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Presents

# WORLDQUEST Vietnam

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**INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE**

## INTRODUCTION TO SERIES

Designed to enhance the social studies curriculum for the intermediate aged student on up. "WorldQuest" offers students a unique perspective about the chronological developments of the greatest cultures the world has ever known.

As a complementary device with each program, an instructional guide suggests exercises to enhance the learning for teachers, parents and students. These interactive exercises will reinforce and further develop a student's level of comprehension.

The instructional guide provides:

**Subject Profile • Q & A • Discussion Points & Activities  
Vocabulary • Geography (Including Maps) • Timeline**

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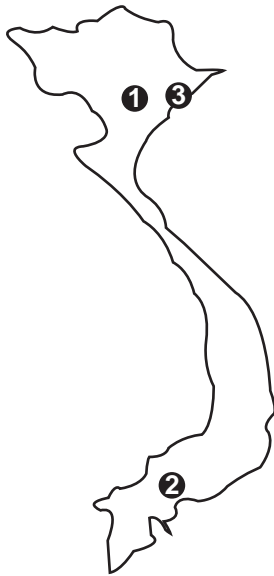
**E-Guides available at [www.filmideas.com](http://www.filmideas.com)**

## TIMELINE of **VIETNAM**

- **3,000 BCE:** A tribe from South China migrates into the area known today as Vietnam. After arriving into the region the tribe merges with another tribe from Indonesia. Together these tribes become the origins of the Vietnamese people.
- **500 BCE:** The Sa Hyunh culture establishes themselves in Southern Vietnam on an Island known today as Borneo.
- **207 BCE:** A Chinese warlord conquers the Red River Valley. The Chinese would rule the region for 1000 years.
- **939:** Ngo Quyen leads a peasant army which defeats the Chinese and declares Vietnam an Independent nation.
- **1535:** The Portuguese become the first Europeans to arrive into the Vietnam region.
- **1883-early 1900's:** France successfully colonizes most of Indochina.
- **1945:** Ho Chi Minh leads a revolt which defeats France and re-establishes Vietnam as an independent nation.
- **1954:** France tries to re-establish colonial rule but are again defeated during the Battle of Dien Bien Phu. The war with France ends but civil war between the north and south continues.
- **Late 1950's:** While fearing the spread of communism throughout Asia the United States becomes involved with the civil war in Vietnam by supporting non-communist South Vietnam.
- **1972:** A peace treaty is signed in Paris to end Vietnam's civil war and U.S. involvement.
- **1975:** Civil war fighting finally ends after North Vietnam overthrows South Vietnam's capital city Saigon and renames it Ho Chi Minh City after the "Father of Vietnamese Independence".

## Map #2 of Vietnam

Study the map and site descriptions on pg. 15. Then write the name of the location on the solid black line. On a separate piece of paper write a brief description about each location.



① \_\_\_\_\_

② \_\_\_\_\_

③ \_\_\_\_\_

# VIETNAM

After countless invasions Vietnam has maintained a unique ability to preserve its own identity and independence. Although defiant, Vietnam has successfully blended the most endearing qualities of invading cultures into their own autonomy. From Chinese agricultural methods and writing to French architecture, today's world travelers have noticed Vietnam's distinct cultural blend which has made tourism its fastest growing industry.

Located on the Indochinese Peninsula in southeast Asia, Vietnam stretches south for 1,023 miles along the Gulf of Tongking and the South China Sea. Its shorelines offer visitors a taste of pristine beaches and luxurious resorts while its countryside resembles the solitude of a buddhist temple.

Although Vietnam is a country with many modern-day amenities, its origins can be dated 5000 years ago from a tribe in South China and a tribe from Indonesia. Together these tribes merged into the original Vietnamese people. They ruled their own destiny until the Chinese conquered the area in 207 BCE. However, in 939, Ngo Quyen led a peasant army who defeated the Chinese and Vietnam once again became an independent nation. Its independence would again be challenged during the arrival of the Europeans in 1535. By 1883, most of Indochina was colonized by France until Ho Chi Minh, a Vietnamese nationalist, led a revolt to win back independence in 1945. After France was finally defeated in 1954, Vietnam became a country divided between the north and south. This division caused a civil war which prompted American intervention. The conflict ended in 1975 when North Vietnamese Troops captured Saigon and renamed it Ho Chi Minh City after the "Father of Vietnamese Independence".

Today, Vietnam is rapidly progressing into the 21st century. With a population of 80 million people it has become the 13th most populated country in the world. Its growing and global economy places it among industry leaders in the production of rubber, tea, coffee, peppers, seafood and mining. Although adopting technological advances, Vietnam traditionally remains a culture rich in the teachings of Buddha and Confucius. While maintaining antiquities from the past, the Vietnamese people have persevered the onslaught of invading cultures. As an independent land it now welcomes the world not as invaders but as visitors who, like themselves, honor an enchanting land with an enduring heritage.

