan RED
Can you find Kyrgyzstan on this map of Asia?

Color Kyrgyzstan RED
Can you find Kyrgyzstan on this map of the world?

Color Kyrgyzstan RED
Can You Find Kyrgyzstan?

Background:

Kyrgyzstan is located in Central Asia, bordered by China (to the east), Kazakhstan (to the north), Uzbekistan (to the west), and Tajikistan (to the south). It is part of what is known as “The Stans” (sans China and sometimes including Turkmenistan) of the former Soviet Union. Kyrgyzstan is slightly larger than the state of South Dakota.

Materials needed:

Red colored pencil, crayon, or marker (possibly other colors-see below)
Reproducible pages (3) Can You Find Kyrgyzstan

What to do:

Give each student a copy of Can You Find Kyrgyzstan? The instructions are pretty straightforward, but there are a few items for teachers to know which may be useful:

- On the map of Central Asia, the large body of water on the left side of the page is the Caspian Sea (this is a good landmark for students when looking for Kyrgyzstan on the maps of Asia and the world);
- If anyone should ask, the body of water just to the right of the Caspian Sea is the Aral Sea. The body of water located in Kyrgyzstan is Lake Issak-Kul (ISS-sock kool), and the body of water north of Kyrgyzstan (in Kazakstan) is Lake Balkhash;
- The dots found on both maps of Asia indicate the location of each country’s capital.

Optional:

- On the world map, have students find the United States of America and color it blue. Tell them that Kyrgyzstan is slightly bigger than the state of South Dakota (show students map of U.S. if they are not familiar with this state) to give them perspective regarding the size of Kyrgyzstan.
- Have students locate and color any other countries you have studied in class or that they should know about.
A Brief History of Kyrgyzstan

The Kyrgyz people are one of the oldest in Central Asia. They were mentioned in ancient Chinese writings over 2,000 years ago. Petroglyphs (pictures that were carved into rocks by prehistoric people as a way to communicate) made by early Kyrgyz people can be found all over Kyrgyzstan.

In 138 B.C., a Chinese man named Zhang Qian set out to explore the lands beyond the mountains that separated China from the rest of Asia. He found many things that he wanted to take back to China, and discovered that many of the people he met liked the fine Chinese fabric called silk. A system of trading was developed using many different routes, which became known as The Silk Road. Some of these routes passed through Kyrgyzstan. The Kyrgyz people carried goods west to Persia and Syria, and sold horses and camels to other traders.

Kyrgyzstan was invaded by many armies over the course of the next hundreds of years; Alexander the Great from Europe, Genghis Kahn from Mongolia, and Tamerlane from Central Asia. With these invasions came many changes, one being the introduction of Islam, a religion based on the teachings of the prophet Muhammad.

In the 19th century, Kyrgyzstan became part of the Russian Empire, and after the October Revolution (when the king, or tsar, of Russia was overthrown), it became part of the Soviet Union, or U.S.S.R.

In 1990 Kyrgyzstan seceded from the Soviet Union and became one of the world’s newest independent states. Kyrgyzstan is a democratic society with an elected president and parliament.
A Brief History of Kyrgyzstan
Test Your Knowledge!

Directions: Use numbers 1-5 to put the following events from Kyrgyz history in chronological order, with 1 being the event that happened first.

_____ 1. Genghis Kahn invades Kyrgyzstan.

_____ 2. Kyrgyzstan secedes from the U.S.S.R. and becomes an independent state.

_____ 3. Petroglyphs are carved into rocks as a way to communicate.

_____ 4. The Kyrgyz transport and sell goods on the Silk Road.

_____ 5. Kyrgyzstan becomes part of the Russian Empire.
A Brief History of Kyrgyzstan

Materials needed:

Pen or pencil
Reproducible page A Brief History of Kyrgyzstan
Reproducible page A Brief History of Kyrgyzstan: Test Your Knowledge!

What to do:

- Give each student a copy of A Brief History of Kyrgyzstan. Read as a group or independently.
- Give each student a copy of Test Your Knowledge! For a true challenge have them put the events in order without looking at the reading page!

Additional activities:

- Have students look up information on the following topics:
  
  Alexander the Great
  Genghis Kahn
  Tamerlane (also known as Timur the lame)
  Muhammad
  Islam
  The Russian Empire
  The October Revolution
  The Silk Road
  The fall of Communism
  The Kyrgyz government

Answers:

1. 3
2. 5
3. 1
4. 2
5. 4
Can you find the tunduk?

The inside of a yurt
Can you find the tunduk?

The outside of a yurt
This is what it would look like if you were lying down in a yurt looking at the ceiling!

The tunduk
The Kyrgyz Flag

Background:

The flag of Kyrgyzstan has a red field with a yellow sun in the center. The sun has 40 rays, which represents the 40 united Kyrgyz tribes. In the center of the sun is a red ring crossed by two sets of three lines, which is a representation of the roof of a yurt (the traditional home of the nomadic peoples of Kyrgyzstan). This ring is called a tunduk (TUN-duck).

Materials needed:

- Reproducible page of the Kyrgyz flag
- Red and yellow crayons or colored pencils
- Photos of yurt (inside and outside)
- Photo of tunduk (optional)

What to do:

- Hand out black and white representation of the Kyrgyz flag
- Ask students what they see on the flag (sun, rays, etc.). Ask what color they think that the sun is on the flag (yellow). You may also have students count the number of rays (40). Explain that the 40 rays represent the 40 original tribes of Kyrgyzstan. Legend says that Manas, a national hero, united the tribes to make Kyrgyzstan one nation.
- Ask students what they think is in the center of the sun (responses will vary). Tell students that the ring in the center is a picture of a tunduk, which is a part of a yurt, a type of tent that is the traditional home of the (nomadic) people of Kyrgyzstan.
- Make students look at the photos of a yurt to see if they can find the tunduk (show photos to entire class or print out several copies for small groups)
- Once the tunduk is spotted, give this definition: A tunduk is a circular wooden frame around the smoke hole in the top of the yurt.
- Show students the photo of the roof of a yurt (optional)
- Have students guess which color the tunduk and field of the flag should be colored (red)
- Color the flag
Kyrgyz Map Activity

Background:

Kyrgyzstan is 76,641 square miles in area, and is almost completely mountainous. More than half of Kyrgyzstan lies at an elevation higher than 8,200 feet, and only one eighth lies lower than 4,900 feet. Glaciers and permanent snowfields cover more than three percent of Kyrgyzstan’s total land area.

The Naryn River is the longest river in Kyrgyzstan. It joins the Kara Darya in Uzbekistan to become the Syr Darya, a major central Asian river.

There are about 1,923 lakes in Kyrgyzstan, Lake Issyk Kul being the largest. It is 113 miles long, (up to) 38 miles in width, and reaches 2,303 feet in depth. Lake Issyk Kul is sky blue in color, very clear (visibility up to 65 feet), and slightly salty (5.8 parts per thousand). The water of Issyk Kul is not drinkable due to its high mineral content.

Materials needed:

Colored pencils, markers, or pens
Reproducible pages (2) Kyrgyz Map Activity

What to do:

- Give each student a copy of the Kyrgyz map
- Establish which direction the map should be; notice compass rose
- Discuss various symbols on the map (star=capital, dots=cities, partial triangles=mountains)
- Point out various features (rivers, Lake Issyk Kul, country borders) and discuss what these might be (i.e., “What do you think the curvy line going west-east through the center of Kyrgyzstan might be?”)
- Give each student a copy of the Kyrgyz Map Activity worksheet
- Have students label map. You may want the different features to be written in different colors:
  - Countries = green
  - Lakes and rivers = blue
  - Mountains = black
  - Cities = red

*Go to www.yourchildlearns.com/asia-map-puzzle.htm for a downloadable Asian map puzzle/game for your students to practice the location of Asian and Central Asian countries!
Kyrgyz Map Activity

Directions: Label the following features on the map of Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyzstan borders 4 countries
• China – East/Southeast of Kyrgyzstan
• Kazakhstan – North of Kyrgyzstan
• Uzbekistan – West of Kyrgyzstan
• Tajikistan – South/Southwest of Kyrgyzstan

There are 2 major rivers in Kyrgyzstan
• Naryn River – the most northern of the two rivers, it crosses the center of Kyrgyzstan
• Kara Darya River – located south of the Naryn River, the 2 branches connect and flow into Uzbekistan

One of the deepest and largest mountain lakes in the world can be found in Kyrgyzstan
• Lake Issyk Kul – located in northeast Kyrgyzstan, means “warm lake.” Issak Kul never freezes

Mountains
• Tien Shan Mountains – most of the mountains in Kyrgyzstan are part of the Tien Shan (“Mountains of Heaven”) range, which stretches from northwest China to the borders of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan
• Jengish Chokus – (formerly Peak Pobeda) – the highest mountain in Kyrgyzstan, located in the easternmost part of Kyrgyzstan on the Chinese border (represented by a ▲). Jengish Chokus is 24,407 feet high

Cities
• Bishkek – the capital of Kyrgyzstan (represented by a star)
• Talas – west of Bishkek, the birthplace of Manas
• Tokmok – east of Bishkek
• Balykchy – on the western side of Lake Issyk Kul
• Karakol – on the eastern side of Lake Issyk Kul
• Naryn – located on the eastern part of the Naryn River
• Kara-Kol – located on the western part of the Naryn River
• Jalal-Abad – located between the Naryn and Kara Darya Rivers, close to the border with Uzbekistan
• Osh – located south of the Kara Darya River, close to the border with Uzbekistan
Kyrgyz Weather Report

Materials needed:

Pen or pencil
Reproducible page *How’s the Weather?/Write a Kyrgyz Weather Report*
Access to a computer with internet

What to do:

- Give each student a copy of *How’s the Weather?/Write a Kyrgyz Weather Report*. Read section titled *How’s the Weather*? together. Make sure students understand the difference between climate and weather.
- Go over the directions for writing a Kyrgyz weather report. Students should use the year of their last birthday. It will be helpful if students are able to print the weather information from the web page.
- Have students read their weather report to the class (if time permits). If only a few students are selected to read, make sure you have a sample from each season.
- Compare the weather/climate of Bishkek to your weather/climate.
How’s the Weather?

