Introduction-Multiculturalism in Rock Springs

The map included in this activity is a modern map of Europe and Asia, the areas from which people, historically, immigrated to Rock Springs. This activity is meant to give students an idea of the parts of the world that the ethnic groups referred to in subsequent activities came from. Many borders in this region have changed several times since the early 20th century. Included below is a suggested list of areas you might ask your students to identify. You may choose to include some and not others depending on your students’ proficiency with map skills.

Regions/Countries discussed in the trunk:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>China</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Japan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>England</td>
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<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Croatia</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Basque Country**

The Basque Country is located in northern Spain and southern France and is home to a cultural group who considers itself neither Spanish, nor French. Despite lacking a politically recognized state, the Basque nationalism movement is generally strong.

**The Tyrol**

The Tyrol is located in the mountainous regions of northern Italy and southern Austria. Culturally, those in the north were more influenced by German and Austrian culture, while those in the south maintained a closer connection to Italian culture.
Regions not focused on in the trunk, but with historically significant immigrant populations in Rock Springs:

Greece, Serbia, Finland, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Wales, Korea

Yugoslavia

Many immigrants to Rock Springs identified themselves as Yugoslavs. The boundaries of this former country encompass present-day Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia.

Czechoslovakia

Some immigrants also identified themselves as being from Czechoslovakia. This country no longer exists, but included parts of present-day Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Ukraine.

Slovenian Grape Festival

An annual event, started in 1924 by Slovenian immigrants. Traditionally, the festival celebrated the grape harvest, although no grapes were actually grown in Rock Springs.
Introduction-Multiculturalism in Rock Springs

Preparation:

Teachers will need:

- To prepare to lead a class discussion about the early immigrant population in the area (background information provided)
- A world map
- The Eurasian map available on the museum’s website at http://www.sweetwatermuseum.org/index.php/learn/trunk-extras
  (This is optional if you have a Smartboard in your classroom.)

Students can participate in this activity with or without any background knowledge regarding the historic immigrants groups who lived in Rock Springs. Some knowledge of why people came to Rock Springs may be helpful, but can also be covered briefly during the lesson.
Introduction-Multiculturalism in Rock Springs

Level: 3rd Grade

Estimated Lesson Time: 20 minutes

Standards/Curriculum:

Social Studies
2. Cultures/Cultural Diversity  
   A. Students will identify cultural characteristics in our community.
4. Time/Continuity/Change (History)  
   A. Students will create a timeline of significant historical events in their community, country, and area.
5. People/Places/Environments (Geography)  
   A. Students will use the following to identify locations on a map:
      • Cardinal and intermediate directions
      • Map key
      • Symbols
   B. Students will identify the seven continents and four major oceans

Language Arts

Speaking and Listening
1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-on, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners of grade 3 topics and text, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
3. Ask and answer questions about information presented about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.

Learner Objectives:

1.) Students will know how and be able to locate a variety of countries and regions on a map.
2.) Students will know how and be able to identify ethnic groups present in historic Rock Springs.

Materials:

• Trunk Materials
   o Map
   o Photo albums ("International Night and Slovenian Grape Festival" and "Historic Rock Springs")
   o International Night Brochure
• World Map
Procedure:

- **Warm-up:** Discuss Rock Springs' nickname as "Home of 56 Nationalities" and why so many different people immigrated to Rock Springs, for example:
  - Mining
  - Railroad
  - To open businesses
- **Explain** that you're going to investigate where people who immigrated to Rock Springs came from.
  - Define the term "artifact" for students, as it will be used in subsequent lesson plans.
  - Show students pictures from photo albums, and the International Night brochure.
  - Using a world map, identify Europe and Asia.
  - Using the enlarged map of Europe and Asia, have students identify the different countries/regions from which people immigrated. (Suggested regions included in the lesson's teacher background).
  - Explain that Rock Springs is unique for the different groups that lived in the region and that they generally got along.
- **Wrap-up:** Ask students if they know anyone who immigrated to Rock Springs today/where their families are from/why they came.