



SOCIAL STUDIES AND SURVIVING THE ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE



WHAT IS SOCIAL STUDIES

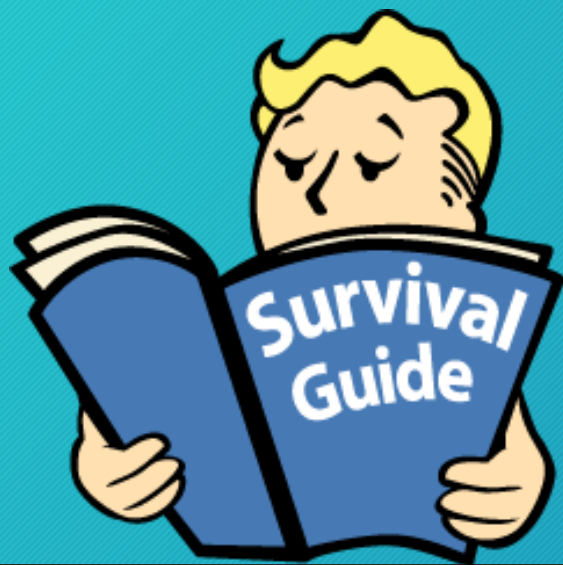
- Social studies is the study of various subjects that include *“anthropology, archaeology, economics, geography, history, law, philosophy, political science, psychology, religion, and sociology, as well as appropriate content from the humanities, mathematics, and natural sciences.”*

(NCSS Task Force on Standards for Teaching and Learning in the Social Studies, 1993, p. 213)

THE PURPOSE OF SOCIAL STUDIES

- The purpose of Social Studies is *“to help young people develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world”* or, perhaps, in an apocalyptic world...

(NCSS Task Force on Standards for Teaching and Learning in the Social Studies, 1993, p. 213)

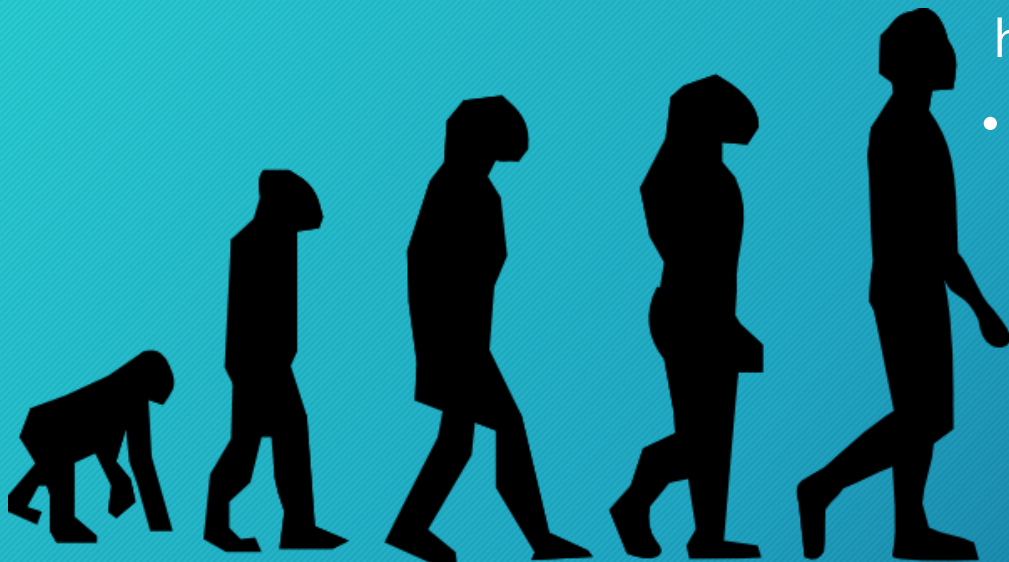


How can the different subject areas in Social Studies help save you or keep you alive during a zombie apocalypse?

Remember, survival is not just about how fast you can run or how hard you can fight (*physical*). It is also about knowledge, understanding, and the essentials to being human (*intellectual, mental, social-emotional*).