Kyrgyzstan has mountains, valleys, and deserts, so the weather on any given day depends largely on where you are! (The mountainous areas are much cooler than the valleys and deserts).

Kyrgyzstan has a **continental climate**. Climate is a term used to describe the weather conditions (temperature, air pressure, precipitation, etc.) of a certain place over a long period of time. Continental climates are usually found in places that are surrounded by a lot of land and are far from any oceans. There is not a lot of rainfall, and seasonal temperatures vary greatly (winters are cold and summers are hot).

Kyrgyzstan has four seasons (winter, spring, summer, and fall) and 247 sunny days (on average) every year.

Write a Kyrgyz Weather Report

Pretend that you live in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek is the capital city of Kyrgyzstan. It is located in the northern part of the country). You are the weather person on the evening news at the local television station, and you need to write today’s weather report! The date today is: Your birthday.

Go to [www.wunderground.com](http://www.wunderground.com). At the top of the page, where it says *Find the Weather for any City, State or ZIP Code, or Airport Code or Country*, type in the words **Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan**, and click on the magnifying glass.

Scroll down the page until you come to the section that says **History & Almanac**. Use the drop down menu to enter the month, day, and year of your *last* birthday.

Write a weather report based on the information presented. Make sure you include the temperature (high and low), conditions (clear, partly cloudy, sunny, etc.), precipitation, wind speed, sunrise, sunset, humidity, and any other relevant information you find.
Weather Report
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Date: __________________________

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________


Write Your Name in Kyrgyz

The Kyrgyz language is written using the Cyrillic alphabet, which is the same alphabet used in Russia, as well as many other Central Asian and Eastern European countries.

Materials needed:

- Pencil or pen
- Reproducible page Kyrgyz Alphabet
- Reproducible page Write Your Name in Kyrgyz
- Paper (if needed for additional names)

What to do:

- Give each student a copy of Kyrgyz Alphabet
- Explain that the alphabet that we use is called the Roman alphabet. Many other languages use the same or similar alphabet (French, Spanish, Italian, etc.). Some languages, however, use a different alphabet (ask students if they know any examples of this: Greek, Chinese, Japanese, etc.). Tell students that Kyrgyz words are written using the Cyrillic alphabet.
- Have students look at the Cyrillic letters. Which ones are the same as Roman letters? (Note: Some look the same, but are pronounced differently, i.e., the P is our letter R).
- Look at the list of English equivalents. Go through the alphabet to see if any letters are missing (C, Q, W, X, Y). Ask students what letters could be substituted for the missing letters. For example, if your name is Cathy, what letter sounds the same as the “C”? (K) Please note, the Kyrgyz use the B, which has a “v” sound in English, for the letter “W”. Therefore, the name William, would begin with B and is pronounced, “Villiam”.
- Give each student a Write Your Name in Kyrgyz worksheet
- Have students write their own name in Cyrillic. Remember, if there is no English equivalent, use a sound alike letter using the pronunciation guide!
- Once students have figured out their own name, have them write the names of family members, pets, friends, etc.
- Optional: Have students write their names (in Cyrillic) on a name tag and wear throughout the day.
# Kyrgyz Alphabet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kyrgyz Letter</th>
<th>English Equivalent</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>А, а</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>ah  as in rather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Б, б</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>b, be  as in bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>В, в</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>v, ve  as in vase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Г, г</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>g, ge  as in girl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Д, д</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>d,de  as in dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Е, е</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>yeh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ё, ё</td>
<td></td>
<td>yo  as in york</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ж, ж</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>j, je  as in John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>З, з</td>
<td>Z</td>
<td>z, ze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>И, и</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>ee  as in see</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Й, й</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>y   as in boy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>К, к</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>k, ka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Л, л</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>l, el</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>М, м</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>m, em</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Н, н</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>n, en</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Н̈н</td>
<td></td>
<td>ng, as in sing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>О, о</td>
<td>О</td>
<td>o,   as in fork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ê, ë</td>
<td></td>
<td>ir,   as in sir, fur,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>Cyrillic</td>
<td>English Sound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>П п</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>p, pe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Р р</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>er, as in rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>С с</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>s, es</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Т т</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>te</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>У у</td>
<td>U</td>
<td>oo, as in food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ю Ю</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>you, as in german ü</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ф ф</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>f, ef</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Х х</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>kha (hard)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ц ц</td>
<td>CH</td>
<td>ch, as in chalk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ш ш</td>
<td>SH</td>
<td>sh, as in shoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Щ щ</td>
<td></td>
<td>shtsh, sha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ъ ъ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ьь</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ыы</td>
<td></td>
<td>er, with spread lips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Э э</td>
<td></td>
<td>eh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ю ю</td>
<td></td>
<td>yu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Я я</td>
<td></td>
<td>ya, as in yard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Write Your Name in Kyrgyz

Kyrgyzstan has two official languages, Kyrgyz and Russian. Some people speak only Kyrgyz, some people speak only Russian, and some people speak both! Both of these languages use an alphabet called the Cyrillic Alphabet. Use your Cyrillic alphabet handout to write your name in Cyrillic. When you are finished, see if you can write the names of your family members, friends, and even pets!

__________________________________________
First name

__________________________________________
Last name

__________________________________________

It’s a Fact: To be the President of Kyrgyzstan, you must pass a test on the Kyrgyz language!
Translating Cyrillic

After students have mastered their names using the Cyrillic alphabet, have them use the Kyrgyz Alphabet guide to try to translate words from the Cyrillic alphabet to the Roman alphabet (English).

Materials needed:

Pen or pencil
Reproducible page Kyrgyz Alphabet (from Write Your Name in Kyrgyz)
Reproducible page Translating Cyrillic

Answers:

1. act
2. meteor
3. doctor
4. tractor
5. Africa
6. internet
7. front
8. aspirin
9. banana
10. ballet
11. president
12. journal
13. hockey
14. vampire
15. formula

Optional: Have students write 5-10 English words using the Cyrillic alphabet, providing clues and answers! They may work with a partner or in small groups, and let others try to figure out their words.
Translating Cyrillic

Use your Kyrgyz Alphabet guide and the clues to translate these words from the Cyrillic alphabet to the Roman alphabet (English)

1. part of a play  акт
2. falling star  метеор
3. a physician  доктор
4. what farmer’s ride  трактор
5. a large continent  африка
6. World Wide Web  интернет
7. opposite of back  фронт
8. headache medicine  аспиrin
9. a fruit  банана
10. home of the tutu  баллете
11. USA head honcho  президент
12. like a diary  жоurnal
13. ice game  хоккей
14. blood sucker  вампире
15. chemical recipe  формула

Name: ________________________________
Let’s Speak Kyrgyz

Materials needed:

Pencil or pen
Notebook paper
Reproducible page (2) Let’s Speak Kyrgyz

What to do:

It may be helpful to practice the pronunciation of these Kyrgyz words before you hand out the worksheet! I have underlined the parts of the words that are stressed, and phonetically spelled out the pronunciations.

- Give each student a Let’s Speak Kyrgyz worksheet.
- Read through the worksheet together, practicing the words/phrases as you go. For example, after you read through the first three greetings, ask class (a group) sahl-a-maht siz-dahr-bway? Have each student respond (individually) with sahl-a-maht cheel-eek. Then ask individual students, sahl-a-maht siz-bway? Have them respond, again with sahl-a-maht cheel-eek. They can also practice with each other.
- You may want to read through this worksheet over the course of several days, so that the information presented has time to sink in.
- After you have read through all of the words/phrases, have students pair up and write mini-dialogues. They may present them in front of the class.
- Students may also make up questions in English and have their peers respond in Kyrgyz (yes, no, good, bad, etc.)
- And then there’s the good old standby, flashcards!
Let’s Speak Kyrgyz!

Kyrgyz and Russian are the official languages of Kyrgyzstan. Many people who live in cities, especially in northern Kyrgyzstan, only speak Russian. There are a few regional languages which are also spoken in certain areas of Kyrgyzstan. The Cyrillic alphabet is used to write in both Kyrgyz and Russian.

The most common Kyrgyz greeting is a combination of “hello” and “how are you?”

SAHL-a-maht siz-BWAY? Саламатсызбы?

If you are greeting a group of people (2 or more), say this:

SAHL-a-maht siz-DAHR-bway? Саламатсыздарбы?

To respond, say this:

SAHL-a-maht CHEEL-eek Саламатчылык

An informal way to say hello

SAHL-ahm салам

A more informal, shorter way to say “how are you?”

KAHN-die-sis? кандайсыз?

If you are addressing a group of people (2 or more), say this:

KAHN-die-sis-DAHR? кандайсыздар?