## Introduction & Geography of *Vietnam*

**Q & A:** For MORE geography SEE maps on pgs. 12-16

- 1) Q -On what peninsula is Vietnam located?  
A - Indochinese Peninsula
- 2) Q - Name the highest point in all of Vietnam?  
A - Fan Si Pan Mountain at 10,300 feet.
- 3) Q - Vietnam is divided into 3 distinct geographical regions. Name two of these regions?  
A - Bac Bo, Trung Bo, Nam Bo
- 4) Q - What large country is located along Vietnam's northern border?  
A- China
- 5) A - Name the two main bodies of water which stretch along Vietnam's 1,023 miles of coastline.  
Q - Gulf of Tongking, South China Sea

---

### **DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:**

- 1) Review with the class some of the important geographic locations of Vietnam on a large map.
- 2) Assign the students to create their own detailed maps on paper or a computer. Indicate on the map cities, mountains, famous sites, rivers, etc.

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### **VOCABULARY:**

**VIETNAM:** A country located in southeast Asia on the Indochinese Peninsula.

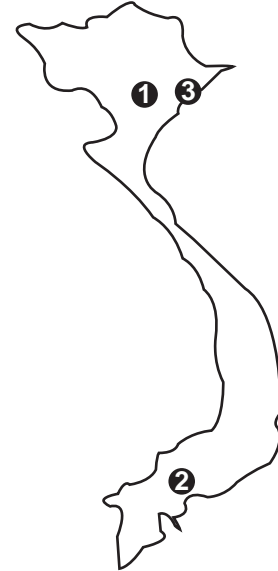
**FAN SI PAN MOUNTAIN:** The highest point in all of Vietnam at 10,300 feet.

**BAC BO / TRUNG BO / NAM BO:** The name given to the three distinct geographical regions in Vietnam.

**GULF OF TONGKING / SOUTH CHINA SEA:** The two main bodies of water which border Vietnam's 1,023 miles of coastline.

## Map #2 of *Vietnam*

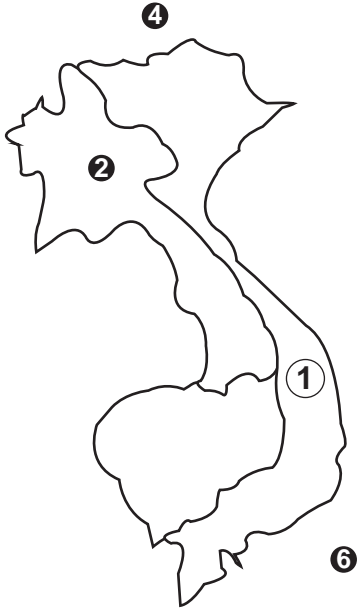
Study the Map & Its Significant Locations



- ❶ **HANOI:** The Capital City of Vietnam today. It has a population of 4 million people and is Vietnam's second largest city. It is also the home of the popular Buddhist shrine the One Pillar Pagoda.
- ❷ **HO CHI MINH CITY:** The name given to Saigon after North Vietnam controlled the area during the civil war with South Vietnam. Prior to its renaming Saigon was the capital city of South Vietnam. The renaming was to honor Ho Chi Minh the "Father of Vietnamese Independence."
- ❸ **HAIPHONG:** Vietnam's major port city and industrial center. Many of Vietnam's products are exported from this area.

## Map #1 of Vietnam

Study the map and locations on pgs. 12 & 13. Then on the solid black line write the name of the location. On a separate piece of paper write a brief description of each location



① \_\_\_\_\_

② \_\_\_\_\_

④ \_\_\_\_\_

⑥ \_\_\_\_\_

## Rivers, Climates, and Seasons of Vietnam

### Q & A:

- Q - Name the two main rivers located in Vietnam?  
A - Red River and Mekong River
- Q - Where are the headwaters of the Red River? Where are the headwaters of the Mekong River?  
A - China's Yunnan region / Himalaya Mountains of Tibet
- Q - During what months of the year is the dry season? During what months of the year is the wet season?  
A - From November to April / From May to October
- Q - What primary food is cultivated in Vietnam's Mekong Delta because of its ideal climate?  
A - Rice

---

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- Invite a meteorologist to explain the different climate experienced throughout Vietnam.
- Discuss the weather patterns which form during the wet and dry seasons in Vietnam. How is the weather in Vietnam the same or different from the area you live.

---

### VOCABULARY:

**RED RIVER:** A body of water flowing 500 miles from China's Yunnan region, then through Vietnam, before finally entering the Gulf of Tongking.

**MEKONG RIVER:** A body of water with headwaters located in the Himalaya Mountains which flows 2,700 miles before finally entering into the South China Sea.

