**Descriptive Data:**

Grade: 7th

Subject Area: Geography

Unit: Africa South of the Sahara

Topic: Health Concerns

**Standards:**

**7SS3: Students examine recent historical events and leaders that contributed to the development of nations in modern Middle Eastern, Asian, African and Central and South American nations from the 1980s to today.**

* Understand the challenges in the regions, including their geopolitical, cultural, military, and economic significance and the international relationships in which they are involved.

**7SS5: Students identify economic, social, and political connections among cultures in the Middle East, Asia, Africa and Central and South America.**

* Contrast how social institutions in the past and present, including the family, religion, educational institutions, and the economy influence individual behavior in different societies in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Central and South America in the recent past and present.

**Objectives:**

Students will work in partners to research different health concerns in Africa South of the Sahara and be able to describe four aspects that contribute to the spread of these diseases and how this impacts the development of countries in this region.

**Materials:**

* Africa disease readings
* Africa disease comparison chart
* Discussion questions
* Quick Write/Exit Ticket

**Adaptions/Modifications:**

* Allow students to highlight info instead of recording on a chart
* Pair low readers with independent readers

**Day 1:**

**Hook:**

* Why has Africa’s health care been in the news lately?
  1. Students will have recently heard about Ebola

**Activating Prior Knowledge:**

* When we began our unit on Africa, we looked at mortality rates. Who can remind us what mortality rates represent? (number of deaths per 1,000 people)
* What did we notice about African countries’ mortality rates? (they are higher than other countries)
* What were some of the reasons we hypothesized why African had mortality rates? (education, health care, economics)

**Introduction:**

* Today we will look at the most prevalent diseases in Africa.
* We will compare each disease, preventions and treatments to help us identify WHY these are issues in Africa.
* We will connect health care issues in Africa with other topics we have discussed (education, health care, language, clean water issues, malnutrition).

**Instruction & Guided Practice:**

* Introduce students to the chart, review vocabulary and expected notes for each section

**Independent Practice:**

* Students will work with a partner to read about each of the different diseases and fill out the chart.

**Day 2:**

**Whole Class Discussion:**

* After students have completed their research on the diseases, discuss the following:
  + What similarities did you see in these diseases? (most are preventable through either vaccines or hygiene and many are treatable with medicine)
  + Do we see these illnesses in other parts of the world? The US? Why are they not as widespread or deadly here? (access to health care, education, hygiene, overall health, economics)
  + What are the major causes of for the lack of health care in Africa? (too many languages, lack of education to teach prevention, geographical barriers to health providers, lack of economy and money for medicines, poor hygiene and access to clean water)
* How do other topics we have discussed in Africa connect to their health care?
  + Education, language, economics, languages, geography, nutrition, clean water
* Should other countries be concerned about the health issues in Africa? Why or why not?

**Conclusion:**

* Students complete an Exit Ticket: Select one of the following: to explain at least four reasons
  + Draw an emoji to represent at least four reasons African countries south of the Sahara suffer from more health care issues than other countries.
  + Create a graphic organizer to show the factors that contribute to health problems in Africa south of the Sahara.
  + Write a few sentences that explain at least four reasons African countries south of the Sahara suffer from more health care issues than other countries.

**Day 3:**

**Review/Unit Connection:**

* In the next class, have students connect what they have learned about Africa’s health to other aspects discussed in the unit (economics, education, culture, infrastructure).
* How could these African countries’ struggle with health care impact the development of the nation? (higher infant mortality rates, decreasing population, less available work source, increased need for infrastructure (health care, sanitation, education)

**Assessment:**

* Completion of Health in Africa chart.
* Class Discussion
* Exit Ticket