Here are a few ways that you can answer:

- good JAHK-shuh жакшы
- very good AHB-dahn JAHK-shuh авдан жакшы
- o.k. MAH-cool макул
- so-so AHZ-mahz азмаз
- bad JAH-mahn жаман
When responding to “how are you”, first say thank you:

thank you: RAHK-maht

So you would answer, “RAHK-maht, JAHK-shuh” (thank you, good)

Here are some more Kyrgyz words and phrases

thank you very much: chone RAHK-maht

you’re welcome: aych NEHR-say EM-ace

yes: OH-bah

no: joke

goodbye: JAHK-shuh KAHL-en-iss

my name is __: MEN-een AHT-em ___

friend: dose

father: AH-ta

mother: AH-pa

dog: eet

help!: JAR-dahm!

And finally, if you can say this phrase, you can certainly master Kyrgyz!

pleased to meet you: tah-nish-kah-nee-MAH, koo-bah-neech-TOO-moon!

Таанышканым, кубанычтамын!
Kyrgyz Bingo

Materials needed:

* Kyrgyz Bingo reproducible sheets (board, directions)
* Markers (pennies, pieces of paper, etc.)
* Kyrgyz words sheet

What to do:

- Cut out Kyrgyz words (you will draw from these)
- Select and read word to class in your best Kyrgyz
- Students who get four words in a row (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally) win. Check answers.
# Kyrgyz Bingo Words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AH-ta</th>
<th>AH-pa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>father</td>
<td>mother</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAHL-a-maht siz-BWAY</th>
<th>RAHK-maht</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formal greeting</td>
<td>thank you</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAHL-ahm</th>
<th>chone RAHK-maht</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hello</td>
<td>thank you very much</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KAHN-die-sis</th>
<th>aych NEHR-say EM-ace</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How are you?</td>
<td>you’re welcome</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAHK-shuh</th>
<th>OH-bah</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>good</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AHB-dahn JAHK-shuh</th>
<th>joke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>very good</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAH-cool</th>
<th>JAHK-shuh KAHL-en-iss</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o.k.</td>
<td>goodbye</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AHZ-mahz</th>
<th>MEN-een AHT-em</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>so-so</td>
<td>my name is ___</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAH-mahn</th>
<th>dose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bad</td>
<td>friend</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>eet</th>
<th>JAR-dahm!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dog</td>
<td>help!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>tah-nee-nee-MAHₙₙₑₙₑ</th>
<th>koo-bah-neech-TOO-moon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pleased to meet you</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Write any 16 of the following words on the bingo board in any order. When the Kyrgyz word is announced, put a marker on its English equivalent. The first person to get four markers in a row (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal) is the winner!

formal greeting  friend
hello  father
how are you?  mother
good  dog
very good  help!
o.k.  my name is _________
so-so  goodbye
bad  yes
thank you  no
thank you very much  you’re welcome
pleased to meet you
**Kyrgyz Bingo**

кыргыз бинго

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</table>
Kyrgyz Language Counting Book

Materials needed:

Colored pencils or crayons
Reproducible pages Kyrgyz Language Counting Book

What to do:

Students will be making a counting book of the numbers 1-10 in Kyrgyz. Each page has a number, the number written in Cyrillic, a pronunciation guide, and a brief paragraph about an aspect of Kyrgyz culture with a short activity.

Here are a few suggestions:

- Depending on grade/abilities, give students only 1-3 new numbers per day.
- Practice previously learned numbers on a daily basis and always before adding new numbers!
- A few practice ideas:

  - Hold up fingers and have students say number
  - Do simple, oral math problems (you can use the English words for plus, minus, times, divided by!)
  - Write a number on the board. First, have students just mentally think of how to say the number in Kyrgyz (10-15 seconds). Ask for a volunteer to say the number aloud.
  - Have students make number flashcards and practice individually, in pairs, or in small groups.
  - Have students “number off” using Kyrgyz numbers.

- When number pages are completed, put name on cover page (perhaps in Kyrgyz!), attach pages, and you have a Kyrgyz Language Counting Book!
Kyrgyz Language Counting Book

By ________________
A yurt is a type of tent and is the traditional dwelling of the Kyrgyz people. Today, most people live in houses, but shepherds still live in yurts when they take their sheep to the fields in the mountains (jailoo) to graze during the summer months. Color this yurt brown.
Shyrdaks (SHEER-dacks) are colorful, thick, wool rugs used in Kyrgyz homes (including yurts). Sometimes they are hung on the wall for decoration. Color these shyrdaks using all of your colors!
Horses are very important to the Kyrgyz people. A popular drink called *koumys* (KOH-moose) is made from the milk of a horse. Color two of these horses brown, and one grey. Color all of the manes and tails black.
4

Төрт
(tort)

4 kalpaks

A kalpak (KAHL-pock) is a type of felt hat worn by males of all ages in Kyrgyzstan. Draw a green circle around the kalpak that is different.
Many people in Kyrgyzstan practice a religion called Islam. They go to a special building, called a mosque, to pray. A mosque is like a church. Use blue to circle the three mosques that are the same.
There are many mountains in Kyrgyzstan, but none of them are volcanoes. Put a red X over the mountain that is a volcano.
Kyrgyzstan is home to many different species of animals, including those shown above. Put a red circle around the bearded vulture, a blue circle around the marmot, a yellow circle around the snow leopard, a green circle around the gray lizard, a black circle around the yak, a brown circle around the squirrel, and purple circle around the Siberian goat.
When most people think of tulips, they think of Holland (The Netherlands) in Europe. But did you know that tulips were brought to Europe from Central Asia? Tulips grow wild on the mountainsides of Kyrgyzstan. In 2005, the people of Kyrgyzstan protested and made the president leave office. This protest became known as the “Tulip Revolution”. Use red to circle the tulip that is different.
The Kyrgyz people make felt out of the wool from sheep. The felt is used to make yurts and shyrdaks. Color any six of these sheep black.
Petroglyphs are pictures that were carved into rocks by prehistoric people as a way to communicate. You can find petroglyphs all throughout Kyrgyzstan. Use orange to circle the petroglyph that looks like a goat, and blue to circle any petroglyph that looks like a fish.
Kyrgyz Numbers Tic-Tac-Toe

Once students have become familiar with the numbers 1-10 in Kyrgyz, you can play a simple game of tic-tac-toe to further drive those numbers home!

Materials needed:

Kyrgyz Tic-Tac-Toe playing board reproducible
Markers (pennies, pieces of paper, etc.)
Kyrgyz Tic-Tac-Toe numbers sheet

What to do:

- Cut out handy, easy to use, Kyrgyz numbers to draw from
- Have students write any 9 of numbers 1-10 in the tic-tac-toe squares (emphasize randomness!)
- Give each student markers
- Draw a number, say it in your best Kyrgyz, then have students mark the number on their tic-tac-toe board
- The first person to get 3 in a row vertically, horizontally, or diagonally is the winner! Give out good Kyrgyz prizes like a konwert, lampochka, or orgok!
## Kyrgyz Tic-Tac-Toe Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>apple</th>
<th>(1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ECK-ee</strong></td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ooch</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>tort</strong></td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>besh</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AHL-tee</strong></td>
<td>(6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JET-ee</td>
<td>(7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SEG-eez</strong></td>
<td>(8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOE-gooz</td>
<td>(9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ohn</td>
<td>(10)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
KYRGYZ NUMBERS

TIC-TAC-TOE
Kyrgyz Money

**Background:**

In this lesson, students will become familiar with the currency of Kyrgyzstan. Examples of Kyrgyz money, including the tyin, can be viewed at www.aes.iupui.edu/rwise

**Materials needed:**

Pen or pencil
Calculator (optional)
Reproducible page *Kyrgyz Money*
Reproducible page *Kyrgyz Money: It All Adds Up!*
Pages to print out: Examples of Kyrgyz money (optional)

**What to do:**

- Give each student a copy of *Kyrgyz Money*. Read together.
- Give each student a copy of the worksheet *Kyrgyz Money: It All Adds Up!* Students should complete worksheet.
- Go over answers.
- **Back and Front:** Have students look at currency in each problem and decide whether the front of the som or the back of the som is pictured. (You can have them use a “b” or “f” and write answer on worksheet above each bill). Remember, the front of the som depicts the face of a famous Kyrgyz person; the back depicts a cultural scene. Each bill, both back and front, is represented on the worksheet.
- **Size:** Have students look at the size of the bills. The smaller the denomination, the smaller the bill (one being the smallest som). Ask students orally which would be physically bigger (or smaller), a 10 som or a 5 som? A 500 som or a 200 som? (etc.) Which is the biggest (in size) som? (1000). Which is the smallest? (1)

**Answers:**

1. 16 som
2. 210 som
3. 2,000 som
4. 390 som
5. 1,156 som

**Optional:**

Depictions of all Kyrgyz soms, both back and front, can be printed out (preferably in color) and posted in the classroom for students to view.
Kyrgyz Money

The Kyrgyz people use units of money called som (sawm). The Kyrgyz som (KGS) is printed in denominations of 1, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, and 1,000. Each bill is a different color and a different size. This makes it easier for people to locate the som they need from their purse or wallet.

The front of each som has a picture of a famous Kyrgyz person. On the back of the som there is a scene from Kyrgyz culture, such as a monument, mountain, or musical instrument.

The Kyrgyz use no metal coins. Instead, they have tyin, which are printed on paper that is ½ the size of a som. 100 tyin = 1 som (just like 100 cents = 1 dollar). Tyin are printed in denominations of 1, 10, and 50.