ANTHROPOLOGY

- **What is it?** Anthropology is the study of the beginnings and development of human societies and cultures. Culture is the learned behaviour of people, including languages, belief systems, social structures, institutions, and material goods. It is the study of present and past aspects of human life.
 - **What do they do?** Anthropologists study these characteristics of past and present human communities through a variety of techniques to investigate and describe how different peoples of our world lived throughout history.
 - **Why is it important?** Anthropology compares human groups to how different we are in human behavior and biology, and therefore it helps understand what it means to be human. It is important for us as human beings to know where we came from and to also understand the cultures in the world outside of our own. It is about understanding ourselves in relation to others.



*to make sense of our
world!*



ANTHROPOLOGY IN EVERY DAY LIFE

- Anthropologists study human behaviour and culture. Can you think of any examples of behaviours that are accepted in our culture, but might be seen as different, bizarre, or forbidden in other cultures?
 - In India, shaking your head in a horizontal direction means "yes," rather than "no."
 - A "thumbs up" is considered rude in some countries.
 - In Japan, laughter is a sign of nervousness and embarrassment, rather than happiness.
 - In Africa, telling a female friend that she has put on some weight is a compliment.

- What are practical applications of learning about other cultures?

For economic advantages, a businessman from the United States might learn about the traditions and values of Japanese culture before he visits Japan for a business trip. He would learn, for example, that Japanese people greet by bowing instead of shaking hands. Making a good impressions helps build better relationships.

ANTHROPOLOGY AND SURVIVAL

- How can learning about different cultures and how they were developed help you to survive to during a zombie apocalypse?

By understanding and studying different cultures, we can help rebuild society. We can find out what we should and shouldn't do to create a better, functional society. It also helps build trusting relationships with others when you respect their culture. You can't rebuild a society with one person!



ARCHAEOLOGY

- **What is it?** Archaeology comes from the Greek word “arkhaiologia” meaning “the study of ancient things.”
- **What do they do?** Archaeologists are scientists who collect and study the remains of past human activity, such as bones and tools. They work with other scientists to try and explain what life was like for early humans and ancient peoples. Archaeologists must make sense of their discoveries by examining each piece and putting various pieces together to see if they make sense.
- **Why is it important?** Archaeology helps us understand who we are, where we came from, and how we adapt and evolve in the future.

ARCHAEOLOGIST AND THEIR SKILLS

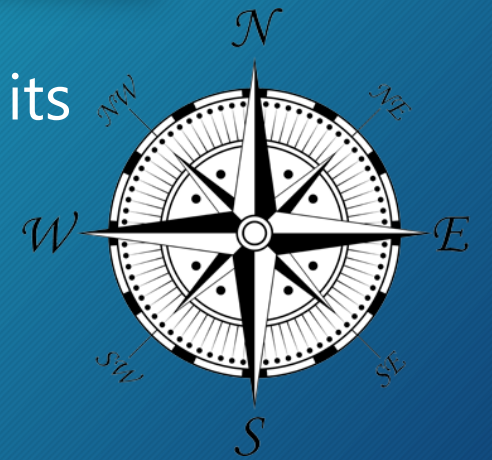
- Archaeologists find and collect fossils and artifacts. Fossils are the remains of living things, such as plants and animals. Artifacts are the remains of things that were made or modified by man, such as tools.
- They excavate (dig up) fossils and artifacts at sites, then they try to make sense of what they've found by studying them. Archaeologists are good at making educated guesses and then carrying out experiments to see if their guess was right or wrong.
- They have lots of practice "putting the puzzle pieces together" or "connecting the dots." They also study cause-and-effect relationships (i.e. if this...then this...).

ARCHAEOLOGY AND SURVIVAL

- How can learning about our past, being able to make educated guesses, or studying about cause-and-effect relationships help you survive a zombie apocalypse?
 - Your knowledge of prehistory and history will help you survive in a world where there is no modern technology and tools, just like in early and ancient times.
 - As you are roaming the streets trying to survive, you will need to be make educated decisions based on cause-and-effect relationships.
 - When you are scavenging, you will need to be aware of your surroundings so that you don't touch or pull something that might lead the roof to collapse, like at an excavation.
 - After many years have past, you will have to study the past as well to continue to survive after a zombie apocalypse.

