

6th Grade Ancient World History

- Early Humans /Agricultural Revolution-Mesopotamia
- Ancient Egypt & Kush
- Ancient Greeks & Their Civilization
- Ancient Rome – Republic, Empire & Civilization
- World Religions: Judaism, Rise of Christianity and Islam
- Immigration
- Aviation and World Wars

Theme: Early Humans/Mesopotamia & the Agricultural Revolution

Enduring Understandings:

1. People, places, and ideas change over time.
2. Cultures are held together by shared beliefs and common practices and values.

Essential Questions:

1. What is culture?
2. How do people adapt to their environment?
3. How does geography influence the way people live?
4. Why does conflict develop?

Historical Questions:

- What was life like during the Paleolithic Age?
- How did people adapt to survive during the ice ages?
- How did farming change people's lives?
- What was life like during the Neolithic Age?
- What characteristic did early civilizations share?
- Why did people settle in Mesopotamia?
- What was life like in Sumer?
- What inventions did the Sumerians pass on to other civilizations?
- How did Mesopotamia's first empires develop?
- How did the Assyrians influence Southwest Asia?
- Why was Babylon an important city in the ancient world?

Standards

Wisconsin State Social Studies Standards:

A. Geography: People, Places & Environments

8.1, 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 8.10

B. History: Time Continuity & Change

8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.8, 8.8, 8.12

D. Economics: Productions, Distribution, Exchange, Consumption

8.4, 8.7

E. Behavioral Sciences

8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.13

Common Core Standards for Technical Subjects

Reading: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10

Writing: 4, 6, 7, 9, 10

Theme: Ancient Egypt & Kush

Enduring Understandings:

1. People, places and ideas change over time.
2. Cultures are held together by shared beliefs and common practices and values.

Essential Questions:

1. How does geography influence the way people live
2. What makes a culture unique?
3. Why do civilizations rise and fall?

Historical Questions:

- Why was the Nile River important to the Egyptians?
- How did the ancient Egyptians depend on the Nile River to grow their crops?
- How did Egypt become united?
- How was Ancient Egypt governed?
- How was the pharaoh both a political and religious leader?
- Why and how were pyramids built?
- How was Egyptian society organized?
- Why was the Middle Kingdom a “golden age” for Egypt?
- Why was the New Kingdom a unique period in ancient Egypt’s history?
- How did two unusual pharaohs change ancient Egypt?
- Why did the Egyptian empire decline in the late 1200’s BC?
- How did Nubia and Egypt influence each other?
- Why did the kingdom of Kush prosper?

Standards

Wisconsin State Social Studies Standards:

A. Geography: People, Places & Environments

8.1, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 8.10

B. History: Time Continuity & Change

8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.8, 8.12

D. Economics: Productions, Distribution, Exchange, Consumption

8.4, 8.7

E. Behavioral Sciences

8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 8.12, 8.13

Common Core Standards for Technical Subjects

Reading: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Writing: 2 :(a, b, c, d, f) 4, 6, 7, 8, 9

Theme: Ancient Greeks & Their Civilization

Enduring Understandings:

1. People, places and ideas change over time.
2. The value that a society places on individual rights is often reflected in that society's government.
3. Countries have relationships with each other.
4. Leaders can bring about change in a society

Essential Questions:

1. How does geography influence the way people live?
2. Why do people form governments?
3. Why does conflict develop?
4. How do governments change?
5. What makes culture unique?
6. How do new ideas change the way people live?

Historical Questions:

- How did physical geography influence the lives of the early Greeks?
- How did the civilization of the Minoans develop?
- How did the Mycenaean people gain power in the Mediterranean?
- How did early Greeks spread their culture?
- How did Greek city-states create the idea of citizenship?
- Which type of governments did the Greek city-states have?
- Why did the Spartans focus on military skills?
- How did the culture in Athens differ from other Greek city-states?
- How did the Persians rule a vast empire but then get defeated by Greeks?
- How did Pericles influence government and culture in Athens?
- What was life like for Athenians under the rule of Pericles?
- How did the Peloponnesian War affect the Greek city-states?
- How did the ancient Greeks honor their gods?
- What ideas did the Greeks express in their art and architecture?
- What ideas did the Greeks develop to explain the world around them?
- What did the Greeks believe about history and science?
- Why did Macedonia become powerful and
- What were Alexander's goals as a ruler and how successful was he in achieving his goals?

- How did Greek culture spread during the Hellenistic Era and what ideas and discoveries emerged
- How did Greece fall under Roman rule?

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B. History: Time Continuity & Change

8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.5, 8.7, 8.8, 8.10, 8.12

D. Economics: Production, Distribution, Exchange, Consumption

8.7

E. Behavioral Sciences

8.2, 8.4, 8.6, 8.13

Common Core Standards for Technical Subjects

Reading: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Writing: 4, 6, 7, 8, 9

Theme: Ancient Rome - The Republic, Empire, & Civilization

Enduring Understandings:

1. People, places and ideas change over time.
2. Conflict can lead to change.
3. Leaders can bring about change in a society.

