

Grade Six Social Studies

Big Ideas and Essential Questions

BIG IDEA	Essential Question
There are many stories that define our past and impact our future.	How do you know something is true?
Throughout History Human Beings create structures to support their way of life, these structures impact us still today.	Do we really need government and religion in our lives?
Geography impacts the way people live.	How does where you live determine how you live?
The development of technology consistently advances our civilization.	Does technology always make life better?
Human beings that are able to adapt, thrive!	Why do civilizations rise and fall?
Mindset impacts performance.	What are the characteristics of a successful mindset?

UNIT I:

Studying History, Geography, Culture & Mindset

Unit EQ's

- How does culture affect the way we live?
- How does geography impact how people live?
- How do scientists make sense of the past?
- How does your mindset impact your performance?

K(now)	U(nderstand)	D(o)
Archeology & Artifacts Using Timelines BCE vs.C.E. (BC, AD) Prehistory vs. History Primary & Secondary Sources Making inferences.	The earth is millions of years old and humans are just a very small part of that existence. Prehistory is the majority of that time, when we did not have record keeping or writing. We need to use many different sources to support our arguments about the past, present, and future.	Students will practice reading and interpreting a timeline of human history. Students will participate in an archeological dig - make inferences about how people lived based on the artifacts. - Prove this is a civilization - write a paragraph to their boss! Students will receive and identify a variety of primary and secondary sources. They will draw conclusions based on the sources they are reviewing.

<p>5 Themes of Geography Impact of geography on people Location</p> <p>Continents Oceans Major Nations</p>	<p>Geography impacts peoples lives in many ways.</p>	<p>Students will participate in a scavenger hunt in the school. They will make maps of the school and practice identifying points on that map.</p> <p>Students will practice map skills and be able to take a quiz identifying continents, oceans, and major nations of the world.</p> <p>Students will identify 5 themes of geography by looking at those themes through the lens of different locations on Earth.</p>
<p>Culture Traditions & Holidays Religions Foods, clothing Social Activities Music & Art Language & Literature</p> <p>Survey of current world cultures</p> <p>Cultural Diffusion</p>	<p>Culture is a way of life. There are thousands of cultures in our world today, all with deep histories and experiences that impact who we are and how we interact with others.</p> <p>While cultures vary greatly, human beings of all shapes and sizes are made up of the same DNA code.</p> <p>As cultures mix, it results in new cultures and experiences.</p>	<p>Students will be able to demonstrate that they understand culture by researching different world cultures, learning about their</p> <p>A Poster A Powerpoint Presentation An Essay</p> <p>Also - students will take a quiz about world cultures</p>
<p>Mindset Growth Mindset Perseverance Attitude</p>	<p>I am in control of my own learning and success.</p> <p>My actions, effort, mindset,</p>	<p>Students self assess themselves as learners.</p> <p>Students will create goal</p>

<p>Effort Open Minded Creativity & Innovation</p>	<p>and attitude impact my performance and the relationships I have with others.</p> <p>These same characteristics impacted the success of people, civilizations, and cultures throughout history.</p>	<p>sheets to aim for growth</p> <p>Students will consistently reflect on their progress.</p> <p>Students will create a collaboration rubric with their teachers, identifying high quality collaboration. They will use this to self reflect and assess their partners throughout the year.</p>
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Unit II:

Prehistory with Early Humans

Unit EQ's

- How do people adapt to their environment?
- How did farming change people's lives?

K(now)	U(nderstand)	D(o)
Paleolithic Period Hunters/Gatherers Nomads Development of fire, tools, etc	Began 2.5 million years ago, lasted until 8,000BC People migrated Little advancement in technology Fire changed their lives	Students will receive and identify a variety of primary and secondary sources. They will draw conclusions based on the sources they are reviewing. Such as: Cave paintings Examine artifacts Students will create their own cave art
Neolithic Age Agricultural Revolution Domestication Permanent Homes Job Specialization	Began 8,000 BC with the domestication of crops and animals. Food surplus	Compare and contrast Paleolithic and Neolithic Ages. Understand the advancements of the Neolithic Age Analyze the impact of the Agricultural Revolution through reading, pictures, video clips Journal entries through the eyes of a Neolithic person

<p>Technological Advancements</p>	<p>Tools, weapons etc... advanced the lives of people in the Neolithic Age</p> <p>Permanent homes would lead to the development of civilizations</p>	<p>Compare and contrast Paleolithic and Neolithic Ages.</p>
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Unit III:
The Rise of Early Civilizations: Mesopotamia,
Egypt, India, & China

Unit EQ's

- How does geography influence the way people live?
 - How did the first Civilizations develop?
- What characteristics did early Civilizations share?

K(now)	U(nderstand)	D(o)
<p>What makes a Civilization?</p> <p>Why did Civilizations start in river valleys?</p> <p>What are the many aspects of a Civilization?</p>	<p>Mesopotamia Egypt India China</p> <p>A common thread is weaved through the early civilizations</p>	<p>Students will do primary source research to create a newspaper article that detail aspects of each of the early civilizations</p> <p>Agriculture was key to the development of civilizations.</p> <p>Water sources/river valleys were both a giver and taker.</p>
<p>What were the cultural aspects of the early Civilizations?</p>	<p>How each early civilization developed unique cultural characteristics</p>	<p>Students will be able to demonstrate that they understand early civilizations by researching early examples of writing, laws, architecture, social structure and religions.</p>
<p>Cultural contributions of the early empires</p>	<p>Each of the early civilizations contributed to the development of technologies and knowledge that is still relevant today</p>	<p>Investigate where and how technology of today was influenced by the contributions of the early civilizations</p>