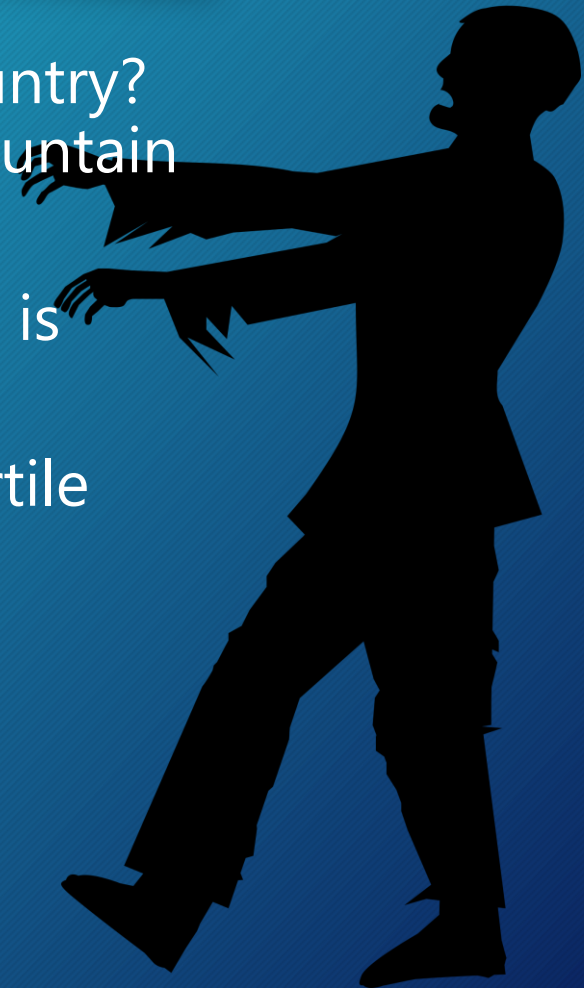
GEOGRAPHY

- **What is it?** Geography is the study of the Earth's surface, which includes different countries and people of the earth, its climate, its natural resources, and its oceans, rivers, and mountains.
- **What do they do?** Geographers are interested in Earth's physical features, such as mountains, deserts, rivers, and oceans. They study the ways that people affect and are affected by their environment (nature). They also study the location of countries and cities and how they interact with each other.
- **Why is it important?** Geography helps us understand more about our environment and how it affects our decisions.



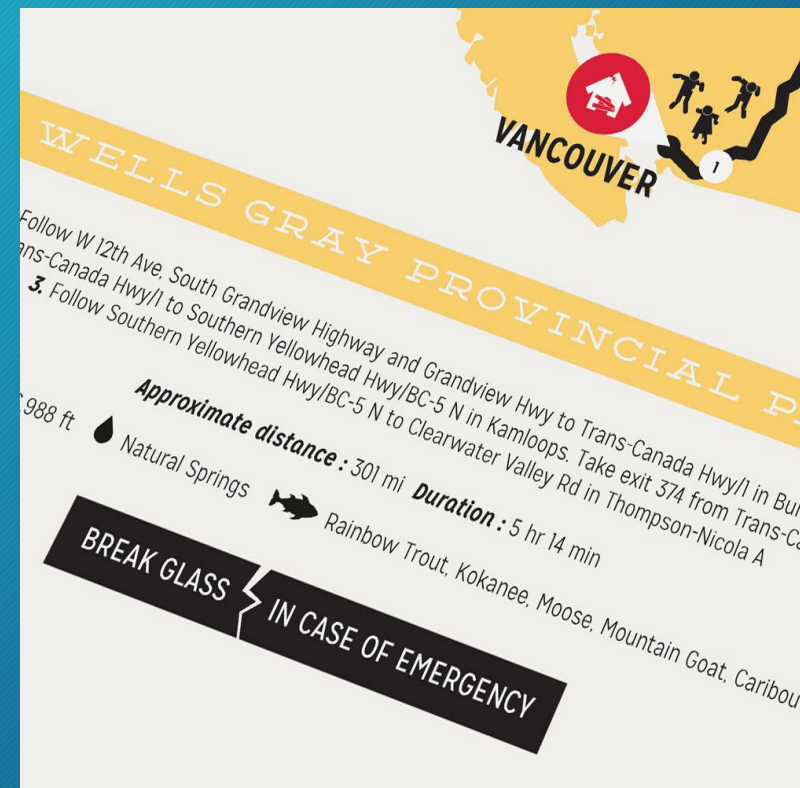
ESCAPE ROUTE TO A SAFE LOCATION

- Can you create an escape route out of a building, a city, a country? Do you know which are the safest routes? What streets or mountain passages to take?
- How will you find a “safe” location? How will you know that it is a good location to settle in?
- Is there a water source near by? Are there food sources or fertile soil to grow food?
- How is the weather in this area? Will it be suitable to survive?
- Can you read a map?