**MONSOON:** A season of weather experienced in Vietnam during the months of May to October which produces high winds and heavy rainfall.

## Vietnamese Early History

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - Explain the origins of the Vietnamese?  
A - From a tribe migrating out of South China into the Red River Delta around 3,000 BCE who eventually merged with another tribe from Indonesia.
  - 2) Q- What did the Indonesians introduce to the tribe from South China?  
A- Agricultural techniques
  - 3) Q - What culture, in 500 BCE, established a kingdom in the southern part of Vietnam?  
A -The Sa Hyunh Culture
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Have the students research the origins of the Vietnamese people using a variety of resources; internet, library, museums etc.
  - 2) Discuss how early Vietnamese cultures lived. How were their homes built, what food did they eat and what clothes did they wear etc.
- 

### VOCABULARY:

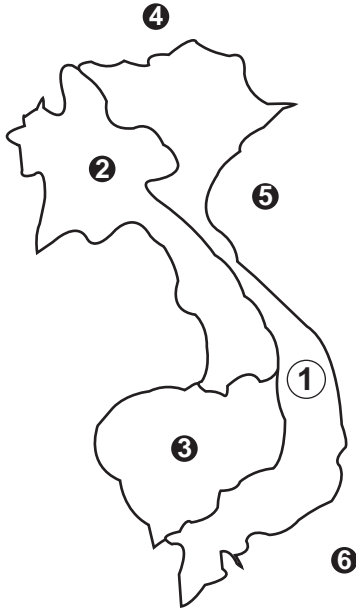
**SA HYNUNH CULTURE:** A culture which established a kingdom in the southern part of Vietnam in 500 BCE.

## Map #1 of *Vietnam*

Study the modern-day map on pg. 12 and its significant locations numbered 1-6. Then test your geography skills on pg. 14.

- ② LAOS: The country located along Vietnam's northwest border.
- ③ CAMBODIA: The country located along Vietnam's southwest border.
- ④ CHINA: The country located along Vietnam's northern border.
- ⑤ GULF OF TONGKING: The body of water located along Vietnam's eastern shore.
- ⑥ SOUTH CHINA SEA: The body of water located along Vietnam's southern shore.

## Map #1 of *Vietnam*



- ① **VIETNAM:** A country, with a land mass of 127,250 square miles, located in southeast Asia on the Indochinese Peninsula. Its widest point in the north is 372 miles across while its narrowest point in the center is 31 miles wide. With a population of 80 million people it has become the 13th most populated country in the world.

## The Chinese in Vietnam

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - What was the name given to an independent kingdom established by a Chinese warlord in 207 BCE?  
A - Nam Viet
- 2) Q - What does the word "Nam" mean? What does the word "Viet" mean?  
A - Chinese for South / Refers to the people who occupied the land before the Chinese warlord conquered it.
- 3) Q- How long did the Chinese rule Vietnam?  
A- 1000 years
- 4) Q- How did the Chinese change the Vietnamese culture?  
A- Method of writing, style of government, cultivation of silk, constructed harbors, encouraged foreign trade, promoted the teachings of Confucius and Buddha.
- 5) Q- Who led a peasant army in 939 which defeated the Chinese and declared Vietnam an independent nation?  
A- Ngo Quyen

---

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Discuss how the Chinese reformed the Vietnamese culture.

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### VOCABULARY:

**NGO QUYEN:** A person who led a peasant army in 939 which defeated the Chinese and re-established Vietnam as an independent nation.

## The Arrival of Europeans in Vietnam

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - Who were the first Europeans to arrive in Vietnam in 1535?  
A - The Portuguese
- 2) Q - By 1883 what European country controlled most of Indochina?  
A - France
- 3) Q- Who led a Vietnamese revolt which defeated the French and in 1945 declared Vietnam a democratic republic?  
A - Ho Chi Minh
- 4) Q- In 1954, the French tried to re-establish colonial rule. During what battle were the French finally defeated by the Vietnamese.  
A- The Battle of Dien Bien Phu

---

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Have the students write a brief biography about Ho Chi Minh the "Father of Vietnamese Independence".

---

### VOCABULARY:

**HO CHI MINH:** A young Vietnamese nationalist, who led a Vietnamese revolt which defeated the French and in 1945 declared Vietnam a democratic republic.

**BATTLE OF DIEN BIEN PHU:** A final fight won by the Vietnamese in 1954 against the French who tried to re-establish colonial rule.

## The People and Culture of Vietnam / Ho Chi Minh City

### Q & A :

- 1) Q -What teachings are used to promote family values in Vietnam?  
A - The teachings of Buddha and Confucius
- 2) Q - Where do the majority of Vietnamese live?  
A - In the cities
- 3) Q - What city is called the Paris of the Orient?  
A - Ho Chi Minh City formerly known as Saigon
- 4) Q - What is the largest city in Vietnam?  
A - Ho Chi Minh City formerly known as Saigon

---

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Discuss the popular teachings of Buddha and Confucius. Compare and contrast these teachings to those of other philosophical and religious traditions.
- 2) Discuss the status of women in Vietnamese culture and other cultures throughout the world.