It is rare to see a tyin in Kyrgyzstan. Most buying is done using soms. The Kyrgyz people say that the tyin are so worthless, they use them to write phone messages on!
Add the following denominations of Kyrgyz money:

1. \[1 + \] = \[\]som

2. \[10 + 200 = \]som

3. \[500 + 500 + = \]som
4. 20 сом + 200 сом = ______________ som

= ______________ som

5. 100 сом + 1000 сом = ______________ som

= ______________ som
1 som
5 som
10 som
20 som
50 som
100 som
200 som
500 som
1000 som
The Silk Road

**Background:**

This activity allows students to not only explore several of the various routes used by traders along the Silk Road, but to use a Venn Diagram, which is a tool for comparing and contrasting information.

**Materials needed:**

- Colored pencils (red, green, blue)
- Reproducible page *The Silk Road*
- Reproducible page *Map of Kyrgyzstan*
- Reproducible pages *The Silk Road Route #1, #2, or #3*
- Reproducible page *Venn Diagram*

**What to do:**

- Give each student a copy of the handout *The Silk Road*. Read together.
- Give each student a copy of the *Map of Kyrgyzstan*
- Give each student a copy of *The Silk Road, Route #1,#2, or #3* (distribute randomly among students)
- Have students illustrate the route assigned to them on their map of Kyrgyzstan by drawing a line from city to city, following the directions of their route worksheet. Each route should use a different color to draw the connections: Route #1 = blue Route #2 = red Route #3 = green
- When students have completed their maps, have them team up with someone with a different route number.
- Give each student a *Venn Diagram* worksheet
- Have students fill out the Venn Diagram. The names of the cities that each route has in common should go in the overlapping portion of the circles; the cities that are different should be written in the main portion of each route’s corresponding circle.
- When all students have completed their Venn Diagram, compare information from all routes by writing *Routes 1 & 2, Routes 2 & 3, and Routes 3 & 1* on the chalkboard. List all cities that each set of routes has in common.
- Finally, write *Routes 1,2 &3* on the chalkboard and list any cities that all three routes have in common.
Discuss the results of this information

*Example Questions:*

- Why do you think traders stopped at these cities? (food, water, lodging, other traders, exit/entry point, etc.)
- Some of the trade routes through Kyrgyzstan wind around and seem to follow a path that is a bit out of the way. Why do you think this is? (the routes follow rivers, have to go around mountains, etc.)
- In what ways do you think the Silk Road helped the people of Kyrgyzstan? (brought new items, allowed them to trade their own wares, etc.)
- In what way do you think the Silk Road hurt the people of Kyrgyzstan? (travelers brought diseases, strange bacteria, etc.)

*Variation:* Have students illustrate any 2 routes on one map and fill out Venn Diagram by themselves.
The Great Silk Road is a historic trade route that passed through Kyrgyzstan more than 2,000 years ago. The Silk Road was not a road at all. It was a series of small routes used by traders to bring goods from Europe and the Middle East to China, and from China to Europe and the Middle East.

The goods that were traded were not carried from one end to the other by the same person. Traders would meet in the various cities along the route and trade back and forth. A piece of glass from Italy might have over 100 "owners" before it reached China!

Eventually, the traders discovered that travel by sea was easier than traveling over mountainous lands, so the Silk Road was used less and less.

Today, the Silk Road is remembered as a way to transport not only goods, but also ideas from East to West and West to East. As traders and travelers met along these routes, different cultures and religions were connected and knowledge, traditions, and philosophies were exchanged.
Use a blue colored pencil to connect the following cities that were part of the Great Silk Road:

- Begin at the border of northeast Kyrgyzstan at a city called Karkara in Kazakhstan
- Go from Karkara to Tyup
- Go from Tyup to Ananyevo
- Go from Ananyevo to Balikchy
- Go from Balikchy to Kemin
- Go from Kemin to Bishkek
- Go from Bishkek to Karabalta
- Go from Karabalta to Jambul, Kazakhstan
THE SILK ROAD
ROUTE #2

Use a red colored pencil to connect the following cities that were part of the Great Silk Road:

- Begin at the border of northeast Kyrgyzstan at a city called Karkara in Kazakhstan
- Go from Karkara to Tyup
- Go from Tyup to Karakol
- Go from Karakol to Bakonbaeva
- Go from Bakonbaeva to Ottuk
- Go from Ottuk to Kochkor
- Go from Kochkor to Naryn
- Go from Naryn to At-Bashy
- Go from At-Bashy to Tash Rabat
- Go from Tash Rabat to Torugart
- Go from Torugart to Kashgar, China
THE SILK ROAD
ROUTE #3

Use a green colored pencil to connect the following cities that were part of the Great Silk Road:

- Begin at the border of northeast Kyrgyzstan at a city called Karkara in Kazakhstan
- Go from Karkara to Tyup
- Go from Tyup to Karakol
- Go from Karakol to Bakonbaeva
- Go from Bakonbaeva to Ottuk
- Go from Ottuk to Kochkor
- Go from Kochkor to Naryn
- Go from Naryn to Ak Tai
- Go from Ak Tai to Kazorman
- Go from Kazorman to Dmitrieyka
- Go from Dmitrieyka to Jalal-Abad
- Go from Jalal-Abad, through Uzbekistan, to Osh
- Go from Osh to Kyzil Kiya
- Go from Kyzil Kiya to Daraut Korgon
- Go from Daraut Korgon to Sary Mogul
- Go from Sary Mogul to Kashgar, China
List the cities from each route in the corresponding circle. All of the cities that the two routes have in common should be written in the overlapping part of the circles.
The Silk Road
What Was Traded?

Background:

In 138 B.C. Zhang Qian set out from China in search of military allies. His discoveries launched possibly the greatest trade route in history: the Silk Road. The Chinese had heard rumors of the world beyond their western borders, and Zhang Qian’s exciting news led to further expeditions and, finally, a great moving bazaar.

Kyrgyzstan and the other Central Asian countries acted as middlemen, carrying goods west to Persia and Syria and selling horses and camels to other traders.

The unseen trade of this route was perhaps the greatest commodity; the exchange of religions, ideas, arts, cultures, and technologies.

Materials needed:

Pen or pencil
Reproducible page *The Silk Road, What Was Traded?*

What to do:

- Give each student a copy of the worksheet *The Silk Road: What Was Traded?*
- Go over words to use
- Have students complete the worksheet using the clues provided; they may use a dictionary if any items are not familiar to them

Answers:

1. glass
2. horses
3. ostrich
4. perfume
5. spices
6. cotton
7. cucumber
8. gold
9. leather
10. gems
11. ivory
12. gunpowder
13. tea
14. camel
15. jade
16. porcelain
17. silk
18. iron utensils
19. rhubarb
20. pearls
21. wheelbarrow
22. paper & printing
23. mail
24. ideas

Post Worksheet (optional): Discuss some of the ideas that may have been traded
The Silk Road
What Was Traded?

The Silk Road was not a road at all, but a series of small routes that merchants used to trade their goods. Use the following list of items to fill in the blanks. A clue is given to help you decide which things went from the West (Europe and the Middle East) to the East (China), and from the East to the West.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West to East</th>
<th>East to West</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gold</td>
<td>pearls</td>
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<tr>
<td>gunpowder</td>
<td>spices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ivory</td>
<td>leather</td>
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<tr>
<td>glass</td>
<td>cucumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>camels</td>
<td>ostrich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>paper &amp; printing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. ________________  (you can see right through it)
2. ________________  (giddyup!)
3. ________________  (a big bird)
4. ________________  (it smells good)
5. ________________  (cinnamon, thyme, pepper)
6. ________________  (white and fluffy)
7. ________________  (a long, green, vegetable)
8. ________________  (a precious metal)
9. ________________  (animal skin)
10. ________________  (rubies, diamonds, emeralds)
11. ________________  (animal tusk material)
12. _____________________ (bang!)
13. _____________________ (to drink with jam and bread)
14. _____________________ (have humps)
15. _____________________ (a green gemstone)
16. _____________________ (plates, vases made from this)
17. _____________________ (material made by insects)
18. _____________________ (made from a heavy metal that rusts)
19. _____________________ (edible plant stem)
20. _____________________ (made by oysters)
21. _____________________ (one-wheeled vehicle)
22. _____________________ (extra! extra! read all about it!)

23. _________________ (letters, packages)
24. _________________ (some are good)
Manas

Background:

The Manas is one of the oldest and longest epic poems in the world. It was passed down through the generations by manaschi, bards who recited it at festivals and celebrations. The manaschi are born, not made, and the Kyrgyz believe that a child receives the calling when visited in his or her dreams by the Manas spirits. The Manas “comes” to the manaschi, so it is never told exactly the same way. Think of the Manas as a jazz song; every musician will interpret it in his own way, keeping the melody, or central theme, intact.

Manas is not considered a historical personality. Some scholars believe he was a prototype of Ghengis Kahn.

Materials needed:

Pen or pencil
Notebook paper
Colored pencils, markers, or crayons
Reproducible pages Manas (including shield activity)
Reproducible pages The Manas

What to do:

- Read the story of Manas
- Ask students if they think that Manas was a real person. Cite examples from the Manas overview that show that he may not be real (fights a dragon, etc.)
- Have students design a shield depicting scenes or facts from Manas’ life
- Read excerpt from the Manas (this can be done on a different day)
- Have students write a short poem or rap song about an event that took place in their own lives (or a vacation, family member, pet, etc.).
- Have students read or perform poems/songs in front of class (optional)

Also...

Go to www.silk-road.com/folklore/manas/manasintro.html. If you click on the photos of the manaschi, you can view a short video of each one reciting part of the Manas!
Manas

The story of Manas (mah-NAHS) is a famous Kyrgyz epic. An epic is a long, narrative poem that tells the story of the great achievements of a legendary or historical hero. The Manas is the longest epic in the world. It is over a half million lines long!

