

Submitted by: GENERATION CURES

TITLE: TOPOGRAPHY

SUBJECT: Science

GRADE: 6th

RECOMMENDED TIME: 30-45 minutes

GENERATION CURES CONTENT: Zebrafish Webisode 4-Stronger Than a Locomotive

LEARNING GOALS:

Students will learn how to create a contour map of various types of terrain.

RESOURCES/MATERIALS NEEDED:

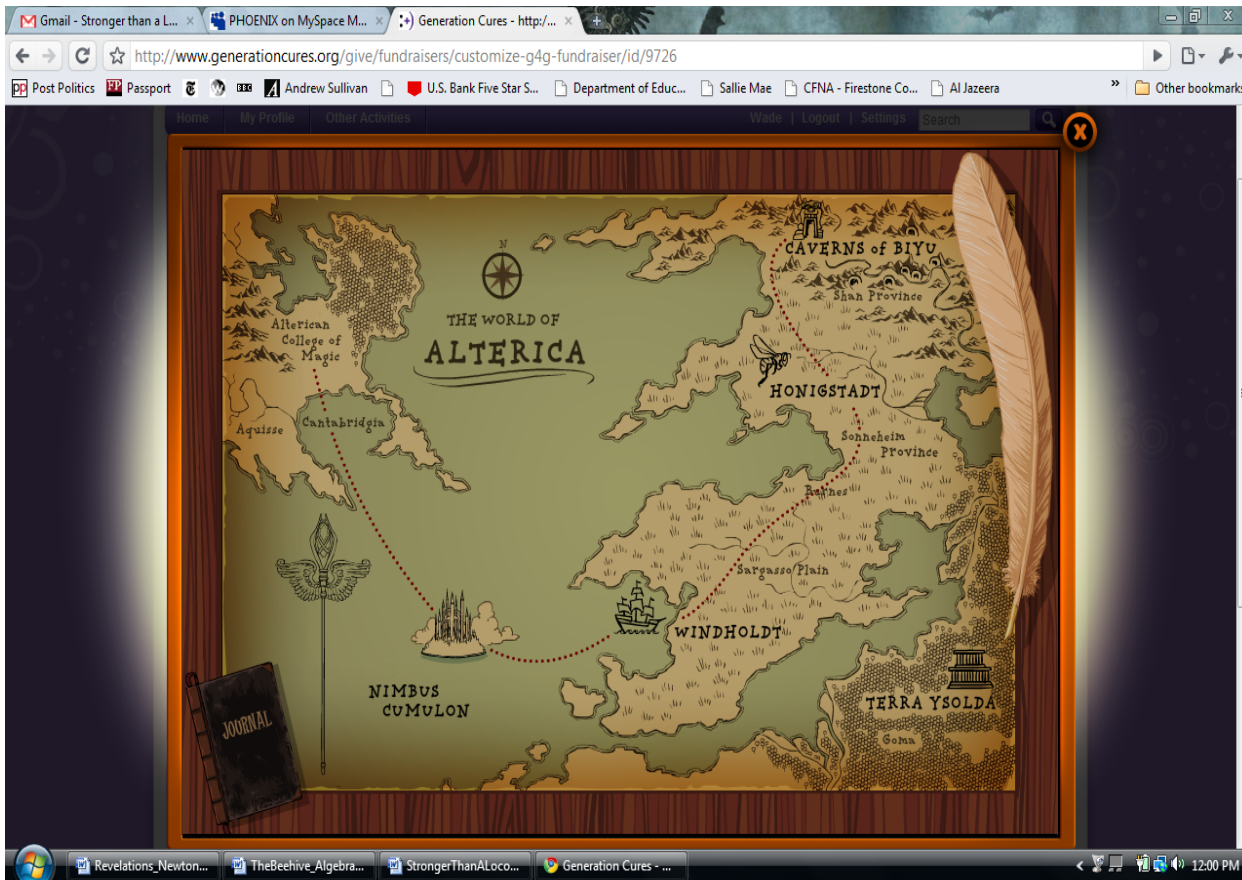
- Computer / Internet / Projector
- Pen / Pencil / Paper
- Zebrafish Webisode 4-Stronger Than a Locomotive (www.kids.generationcures.org)
- Dictionary: Define terms
 - Predecessor- someone who has held a position or office previously.
 - Alterica- a mythical world Jay and Plinko create where a mythical healer uses real-world problem solving to find out how to uncover the cause and cure of a plague that threatens the land.
 - Caduceus- a Caduceus is a symbol for physicians, a staff with two intertwined snakes.
 - Alter ego- an alter ego literally means an “alternative self.” In this webisode, Tanya finds her alter ego, Sulus, in the computer game “Caduceus.”
 - Topographical map- a map that uses contour lines to represent rises and falls in elevation of an area.

BACKGROUND:

The Zebrafish are missing Tanya from the band. While Plinko and Jay are busy watching a soccer game, Vita tries to develop a social message for the Zebrafish. Needless to say, the boys aren't much help right away. When Tanya rejoins the group, she discovers her alter ego, Sulus, in Jay and Plinko's computer game about a mythical land, Alterica, and a healer staffed with a Caduceus. In this webisode, students are introduced to the mythical world of Alterica where a healer, Sulus is trying to find a cure to a plague spreading throughout the land. The map of Alterica, which can also be found in the online game CADUCEUS, shows a mythical land not too different from the earth.

LESSON STEPS:

- **Play with a Purpose:** Ask the students to watch the webisode and to copy the map of Alterica they see at the end of the program. Ask the students to recall what landforms they saw on the map.



- **Connection:** Discuss with students the topography of their state/ region.
- **Become a Mapmaker:** Ask students to make a map of the topography of their neighborhood or town (or another place with which they are very familiar).

EXTENSIONS:

- Take students to a nearby playground or park location and ask them to draw a contour map of the area. Ensure the area you choose contains diverse topography, and reiterate that contour maps only contain earth features (not playground equipment or passing cars).
- Ask students to use a computer to view the topography of different cities, states, and countries using GoogleEarth®.