---

### VOCABULARY:

**BUDDHA:** The founder of Buddhism who lived from 563-483 BCE. He taught through meditation and contemplation how one can achieve enlightenment.

**CONFUCIUS:** A philosopher who lived in China from 551-479 BCE. His teachings promote social harmony which embrace duty, loyalty, and sincerity.

**HO CHI MINH CITY:** The name given to Saigon after North Vietnam controlled the area during the civil war with South Vietnam. Prior to its renaming Saigon was the capital city of South Vietnam. The renaming was to honor Ho Chi Minh the "Father of Vietnamese Independence."

## The Vietnamese Economy

### Q & A :

- 1) Q-Name two products produced in Vietnam?  
A - Rubber, Rice, Tea, Coffee, Peppers, Seafood
  - 2) Q - Name two minerals found in Vietnam?  
A - Oil, Coal, Iron, Zinc, Tin and Gold
  - 3) Q- How is rubber harvested in Vietnam?  
A- From rubber trees planted in the south central part of the country.
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Vietnam manufactures many different products. Visit a manufacturing plant and experience how products move from the assembly line to your local merchandise store. How are products overseas exported to the United States?
  - 2) Discuss how products exported from Vietnam are used in the United States. Perhaps visit your local retail store and find items which have been imported from Vietnam.
- 

### VOCABULARY:

**HAIPONG:** A major port and industrial center located in the northern part of Vietnam.

**RUBBER:** A major product grown in Vietnam and exported throughout the world. It is harvested from trees planted in the south central part of Vietnam.

## Vietnam: War with America / Modern Vietnam

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - What name was given to the city of Saigon after the "War with America" ?  
A - Ho Chi Minh City after the "Father of Vietnamese Independence".
  - 2) Q - How many people live in Vietnam today?  
A - 80 million
  - 3) Q- What war began in Vietnam after the French War ended in 1954?  
A- A civil war between North Vietnam and South Vietnam which eventually led to American intervention.
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) After 1954 civil war began in Vietnam between the North and South. Discuss America's involvement with this war. How was this war perceived in America? How was it perceived in Vietnam? Discuss why America entered the war? Debate whether American involvement was or was not justified.
  - 2) Assign the students to research news articles written during the war. How did the American media portray the war? How did the press from other countries view the war?
- 

### VOCABULARY:

**HO CHI MINH CITY:** The name given to Saigon after North Vietnam controlled the area during the civil war with South Vietnam. Prior to its renaming Saigon was the capital city of South Vietnam. The renaming was to honor Ho Chi Minh the "Father of Vietnamese Independence."

## The Capital

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - What is the capital city of Vietnam today?  
A - Hanoi
  - 2) Q - Name the family dynasty who first declared Hanoi the capital city of Vietnam?  
A - The Lu Family
  - 3) Q- What popular buddhist shrine is located in Hanoi?  
A- One Pillar Pagoda
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Assign the students to locate Hanoi on a map. Then imagine you are a world traveler about to visit Vietnam. Research sites you would like to visit in Hanoi and throughout Vietnam.
  - 2) Cultural understanding is key toward creating a better world. Assign the students to exchange their cultural background with a Vietnamese American. Perhaps eat at a Vietnamese restaurant, interview a Vietnamese American immigrant, research authentic Vietnamese clothing, visit a buddhist temple, read about the teachings of Confucius and Buddha, listen to Vietnamese music, etc.
- 

### VOCABULARY:

**HANOI:** The capital city of Vietnam.

**ONE PILLAR PAGODA:** A popular buddhist shrine located in Hanoi.

## The Government of Vietnam

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - Name the three municipalities in Vietnam?  
A - Hanoi, Haiphong, Ho Chi Minh City
  - 2) Q - Who elects the 450 members of the Vietnamese National Assembly?  
A - The Vietnamese people also known as the popular vote.
  - 3) Q- Who elects the president and vice president?  
A- Members of the Vietnamese National Assembly
  - 4) Q-Name the one political party represented in Vietnam?  
A-The Vietnamese Communist Party
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Discuss how the Vietnamese government is different from the U.S. government? How is it the same?
  - 2) Discuss the different styles of government (Democracy, Oligarchy, Monarchy) represented throughout the world. Give examples of each style.
- 

### VOCABULARY:

**VIETNAMESE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:** 450 members who are elected by the Vietnamese people also known as the popular vote. As a one house legislature these officials elect the President and Vice President of Vietnam who each serve a 5 year term.