Essential Questions:

1. How does geography influence the way people live?
2. How do governments change?
3. Why does conflict develop?
4. What are the characteristics of a leader?
5. Why do civilizations rise and fall?
6. How does geography influence the way people live?

Historical Questions:

- What effect did geography have on the rise of Roman civilization?
- How did Rome become a great power?
- How did conflict between classes change Rome's government?
- How did Rome conquer the Mediterranean region?
- What factors led to the decline of the Roman Republic?
- How did Julius Caesar rise to power in Rome?
- How did Rome become an empire?
- How did Augustus create a new age of prosperity for Rome?
- How did the Roman Empire become rich and prosperous?
- What was daily life like for the Romans?
- How did the Greeks influence Roman culture?
- What problems led to Rome's decline?
- What effect did Germanic invaders have on the Roman Empire?
- What are the key achievements and contributions of Roman civilization?
- How did the Byzantine Empire become rich and powerful?

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8.1, 8.2, 8.5, 8.7, 8.8, 8.10, 8.12

C. Political Science and Citizenship: Power, Authority, Government, Responsibility

8.1, 8.3

Common Core Standards for Technical Subjects

Reading: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Writing: 4, 6, 7, 8, 9

Theme: World Religions: Judaism, the Rise of Christianity & Islamic Civilization

Enduring Understandings:

1. People, places, and ideas change over time.
2. Religion can influence a society's beliefs and values

Essential Questions:

1. What are the characteristics of a leader?
2. How do religions develop?
3. How do religions shape society?
4. How do new ideas change how people live?

Historical Questions:

- How did the Jews respond to Roman rule?
- Why were the life and death of Jesus of Nazareth important to his followers?
- How did early Christianity spread throughout the Roman Empire?
- How did Christianity change over time?
- How did early Christians organize their communities and explain their beliefs?
- What issues divided the western and eastern Christian churches?
- How did Christianity spread across Europe?
- How does Islam provide guidance to its followers?
- How did the Arabs spread Islam and create an empire?
- How did the Arab Empire change after the Umayyads?
- How did the Turks, Safavids, and Mongols rule their Empire?
- How did people live and trade in the Islamic world?
- What were the Muslim contributions to math, science, and the arts?

Standards

Wisconsin State Social Studies Standards:

A. Geography: People, Places & Environments
8.1, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 8.11

B. History: Time Continuity & Change
8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, 8.10, 8.12

C. Political Science and Citizenship: Power, Authority, Government, Responsibility
8.1, 8.3

E. Behavioral Sciences
8.1, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, 8.10, 8.11, 8.12, 8.13

Common Core Standards for Technical Subjects

Reading: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Writing: 4, 6, 7, 8, 9

Theme: Immigration

Enduring Understanding:

Immigration has shaped and defined the United States since its beginning and continues to be a major force in the United States economy and in political discussions.

Essential Questions:

1. Why did people immigrate to the United States?
2. What were the differences among immigrants?
3. Why is immigration important?
4. How has immigration changed?

Historical Questions:

- In what ways is the United States a “nation of immigrants”?
- How has immigration influenced the laws and social services we have in the United States today?
- What sorts of “Push” and “Pull” factors led immigrants to leave their home countries to live in the U.S?
- What is the Melting Pot philosophy?
- What role did immigrants play in the development of the United States?
- What reactions to immigration today have manifested themselves in public attitudes and in politics?

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B. History: Time Continuity & Change

8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 8.7, 8.10, 8.11, 8.12

C. Political Science and Citizenship: Power, Authority, Government, Responsibility

8.1, 8.2, 8.3

E. Behavioral Sciences

8.1, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 8.10, 8.11, 8.13, 8.14

Common Core Standards for Technical Subjects

Reading: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Writing: 2: (a, b, c, d, f) 4, 6, 7, 8, 9

Theme: World Wars and the Impact of Flight

Enduring Understanding:

What causes conflict?

Essential Questions:

1. What are the causes and effect of WWI & II and why did the U.S. intervene?
2. How did technology change how we fight wars?

Historical Questions:

- Who played a part in the invention of flight?
- What role did flight have in war?
- WWI - Who fought? Why? Who Won? U.S. involvement? Outcomes?
- What sorts of weapons were used?
- How did flight advance during the time between WWI & II?
- WWII - Who fought? Why? Who Won? U.S. involvement? Outcomes?
- How was WWII fought? (New weapons, particularly the use of the airplane)
- What was D-day?
- What role did women have in WWII?
- What was the Holocaust? How was it caused?
- How did it lead to the creation of Israel?
- How was an airplane used to deliver nuclear bomb.

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C. Political Science and Citizenship: Power, Authority, Government, Responsibility

8.1

D. Economics: Productions, Distribution, Exchange, Consumption

8.1, 8.7

E. Behavioral Sciences

8.1, 8.3, 8.5, 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 8.10, 8.11, 8.13, 8.14

Common Core Standards for Technical Subjects

Reading: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Writing: 4, 6, 7, 8, 9