The Manas is considered to be one of the world’s greatest oral (spoken) poems. It wasn’t written down until 1885. The Manas was passed down by word of mouth from generation to generation by manaschis (mah-NAHS-chees). A manaschi is a Kyrgyz person who recites the Manas, usually in a musical chant. He wears a chapan (chop-AHN), which is a blue or black velvet coat with gold trim, and a kalpak (KAHL-pahk), a traditional Kyrgyz hat.

The Manas has three generations of heroes: Manas, Semetey (his son), and Seytek (his grandson). The main hero, of course, is Manas.

In the Beginning…
Manas’ grandfather, Karakahn, was a wise, brave ruler of the Kyrgyz tribe. When Karakahn died, foreigners came and took over the land. The Kyrgyz tried to fight back, but they couldn’t defeat the enemy. They were forced to leave, and ended up in forty different places. Karakahn’s son, Jakib, fled to the mountains of Altay.

Manas’ Birth and Childhood
Manas’ father, Jakib, was a king, or kahn. He and his wife, Chiyirdy, did not have any children and they were getting old. This worried Jakib.

One night, Jakib and Chiyirdy both had a strange dream, so they went to see a dream interpreter. The interpreter predicted that they would have a son who would become a hero and defend the Kyrgyz people. The next year Chiyirdy had a son, who was later named Manas.

The enemies of the Kyrgyz also learned that a hero was going to be born. They were afraid, and decided to find this baby and kill him. When Manas was born, he was called Chong Jindi (Big Stupid), so that no one would suspect that he would become a hero.

When Manas was a young boy, he was sent to live with a shepherd and his family. Manas was different from the boys his age. He could always defend himself and his friends. He was also a very naughty and disobedient child. The shepherd did not like this, so after several years he told Jakib that he had to take Manas back. Jakib came to get Manas, and on the way home they saw some Kalmaks, who were enemies of the Kyrgyz, trying to take cattle from a farmer. Manas fought the Kalmaks and defeated them.
Manas Grows into a Man

In the same year that Manas was born, a horse was born. This horse, Akkula, became Manas’ horse. Akkula was very strong and powerful. Manas and Akkula won many battles together. Manas also had a dog named Kymayyk. Kymayyk could fight any animal.

Manas was very brave when he was young. He defeated 700 invaders when he was 12 years old. He could also defeat wild animals and fairy-tale creatures. He was made a kahn (king) when he was 15 years old.

Battle with a Dragon

Once, a wicked dragon attacked Altay. He took the young women away, drank all the water, and trampled down the fields. Manas decided to fight the dragon. He said goodbye to his parents and set out for the mountains to find the dragon’s den. After a long time, Manas found the dragon sleeping under a bush. Manas was going to cut off the dragon’s head, but the dragon woke up and he and Manas began to fight. Manas battled the dragon for three days and three nights. Neither of them could win. Manas remembered that many people had suffered because of the dragon. He gathered all his strength and killed him. Manas came back home safe and sound.

Manas, Warrior-Hero

When Manas grew up, he became a strong, brave, smart warrior. He decided to get the homeland of the Kyrgyz people from the enemies. Manas gathered forty of the bravest warriors he could find. They all became his good friends. He fought and won many battles and eventually the Kyrgyz moved back to the land that they had lost after Manas’ grandfather died.

Manas Gets Married

It was time for Manas to get married, so he asked his father to find a bride for him. Jakib looked for a suitable bride for a long time. Finally he found Kanykey, the daughter of a Kahn. The Kahn did not want his daughter to marry Manas, so he set the ransom, or money that the groom had to pay to marry someone’s daughter, at a very high price. Jakib collected the ransom with the help of the Kyrgyz people, and Manas married Kanykey.

Kanykey had a friend who wanted to marry Manas’ best friend, and all forty of Manas’ warriors found brides, so they had a huge wedding in the countryside and came back home together.

Kanykey was gentle, smart, and noble. She always helped Manas and his friends. She was often asked for advice. When Manas was going on a long journey, Kanykey would pack his clothes and equipment. She also packed for all forty of his warriors! Many men envied Manas and wanted to take Kanykey away and marry her. They did not do this, however, because they knew that Manas could defeat them.
Bakay

Bakay was a wise man with a long, white beard and a special kalpak. When Manas had problems, he would go to Bakay for advice. Bakay was a good listener and helped Manas with many of the things that troubled him.

Manas’ Death

One of Manas’ enemies was named Konurbay. Konurbay swore that he would kill Manas. Manas was almost invincible, so Konurbay sent a spy to find out what his weak points were. The spy told Konurbay that Manas had no weak points, so instead of killing Manas in a battle, Konurbay snuck up behind him when he was unarmed and praying, and struck him with an axe. Manas lived long enough to go back home and say goodbye to his friends, forty warriors, and family. He told Kanykey where to bury him, and then he died.

Semetey and Seytek

After Manas’ death, Kanykey brought their son Semetey up to be a brave warrior. When Semetey got older, he took vengeance on his father’s enemies and killed Konurbay. Seytek, Semetey’s son and Manas’ grandson, was also a brave warrior.

Today, Kyrgyz children consider themselves to be the grandchildren of the legendary Manas.

Manas fought for the freedom, independence, and unity of the Kyrgyz people. He was a clever, wise, and just ruler who cared about people and united the forty tribes of Kyrgyzstan. Today streets, villages, universities, and even the Bishkek airport are named after him.
Warriors from the 9th century, when Manas lived, often went into battle with shields for protection. Design a special shield for Manas using the information you know about his life.
So Jakib spoke to them again.
But his words they did not accept,
And in scorn for him they swept,
Crying: “Take him, and bind him well!”
All four at once upon him fell.
But Manas, who was standing by,
Full of fury, began to cry:
“You are eleven strong young men,
Is it thus you treat old folks, then?
How can you do so before our eyes?
Don’t dare touch my father!” he cries.
“If you really are sent from afar,
Show, then, what gentlemen you are!
If you seize everyone you meet
Then I’m surprised –for you’ll meet defeat!”
Saying this, bold Manas stepped forth,
Quite determined to show his worth.
“Bind him at once!” their chief then cried,
“We’ll take him, and his father beside!”
Hearing this, Manas ran wild-
Lion Manas, no longer a child.
Fury was flaring in his speech,
Flaming eyes did blazing-point reach.
One in his right hand then he seized,
One in his left hand, as he pleased,
One by the scruff of the neck he took,
One by the collar he soundly shook,
All the four like shirts shook around,
Then he hurled them down on the ground.
Then the seven who still remained,
All in a bunch toward him strained,
All together on him they fell,
And Manas took them on as well,
Just like the others who crushed had been,
Though just a lad of barely fifteen,
With each hand one more he grabbed,
And together their heads he jabbed,
Cast them down on the flattened floor-
That meant six who fought no more.
All of them lay silenced quite.
Five that were left kept up the fight.
On Manas they hurled again,
But their efforts were all in vain,
Two he took, and shook them well,
Then two more, and down they fell.
One remained, who stood in fear…
“Shall I drink your blood right here?
Shall I not see the business through,
Since I’ve raised my hand against you?”
From each one he tore the right eye,
Pulled it out, like a plum from a pie.
Then he hacked off each right ear,
Hewed them off, left right cheeks bare.
Then he sliced off noses too,
Cut moustaches and beards they grew.
Now they were in a sorry plight,
No longer dear to them the light.
Those who as messenger-braves had come
Now were half-blind, half deaf, half dumb.
Then he let them go, to a man,
Saying, “Where now lives your Kahn?
Well, no matter where he may dwell,
Go to him and your story tell.”

When the manaschi recite the Manas, they say the words in a musical-like chant, which sounds similar to a rap song! Choose an event in your life, and write a short poem or rap song about it. (It does not need to be as long as the Manas, which is over 500,000 lines!)
Kyrgyz Music

Materials needed:

Pencil or pen
Reproducible page Kyrgyz Music
Optional: Computer with internet connection and speakers

What to do:

- Give each student a Kyrgyz Music worksheet
- Read opening paragraph and instructions together.
- Have students complete worksheet

Optional:

You can hear all of these instruments by going to www.kyrgyzmusic.com
Click on Kyrgyz Instruments (left side of page).

Select an instrument, play the sound bite, and have students try to figure out which instrument they are hearing. You can have them place numbers on the worksheet next to the instrument (i.e., first instrument heard is number 1, etc.) or just do it for fun as a class.

Answers:

Timur Komuz – 4th from top
Kyl Kiak – last instrument
Chopo Choor – 2nd from top
Komuz – first instrument
Jigatch – 3rd from top; photo of man
Kyrgyz Music

The Kyrgyz people are familiar with Western instruments (violins, trumpets, flutes, pianos, etc.), but they also enjoy listening to and playing traditional Kyrgyz instruments. A famous Kyrgyz composer named Muratbek Begaliev writes symphonies for Western instruments, but sometimes uses these traditional Kyrgyz instruments in his compositions.

Directions: Draw a line to match the description of the Kyrgyz instrument to the correct picture.

**Timur Komuz**
Made of iron, this instrument is called a "Jew"s Harp" in the U.S. It is played by placing it in the mouth and plucking its center metal bar with one finger.

