

## A Wall for Peace? Jan Hertel

**Minnesota standard:** The student will give examples that demonstrate how people are connected to each other and the environment.

**Minnesota benchmark:** Students will identify current or historic conflicts and explain how those conflicts are/were influenced by geography.

**Topic:** City borders  
Walled Cities

**Grade level:** 6 – 8

**Overview:** Students learn about walls that have been built by people and their governments in the past. Students then compare their learning about past walls to the security wall being constructed by Israel today. Students apply the lessons of the past to this current wall and prepare a resolution about whether the construction of the wall should continue, and its potential impact on Middle East peace.

**Time:** 1 – 2 weeks of 45 minute per day class periods.

**Subjects:** World Geography

**Required Materials:** the webquest lesson, Called “A Wall for Peace?” which may be found at (click on the link below)

<http://mage.geog.macalester.edu/mngeog/MnCitiesLessons05/WallPeace.Hertel/WallPeaceWQ/index.htm>

Computers for student use (1 per group, or 1 per student)

**Optional Technologies:** Computer projection system

**Objectives:**

1. Students will research past and present cities impacted by walls.
2. Students will prepare a written resolution about a current wall.
3. Students will practice group collaboration skills to solve a real world problem.

**Suggested Procedures:** Students complete the online webquest. Teachers may introduce the topic of walls with the Robert Frost poem mentioned in the introduction to the webquest. It may also be helpful to discuss walls in general first. Why are they built? How are they the same or different than boundaries?

**Suggested Assessment:** Rubric included in the webquest

**Resources:** Internet access, printer, Geography textbook

**National Geography Standards:**

The geographically informed person knows and understands the process, patterns, and functions of human settlement.

The geographically informed person knows and how forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface.

**Supplemental web links, extensions, and credits:** found within the webquest