What is required to fight a pandemic based on what we know as of April 30th 2020

AUTHOR INFORMATION

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Lesson Grade Span: Secondary 12
Targeted Grade Level/Course: (specific grade or course)
Estimated Time to Complete Lesson: 45 minutes

FOCUSED QUESTION

Fighting a pandemic successfully requires a set of decisions with specific guidelines and expertise and tools.
1 We will compare different countries and see what was implemented to reduce infections and limit the number of deaths and how.
The countries that will be examined are: South Korea, Viet Nam, Sweden, Developing countries or the Global South, Germany and the USA.

2 The sources are diverse: Spiegelonline ; World Economic Forum , Harvard University, The Conversation , Arundhati Roy in the Financial Times , a blog from MediaPart, Al Jazeera, The Guardian.

Students should investigate these news outlets and find out if they are reliable. They should be exposed to a large variety of sources.

3 In the following lesson, the questions are: What can history teach us? Focusing on the Spanish flu in 1918/19: what was similar and what was different to the 2020 pandemic?

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

National mandated curriculum standards require teachers to work along several themes. One of them is "Identities and Exchanges". So here students will see that cultural identities may have played a role in how the government approached the pandemic. Exchanges, the second key concept, will also enable students to understand that transparency, worldwide communication, health-related data exchange have provided answers to decision-makers in the different countries.

STUDENT OUTCOMES & LESSON TARGETS

Targets:
- Working with a team i.e. listening to others, trying to convince, collecting ideas and organizing them, prioritizing items, reporting to the class in an organized manner
- Reading and collecting elements that meet the question.
- Double checking the sources: are the articles reliable? Have facts been checked? Are the news outlets known to you? Do you trust them? Is the information accurate? Do you trust the press articles?
- Looking for answers on the net and checking that the sources are reliable.
- Analysing the results and reaching a conclusion to the question
- Learning about specific countries: their recent history, their political system, their size and demographics, their health system

LESSON OVERVIEW

I Before starting analyzing documents and collecting data.

- You work as a team with 5 other students, make sure you are able to organize and collect ideas for your team to report to the class later on. You are given 15 minutes to write down ideas and organize them.

The topic: Why do you think some countries have a lower fatality rate than others? List reasons that may have helped countries fight better than others.

II Reading documents and collecting data to understand how specific countries responded to the coronavirus pandemic.

- You work with a partner on a country. You have to read the articles and get an understanding on the pandemic there. You are given 15 minutes again to fill in the worksheet provided to you by your teacher.

III Getting back together and comparing what each team of two students has been able to find out.
   • Your worksheet will be completed by data provided by everyone.
   • When done with filling in the worksheet, come up with conclusion that you will present to the class.
IV Presenting an oral report of what you have understood.

   - Can countries follow one model? Or should countries adapt their strategy? What does it depend on?

V Conclusion about the documents
 - Did the documents help? Did you find a lot of answers?
 - Did you feel that the documents did not provide you with every answer?
 - So what did you do?
 - What did you learn? What would you have liked to learn?

Documents:
South Korea

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/south-korea-covid-19-containment-testing/

How did Korean democracy tame Covid-19? 22 April 2020 François Amblard
Viet Nam

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/vietnam-contain-covid-19-limited-resources

The Secret to Vietnam's COVID-19 Response Success by **Minh Vu and Bich T. Tran** April 18, 2020

Sweden
https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-04-19/sweden-says-controversial-covid-19-strategy-is-proving-effective
https://theconversation.com/coronavirus-are-we-underestimating-how-many-people-have-had-it-sweden-thinks-so-136893
https://www.ft.com/content/31de03b8-6dbc-11ea-89df-41bea055720b

USA
https://www.economist.com/graphic-detail/2020/04/25/the-south-is-likely-to-have-americas-highest-death-rate-from-covid-19
https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/mar/24/coronavirus-america-donald-trump-crisis
https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/emergencies-closures-states-handling-coronavirus-200317213356419.html

Germany
https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2020-04-16/coronavirus-meticulous-germany-knows-how-to-handle-a-pandemic
https://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/the-shutdown-begins-across-germany-a-3c541d1d-1d42-4672-9fdc-af6c3247df76
https://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/corona-crisis-we-should-be-adopting-stricter-measures-not-loosening-the-lockdown-a-0c17d272-8ebd-4dae-b7ca-42554111853c

India

https://www.ft.com/content/10d8f5e8-74eb-11ea-95fe-fcd274e920ca
https://theconversation.com/coronavirus-threat-reveals-the-flaws-in-indias-health-system-134272
https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/flattening-the-covid-19-curve-in-developing-countries/

	South Korea	Viet Nam	Sweden	Germany	The US	India
population		95 million		83 million	330 million	1.3 billion
Average age						
Size of the country : *Low density* *High density*						
Neighbouring countries						
Advanced economy	GDP per head					
Currency						
Health system						
Labour force						
Informal economy						
Access to technology						
Habitat/living conditions						
Political system *Leadership*	A democracy: trust public authorities	Communist regime with a well-organised military		Federalism with a decentralised system	Decentralised decision-making	Decentralised system
Female leadership						
Social behaviour	Solidarity: honest reporting, the willing co-operation of a well-informed public.	A strong culture of surveillance	to trust public authorities, and to trust the media	to trust public authorities, and to trust the media		
Heath care: *Nber of*	…….. ………..	8 doctors to every 10,000 people			26 doctors to every 10,000	

doctors Hospital beds Testing	.... 338,000 people	...... 15,637 (as if March 20)				
Awareness of pandemics						
Emotional navigation						
Fatality rate						

Table to be completed with the information you find in the documents provided and your research on the net if needed.