**Kyl Kiak**
An instrument with 2 strings that are made out of horse hair. It is played with a bow.

**Chopo Choor**
A wind instrument that is made of clay. It sounds like a flute.

**Komuz**
A three-stringed instrument that is plucked. It can be used to accompany a singer or as a solo instrument.

**Jigatch**
A wooden relative of the Timur Komuz, it is considered one of Kyrgyzstan's oldest instruments.
Kyrgyz Food

Materials needed:

Reproducible page Kyrgyz Food, Let’s Eat!
Reproducible page Kyrgyz Recipes
Tablecloth(s) (Optional)
Sheets, carpet squares, or other material to make a tushuk (mat to sit on) Optional
Food! (Optional)

What to do:

- Read Kyrgyz Food, Let’s Eat! (Note: At the bottom of the page, bon appetit is written in Cyrillic!)
- Give each student a copy of Kyrgyz Recipes. They can take these home and ask parents to help them prepare one or both of the recipes.

Optional:

- A Lunchtime Picnic
  Students may eat their lunch in the classroom on a large tablecloth (or two or three if necessary) spread out on the floor. Students should sit around the tablecloth on “mats”, which can be made by simply folding a sheet to make a long “bench” around each side of the tablecloth. Shoes should be off, and lunches/food should be placed on the tablecloth.

Also...

- Tea
  Make a mild herbal tea for students, and have them sweeten it with sugar, honey, or jam. It sounds strange to put jam into tea, but this is practiced all throughout Kyrgyzstan and it actually tastes good! Use preserves instead of jelly.

- Kyrgyz Food
  Make recipes at home or at school (if facilities are available), and have students taste food. The nan (bread) is delicious with honey!
Kyrgyz Food
Let’s Eat!

When you visit a Kyrgyz home, food is a symbol of hospitality so be prepared to eat. And eat. And eat! Any time your plate is empty, it will be filled back up, so it is impossible to ever be “done”. Since it is considered impolite to refuse food, pace yourself and eat slowly!

In the typical Kyrgyz home you will notice that there is not very much furniture. This goes back to a time when families were nomadic and lived in yurts, and had to move everything in search of better pastures for their livestock. Today, it is still traditional to eat meals sitting on the ground around a tablecloth called a dastarkan (dahs-TARK-ahn) laid on the ground or on a short table (about 2 feet high). You will sit on a mat called a tushuk (too-SHOOK).

Before you eat, your hostess will pour warm water over your hands and into a large bowl, and give you a towel to dry your hands.

The traditional table has bowls of honey, melted butter, sour cream, fruits (either fresh or dried), and bread. The two kinds of bread usually served are boorsok (bore- SOCK) and nan (NAHN). Bread is almost sacred in Kyrgyzstan; never place it on the ground or throw it away!

Tea (CHAI) will be drunk during the entire meal. The Kyrgyz typically add sugar, honey or jam to their tea. The host’s wife or daughter will sit at the end of the table and it will be her job to keep everyone’s cup full. Whenever your cup is empty, pass it down the line to her, and she will fill it and pass it back. Whenever there is a pause in the conversation, the host will tell you to drink your tea!

One of the best known Kyrgyz drinks is koumys (KOH-moose), which is made from fermented horse's milk.

At the beginning of a Kyrgyz meal, salad will be served. If it is summer, the salad will consist of tomatoes and cucumbers with a vinaigrette dressing.

The main dish almost always consists of meat. The Kyrgyz national dish is beshbarmak (besh-BAHR-mahk), which literally means “five fingers” (besh=five, barmak=fingers), a meat and noodle dish that was traditionally eaten by hand (using your five fingers!). Another popular dish is plov (PLOFF), which is a rice and meat dish. The Kyrgyz people eat a lot of mutton, which is the meat of a sheep. It doesn’t taste half baaaad!

For dessert, the Kyrgyz serve melon (when it is in season), cake, cookies, or bread with jam.

бон аппетит!
Kyrgyz Recipes

The following are recipes for two of my favorite Kyrgyz foods, nan and plov. Ask the cook, baker, or chef in your family if they can help you to prepare these delicious Kyrgyz foods!

Nan

In Central Asia, this easy bread recipe is baked fresh every day or two. Often, the ladies of the village gather at one house to make a lot all at once, and each takes their stack of loaves home.

Plan to prepare the dough three to four hours before you want to bake the bread because it's best hot and fresh.

Preparation time for dough: 20-30 minutes
Preparation time to top the dough: 20 minutes
Baking time: about 15-20 minutes

Ingredients:

3 tbsp. Sugar
2 1/4 c. Tepid water (not hot)
2 pkgs. or 1/2 oz. Fast-acting dry yeast
7 c. All purpose flour
2 tbsp. Salt
1 tsp. Baking powder

Put the sugar in a small glass bowl and add about half of the water. Sprinkle the yeast on the surface of the water and do not stir. Allow to set while measuring the rest of the ingredients. The yeast, water and sugar will begin to get a little foamy.

Meanwhile measure the flour, salt and baking powder into a pile on a large sturdy work surface. Combine the dry ingredients together a little with your finger tips. Don't worry; it will all get thoroughly mixed later.
Make a hollow in the center of your pile of flour—like the middle of a volcano. Now, give your sugar, water and yeast a quick stir and pour it into the center of your flour volcano. Be careful that it doesn't get away from you. Now with your finger tips, move it all around until the liquid is pretty much soaked up. Then add the remaining water in the same way.

You should have a messy wad of ingredients that you can get your hands into. Work all remaining flour into the dough until it becomes smooth and elastic. If it's obviously too dry, make a small indentation in the dough and add a couple tablespoons more water and work it in. If it's too sticky, toss a little flour on the surface and work it in. You can tell when it's right if you pick it up by one side and it very slowly stretches on its own. It's right when it feels really nice to work.

Now, for the fun part. Here's where you get your therapy! Knead the dough for a full five minutes. Fold it. Turn it. Push it. Punch it. Really work it. If you don't cheat on this part, you'll have a really nice consistency in your bread.

After your five minutes of fun, form it into a little mound, cut an X in the top with a knife and pop it in an oiled bowl and cover with a damp towel. Let it sit in a warm place for 2-3 hours or until doubled in size.

Heat your oven to about 400 F. When dinner is about 30 minutes away, turn your dough out on your work surface, punch it down and knead it for a minute. Divide it in half with a knife and form two mounds. Oil a cookie sheet or large baking tray. Stretch your dough into a 16-18 inch round. It will be about ½ in. thick. Don't worry about getting it perfect. Just stretch it however you like.

Pop the first one in the oven for about 15 minutes or until golden. Remove the tray and turn the flat bread bottom up to cool just a bit. Form another round and bake the second one while you enjoy the first. You'll need the second!

You can slice this flat bread if you like, but the Kyrgyz typically just tear pieces off. For a delicious treat, try dipping it in honey!

Serves 4-6. Recipe can be doubled with no problem.
**Plov**

This pilaf is popular throughout Central Asia, especially in southern Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

5 Tbsp oil  
2 cups rice  
5–6 large carrots, cut in long thin strips  
¾ cup raisins  
2–3 large onions, chopped  
5–10 cloves garlic, whole  
2–3 fresh peppers, chopped  
1–2 pounds beef, lamb, or mutton, cut into cubes  
salt and pepper to taste

Wash the rice. Heat oil in a wok until hot, and add the meat, cooking until brown on all sides. Add the carrots, onions, and peppers, and cook until tender. Add 5 cups hot water and then the rice; the water should completely cover the rice. Push the cloves of garlic just under the surface of the rice, making sure they don't pop up. Cover and lower heat a little. After 10 minutes, add the raisins. Do not stir. Cover and cook until done, about 30 minutes.

Plov is usually placed in the center of the table in a large serving dish, with each person putting their portion on an individual plate.
Shoes Off!

Background:

In Kyrgyzstan, it is customary to take your shoes off before entering anyone’s home, including yurts! (This practice originated as a way to combat disease because it reduced the amount of germs entering the home). Sometimes, a host/hostess will have slippers for his/her guests to wear. The following is an easy activity you can do with your class to experience this Kyrgyz custom.

Materials needed:

Optional: Have each student bring in a pair of slippers from home

What to do:

- Discuss with the class the Kyrgyz custom of taking off your shoes before you enter anyone’s home.

- Ask students, “Why do you think the people in Kyrgyzstan do this? Do you do this at home? Do any of your friends/relatives do this?” (various responses) Discuss answers.

- Have students go into hallway and remove their shoes before entering the classroom. (They can put slippers on if they have them). Line everyone’s shoes up either in the hallway outside the door (if safe) or just inside the classroom near the door. Shoes are only worn when going out of the classroom.

- See how easy that was?
The Wishing (Prayer) Tree

Background:

Prayer trees (we will call them "wishing trees" for the sake of separation of church and state in the public schools; parochial school teachers may use the real name!) are trees or bushes covered with strips of different colored cloth (usually at the site of a natural spring or body of water) and can be found throughout Central Asia. These trees date back to the time when people were Shamanists, and the prayer trees were used to ask the powers of life to protect against disease or to heal relatives. Now, people use the trees to make a wish (or a prayer) for a variety of things.

Materials needed:

- A tree (or large bush) that has branches low enough to be reached by students
- Strips of cloth, approximately 1-1 ½ ” x 12-15” (one for each student)
- A wish

What to do:

Have students make a wish (much like we do with our birthday candles), then tie their strip of cloth to any available branch on a tree (closing eyes during the wishing process is always an option!)

