**Lesson Plan**

**Names:** Macee Doyle & Rachel Naclerio

**Lesson Title:** Reality vs. Stereotypes of Foreign Locations

**Grade Level:** Fourth Grade

**Goal:** The goal of this lesson is to have students understand the importance of geographic awareness in order to eliminate cultural stereotypes.

**Objectives:**

1. Have students locate and identify various South Pacific Islands
2. Have students understand how generalizations are formed
3. For students to be able to list cultural stereotypes found in the book In The Heart of The Sea
4. For students to gain knowledge about cultures and religions among the South Pacific Islands
5. For students to learn that stereotypes are not always true

**Skills:**

1. Use of world map
2. Apply cultural knowledge to specific locations
3. Creating a chart

**Geography Themes:** Human / Environment Interaction, Location, Region

**Geography Standards:** Standard 1, Standard 3, Standard 4, Standard 6, Standard 9, Standard 13, Standard 17, Standard 18

**Materials:**

* In The Heart Of The Sea
* Map of the world
* Map of South Pacific Islands
* Blank maps of South Pacific Islands
* Cultural descriptions
* Poster Boards
* Markers
* Atlases
* Assignment packets

**Introduction:**

Students will be asked how much they think they know about the world. Students will be asked where they learn about the world (ex. School, books, newspaper, TV). Students will have the opportunity to name as many islands in the South Pacific that they can. Ask students what cultural diversity is.

**Procedure:**

1. Introduction
2. Divide the class into groups of 3 or 4
3. Show the students names and locations of specific islands in the South Pacific
4. Give each group a poster board, blank map, and markers
5. Have the students label the blank maps with the information they just learned
6. Have each group make a three column chart with the headings:

What They Thought, What I Think, What I Know Now

1. Have each group discuss amongst themselves what kind of stereotypes were mentioned in the book In The Heart of The Sea , and record their answers under the ‘What They Thought’ column
2. Have each group discuss what they know about the South Pacific Islands, and record their answers under the ‘What I Think’ column
3. Hand out Cultural Descriptions to each group, and have them read about the islands
4. Have students discuss new information they learned, and record their answers under the ‘What I Know Now’ column
5. Discuss each column as a whole class and record answers on a chart on the board. (encourage students to put answers on their posters that other groups had but they didn’t)
6. Hand out packets about more common locations and have students complete individually.
7. Ask the class if they learned anything new, either about the South Pacific Islands or locations in the packet.
8. Ask the class if there was something they thought they knew about a location, but found out it was wrong.
9. Discuss common stereotypes people have about the United States and see if the students agree or disagree.

**Evaluation:**

1. Students’ Assignment Packets will be collected and graded.
2. Students will pick a location of their own and complete the assignment again for homework.