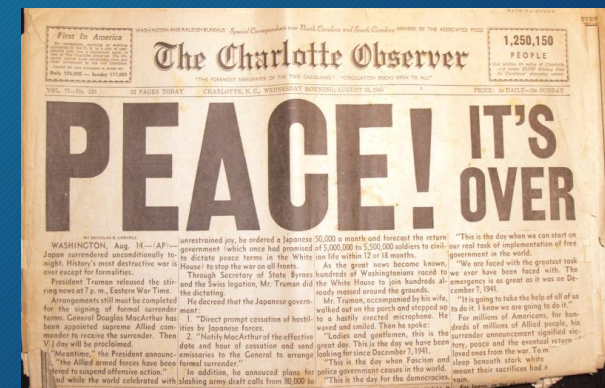
GEOGRAPHY AND SURVIVAL

- All of the questions that were asked in the previous slide, someone who has studied geography could answer.



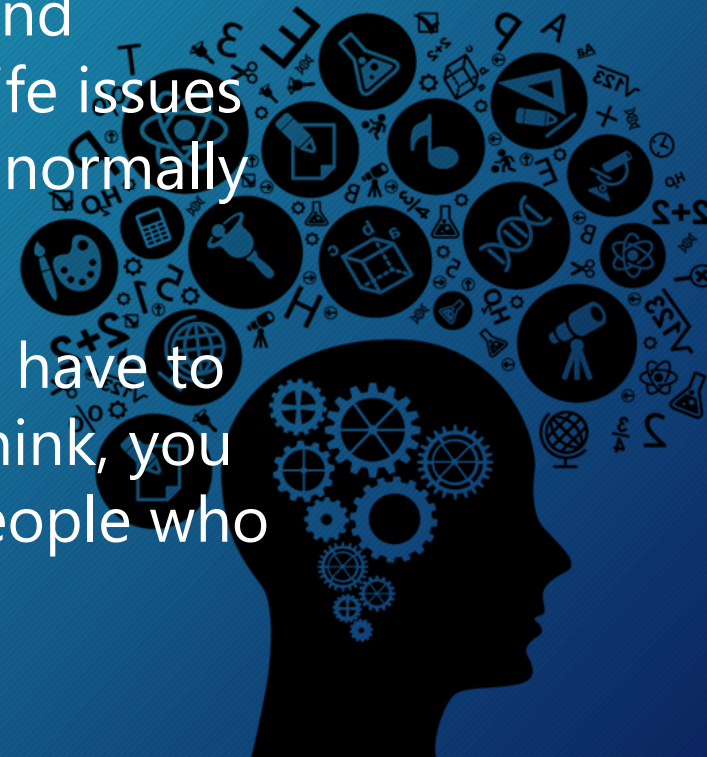
HISTORY AND SURVIVAL

- **What is it?** History is the study of past events.
- **What do they do?** Historians study past events to understand cause-and-effect relationships, why is the world the way it is? They use a variety of resources including photos, newspaper articles, videos, artifacts, fossils, people, etc.
- **Why is it important?** Studying history can help prevent us from making the same mistakes or we can repeat what was successful. Therefore it helps with our decision-making and judgement.
- **Survival?** Learn from the past so you can live for the future!



PSYCHOLOGY AND SURVIVAL

- **What is it?** Psychology is the study of the mind and how it works.
- **What do they do and why is it important?** Psychologists study how people think by learning about their mental health and observing their behaviours. They help people overcome life issues or mental health problems that prevent them from living normally or making important decisions.
- **Survival?** In order to survive with a group of people, you have to get to know the people. If you understand how people think, you can help fix problems, be a better leader, or recognize people who might cause trouble in the group.



POLITICAL SCIENCE LAW AND SURVIVAL

- **What is it and what do they do?** Political Science studies systems of government and analyzes political activity and behaviour. Politicians also have good knowledge about the laws that govern society.



- **Why is it important?** Laws are in place to protect people and to maintain a peaceful society.
- **Survival?** Zombies are not the only threat, sometimes humans can be the problem! In order to survive and rebuild society, there needs to be peace and cooperation. There needs to be rules put into place so that people are kept safe from zombies and from each other.