A Wishing Tree at Ala-Acha Park in Kyrgyzstan
Make a Shyrdak

Materials needed:

- 2 pieces of felt (approximately 9x12 – you can buy these in “sheets” at a craft store)
- scissors
- glue
- Reproducible page Shyrdaks
- Reproducible shyrdak patterns
- Optional: Ellison Letter machine

What to do:

- Give each student a copy of Shyrdaks. Read.
- Tell students that they will be making a traditional shyrdak. Give each student 2 pieces of felt, one white and one dark brown (traditional dyes were very plain). The dark brown piece will be the base.
- Using the white piece of felt, have students either use a traceable pattern or draw one of their own. This pattern/image should be cut out and glued to the center of the base. (Students may be able to fit two of pattern #2 on piece of felt).
- Using the remaining felt, have students make a border around the base (brown piece of felt). It can be wavy, triangles, circles, etc. (You can omit the border if time, skills, etc. are not in your favor!)
- Students should glue the border to the base.
- Congratulations! You now have a shyrdak.

- To make a more modern, shyrdak of many colors, give students 1 piece of felt (9x12), any color. This will be the base.
- Divide remaining pieces of felt so that each student has smaller squares of many different colors.
- Students should first make a border (once again, border can be omitted), then use remaining felt to cut out and form geometric shapes into a pattern or image.

Optional:

If you have access to an Ellison Letter machine, use it to cut out felt shapes, pictures, etc. for students to use on their Shyrdak. Ellison cut-outs can be used on both the traditional and modern versions.
Shyrdaks
Shyrdaks

The Shyrdak (SHEER-dack) is a traditional thick, felt carpet that can be used in a yurt, on the grass, or in a Kyrgyz home as a rug or wall hanging.

Shyrdaks are very durable, which means that they can last a long time (30-40 years!).

Traditional shyrdaks are made using only two colors. One is a light color and one is a dark color. Shyrdaks have patterns, or shapes, sewn to them. The shapes are of things that the Kyrgyz people would use in their daily lives, or see in nature, like a flower, dog, goat, sheep or bird.

Shyrdaks also have a border, or pattern around the edges. Many people use triangles because there are a lot of mountains in Kyrgyzstan.

Today, shyrdaks are made using many colors. Instead of using single, large patterns that look like things found nature, people use a lot of different, smaller, geometric shapes (circles, squares, triangles, rectangles, hexagons, etc.)

Shyrdaks are made all throughout Kyrgyzstan. Usually, several women in a village work together to make one. Small shyrdaks take about 15 days to make. The larger ones can take up to one and a half months.
Shyrdak pattern #1
(A koumys jug)
Shyrdak pattern #2
Shyrdak pattern #3
Shyrdak pattern #4
How to Build a Yurt

Materials needed:

12” pipe cleaners (approximately 12 for each yurt)
Scissors
Reproducible page The Yurt
Felt (optional)
Glue (optional)

What to do:

- Give each student a copy of The Yurt. Read it with class.
- Tell students that they are going to build one of the most important parts of the yurt: The frame. (Optional: You can have them cover the yurt with felt when they are finished)
- To begin, students will need a brief lesson in fractions. Three sizes will be used to build the yurt: whole, one half, and one quarter.
  - Show students one 12” pipe cleaner. This is whole.
  - Show students a second 12” pipe cleaner. Bend this pipe cleaner in half (match ends). Now cut it where the fold is: This is one half (you should have 2 halves).
  - Next, take one of the halves, bend it in half (match ends), and cut it where the fold is. This is one quarter.
- Give each student twelve 12” pipe cleaners. (Brown pipe cleaners for this project look the most like wood, but any color will suffice!)
- Make sure each student has a pair of scissors.
- You can either demonstrate the building of the yurt and have the students follow along step by step, without any written directions (recommended), have them follow along with written directions, or just give them a copy of the directions and let them build the yurt themselves (frowned upon in most circles).
- PRACTICE BUILDING THE YURT BEFORE YOU DEMONSTRATE HOW TO DO IT!
- Step by step, this method of yurt building is actually pretty close to how the Kyrgyz put up a yurt! After the students make “X”s around the lower half of the yurt, point out that this crossed pattern is what gives the yurt its stability. They will notice this (hopefully!) themselves. The Kyrgyz also use a crossed pattern, but it is much tighter than what you will do with pipe cleaners (Look at the photo of yurt building in the activity titled Postcards from Kyrgyzstan for an example).
- Build the yurt!

For addition yurt building activities, go to http://depts.washington.edu/reecas/outreach/nomadism/yurt/
The ancient Kyrgyz people were *nomads*. A nomad is a person who has no permanent home and moves from place to place in search of food, water, and grazing land.

The Kyrgyz people lived in *yurts*, which are tent-like structures that can be moved from one place to another. When the nomads had to take their herds to different places to eat, they could easily bring their homes along with them!

Yurts are circular dwellings made by placing thick layers of felt over a frame made out of wooden poles. There is a hole in the top of the roof called a *tunduk* (TUN-duck). The tunduk allows smoke from the cooking stove or fire to escape. Inside, the walls and floors are covered with special rugs called *shyrdaks* (SHEER-dacks).

Traditionally, the left side of the yurt was for men and contained hunting and horse gear. The right side, where the stove and cooking utensils were stored, was for women. Carpets and blankets were stored at the back of the yurt, usually on top of a large, painted chest.

Today, most Kyrgyz people live in brick homes or apartment buildings. Some ranchers still use yurts in the summer months when they take their herds to the mountains to graze in fields known as *jailoo* (JIE-low).

The yurt is still an important symbol of Kyrgyz culture. The tunduk can be found on the national flag, and during special occasions people set up yurts and invite friends to join them for a feast.
How to Build a Yurt

1. Take one whole pipe cleaner, form it into a circle, and twist the ends together to hold it. Repeat. You should now have 2 circles. Make sure that they are approximately the same size.

2. Next you will make the door of the yurt. Take two ¼ pieces of pipe cleaner, place them approximately 1 ¼ - 1 ½ inches apart, and attach (standing upright) to one of the circles. This is the door. Attach the other ends to the other circle. The two circles should now be parallel to each other, one on top of the other, approximately 2-3 inches apart.

3. Take two ½ pieces of pipe cleaner. Across from the door, on the back side of the yurt, you will attach the pipe cleaners so that they make an “X”. Try to keep the two circles parallel (attaching the X seems to pull the top circle down in the back). When attaching the pipe cleaner, you will have a bit of excess. Make a loop or two around the top/bottom circle, but twist the excess back around the pipe cleaner itself. This will allow you to slide the X and make adjustments to keep the circles parallel.
4. Using four ½ pieces of pipe cleaner, make an X on either side of the door. Attach the pieces of pipe cleaner that butt up to the door’s corners tightly around the circle (for stability).

5. Use four more ½ pieces of pipe cleaner to make two more X’s and fill in the rest of the yurt base. (You may use more if necessary). At this point you should have approximately 5 X’s.

6. Next you will make the tunduk. Use ½ piece of pipe cleaner to make a circle. Using the two ¼ pieces you should have left over from making the door, put one piece across the middle of the circle and attach by twisting the ends around the circle-tightly! Put the other piece perpendicular to the first piece (again in the middle of the circle), and attach.

7. Attach four ¼ pieces of pipe cleaner to each quadrant of the tunduck.
8. Next, attach the other ends of the four pieces to the top circle so that the tunduk is above, and parallel to, the large circles.

9. Use six-eight more ¼ pieces of pipe cleaner to attach the tunduk to the base of the yurt (fill in where there are gaps).

10. Now you have the frame of a yurt!
11. You can cover the yurt using felt, construction paper, or some other pliable material. The next step in actual yurt building is making the door. Cut a strip of felt the width of the door. Lengthwise, it should extend from the top of the tunduk to the bottom of the door frame. Using glue, attach the felt to the rim of the tunduk.

12. When the glue is dry, roll the door up and use a paper clip (on the backside) to hold it in place.

13. Use pieces of felt to cover the rest of the yurt.
Turn Your Classroom into a Yurt!

Background:
A yurt is a type of moveable home used by the nomadic Kyrgyz people as they travel from place to place with their livestock. Your classroom can resemble a yurt by suspending a *tunduk* (a circular wooden frame around the smoke hole in the top of a yurt) from your ceiling.

Materials needed:
- Scissors or X-acto knife
- 1-2 large pieces of cardboard
- Glue
- Fishing line or string
- Small nail or large needle
- Hooks (paper clips will work)

What to do:
- A *tunduk* is a circle with 6 slats crossing its circumference (3 horizontally, 3 vertically).
- Cut 6 slats from the sides and/or top of the piece of cardboard, or from an additional piece of cardboard. They should be long enough to go across the *tunduk* and 1” to 2” wide
- Draw and cut out a circle. Make it as large as possible!
- Cut out the center of the circle, so that you end up with a ring 2” to 4” wide (depending on the size of your cardboard; the bigger, the wider)
- Glue 3 of the slats across the center of the circle horizontally. Glue the remaining 3 slats across the center of the circle vertically. The slats should be ¼” to 1” apart (again, depending on the size of your ring) and may overlap the edge of the ring.
- Use a small nail to poke 4 holes through the ring, one in each quadrant.
- Secure fishing line or string to the *tunduk* using the holes. Attach the other end of string to the ceiling (use hooks if you have ceiling tiles) to suspend the *tunduk* in the center of the room, parallel to the floor and ceiling, and high enough so that nobody hits their head! (When you look up, you should be able to see the ceiling through the center of the *tunduk*)
Postcards from Kyrgyzstan

**Materials needed:**

- 8 ½ x 11 white card stock paper
- scissors
- glue
- postcard template
- pictures for front of postcard (one for each student)
- Kyrgyz stamp sheet

**What to do:**

- Print the postcard template onto white cardstock paper (enough for one for each student)
- Have students cut out the postcard template
- Give each student a Kyrgyz photo. Students should cut out photo and glue it to the front of the postcard template (Note: students may find their own photo using the internet or any other sources available to them!)
- Students should select a friend or relative to “write” to and put his/her address on the address lines – don’t forget “USA”!
- Students should write a short note to their chosen addressee about their visit to Kyrgyzstan, using facts learned during the unit.
- When finished, students may cut out a Kyrgyz stamp and glue it to the postcard.
- If possible, laminate postcards (this helps hold photos and stamps on, and enhances color!)
- Display postcards in classroom (using string is helpful so that both sides can be seen!)
Greetings from Kyrgyzstan!

Photo: Susan Kidson

Kyrgyz mountains

Photo: Alan Libert
Women sewing a shyrdak

Statue of Manas
Komuz player

The Kyrgyz flag
A Kyrgyz shepherd

Building a yurt
Having tea in a yurt

Kyrgyz bread
Kyrgyz Stamps
Whad’Ya Know About Kyrgyzstan?

Materials needed:

Pencil or pen
Reproducible page Whad’Ya Know About Kyrgyzstan?
Reproducible page Kyrgyzstan Wordsearch (optional)

What to do:

- Give each student a copy of Whad’Ya Know About Kyrgyzstan. Go over words to use.
- Have students complete the worksheet.
- Optional: When they are finished, have them find the words they used in the wordsearch.

Answers:

1. Cyrillic
2. tulip
3. shoes
4. Uzbekistan
5. Issyk Kul
6. som
7. democratic
8. Tien Shan
9. shyrdak
10. spices
11. Asia
12. Islam
13. petroglyphs
14. Silk Road
15. tunduk
16. Naryn
17. Manas
18. Soviet Union
19. Bishkek
20. continental climate
21. yurt
22. horse, koumys
23. kalpak
24. snow leopard
25. komuz
Whad’Ya Know About Kyrgyzstan?

Use the following words to correctly complete each sentence below.

petroglyphs  Asia   Uzbekistan  Naryn
Cyrillic   yurt   shoes   Manas
Silk Road  tunduk  democratic   spices
som  shyrdak  Islam   Tien Shan
koumys  snow leopard  Soviet Union  Bishkek
Issyk Kul  komuz  kalpak  continental climate
tulip  horse

1. The Kyrgyz language is written using the ______________ alphabet.

2. A ______________ is a flower that grows wild on the mountainsides.

3. You should always take your ______________ off before you enter a yurt.

4. Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, __________________________, and China are all countries that border Kyrgyzstan.

5. ________________ ________ is the largest lake in Kyrgyzstan.

6. A ________________ is a unit of Kyrgyz money.

7. Kyrgyzstan is a __________________________ society, with elected government officials.

8. The ______________ ______________ Mountains stretch across Kyrgyzstan.

9. A ________________ is a thick, wool rug.

10. Silk, ________________, perfume, gunpowder, and ideas were all traded on The Silk Road.

11. Kyrgyzstan is located on the continent of ________________.

12. The main religion of the Kyrgyz people is ________________.

13. __________________________ are pictures that are carved into rocks.

14. The ________________ ________________ was a system of trading routes used to bring goods from Europe to China, and from China to Europe.
15. A ____________________ is a circular wooden frame around the smoke hole in the roof of a yurt.

16. The ____________________ River is the longest river in Kyrgyzstan.

17. ________________ is a legendary Kyrgyz hero who united the forty tribes of Kyrgyzstan.

18. After the October Revolution, Kyrgyzstan became part of the ________________ ________________.

19. ________________ is the capital city of Kyrgyzstan.

20. Kyrgyzstan has a ________________ ________________, with four seasons and little rainfall.

21. A _____________ is a type of tent and is the traditional dwelling of the Kyrgyz people.

22. The Kyrgyz have a drink made from ________________ milk called ________________.

23. A _____________________ is a type of felt hat worn by Kyrgyz men.

24. The ________________ ________________ is a wild animal from the cat family that can be found in the mountains of Kyrgyzstan.

25. The ________________ is a traditional Kyrgyz instrument with three strings.
Kyrgyzstan

USYEAOWUDTPTDSGJBUCEAKTPGIUAUCAAEHIJMUZRPFWAYKONDONFZMPOCZQTBUGUVRMKRDUnoYCHMOMERCZIKUKMGCLLSHYRDAKJMSPLKQHPGRVZUMOKZOIFYXICBHLAOMQFBKFIKHSPISSLFMTRSYMUKKIPFTEOGUANITYHKVOQCHYYKACNSTTCEBSRNARHDRDBSHNRAVMNPKXINQOPQMFXOSCYHOREAOFNSOCILLYRCIBSFBNMIFOSHWJXASTSZPQNFCIANSEZUKLEKRPFZXEBWTNBOAZCDEEEAUIEROICQNAPHWANLNKOMYCPZNATPOSITISLAMAHSPNEPUGFYXCMVFXPKDRQEYYASBNUNJQJDQSUBQPQYGAVRJGUNOBKNNSOVIETUNIONDZN

ASIA BISHKEK CONTINENTAL CLIMATE CYRILLIC DEMOCRATIC HORSE ISLAM ISSYK KUL KALPAK KOMUZ KOUUMYS MANAS NARYN PETROGLYPHS

SHYRDAK SILKROAD SNOW LEOPARD SOM SOVIET UNION SHOES SPICES TIEN SHAN TULIP TUNDUK UZBEKISTAN YURT
Kyrgyzstan Solution

+ ++ E ++ + + D T ++ + + D S ++ + + U +
+ ++ T + ++ A U + + + E H ++ + + Z +
+ + + A + ++ O N + + + M P ++ + + + + B +
+ + + M + R D + + + O Y + + + + + + E +
+ + I K U + + + C L L S H Y R D A K +
+ + P L K + + + R G + Z U M O K + + I +
+ + I C + + + A O + + + + K + + + + S +
+ S L L + + T R S Y M U O K K + + + T +
+ + U A + I T + + K + + + + Y + + A +
N + T T C E B S + + A + + + + + S H N +
A + M N P + + I N + + P + + + + O S + +
H O + E A + + + S O C I L L I R Y C I +
S + + N M I + + S H W + + A S T S + + +
N + + I A + S E + + K L + E K R P + + +
E + + T N + O A + + + E E + + U I + + +
I + + N A H + + + N + + K O + Y C + + +
T + + O S I S L A M A + + + P + E + + +
+ + + C + + + + + + + R + + + A S + + +
+ + + + + + + + + + + + Y + + + R + + +
+ + + + + + + S O V I E T U N I O N D + +

(Over, Down, Direction)

ASIA(8,15,NW)
BISHKEK(7,10,SE)
CONTINENTAL CLIMATE(4,18,N)
CYRILLIC(18,12,W)
DEMOCRATIC(14,1,SW)
HORSE(18,10,SW)
ISLAM(6,17,E)
ISSYK KUL(19,12,NW)
KALPAK(15,14,NW)
KOMUZ(16,6,W)
KOUUMYS(14,8,W)
MANAS(5,13,S)
NARYN(10,16,SE)
PETROGLYPHS(5,11,NE)
SHOES(5,17,NE)
SHYRDAK(13,5,E)
SILK ROAD(2,8,NE)
SNOW LEOPARD(8,10,SE)
SOM(1,13,NE)
SOVIET UNION(7,20,E)
SPICES(17,13,S)
TIEN SHAN(1,17,N)
TULIP(3,10,N)
TUNDUK(10,1,SW)
UZBEKISTAN(19,1,S)
YURT(16,16,N)
Resources

Information on Kyrgyzstan

www.celestial.com.kg
www.kyrgyzstan.orexca.com
www.open-site.org (Search for Kyrgyzstan)
www.seelrc.org
www.fantasticasia.net
www.gocentralasia.com
www.unknownland.com.kg
www.everyculture.com/Ja-Ma/Kyrgyzstan.html
www.silk-road.com

Additional Lesson Plans
http://www.imaginationcelebration.org/educate/curriculum/kyrgyzstan.htm
www.silkroadproject.org
www.peacecorps.gov/wws/educators/

Photos of Kyrgyzstan

www.herwigphoto.com
www.galenfrysinger.com (The World as I See It; search Kyrgyzstan)

Miscellaneous

To type in Cyrillic:
www.2cyr.com (type word, press КИР button)
Images of Kyrgyz money:
http://aes.iupui.edu/nwise/countries/kyrgyzstan.html
To hear the Kyrgyz National anthem:
http://www.kbears.com/kyrgyzstan/anthemtext.html
Globalize Your Curriculum and Connect with Schools in Central Asia

Eager to add a global element to your classes while still fulfilling your state's required standards? Global Connections and Exchange (GCE), a program sponsored by the US Department of State, can provide you with an easy way to do just that! Through a variety of short-term or long-term technology-based projects, your classes can connect directly with classrooms in Central Asia, thereby exposing your students to new cultures and perspectives. Projects include, but are not limited to:

- A joint WebQuest on topics such as economics, history, government, global health issues, or the environment
- A joint wiki space to create a unique resource about partners' communities and interests
- A forum-based project to exchange cultural information, such as recipes, art, costumes, and music.

All projects can be custom-designed to align with your curriculum's standards and do not require more than access to the Internet. For examples of past projects, please feel free to visit: "How I See the World":
http://www.connectuz.net/index.php?showtopic=284&st=0

If you are interested in learning more about GCE, please contact cmaclean@irex.org