

NCS 6th grade SOCIAL STUDIES Curriculum - Adopted & Approved October 2017

Pacing Guide

Dates	Unit 1 - approx 28 days	Unit 2 - approx 27 days
BIG IDEAS	<p>Early Humans &amp; Societies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Beginning Years</li> </ul>	<p>Mesopotamia, Kush &amp; Egypt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First civilizations grew up in river valleys in Asia and Africa</li> </ul>
ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is this important?</li> <li>• How does geography effect cultures?</li> <li>• How does religion and art effect people?</li> <li>• What does it mean to rule?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of living near a river valley?</li> <li>• How did Tigris and Euphrates support the growth of civilization?</li> <li>• Why was the Fertile Crescent an ideal place for the world's first civilization to develop?</li> <li>• Why was the Nile River so important to the Ancient Egyptians?</li> <li>• What was the daily life like for the Egyptians?</li> <li>• What were the religious beliefs of the Egyptians?</li> <li>• What ws unique about the Egyptian style of painting?</li> <li>• Why was the Middle Kingdon such a prosperous period for Egypt?</li> <li>• Who were the major pharaohs of Egypt and what were their accomplishments?</li> <li>• What impact did Nubia and Kush have on Ancient Egypt?</li> <li>• How does geography influence the growth of a civilization?</li> <li>• How does what we believe influence how we behave?</li> <li>• What makes a great leader?</li> <li>• How do innovations change how we live?</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How did nomadic groups progress to the sedentary lifestyle?</li> <li>● What are the characteristics of a civilization? Is this always true?</li> <li>● How did the domestication of plants and animals encourage the rise of agricultural villages?</li> <li>● How did geography affect the development of river valley civilizations?</li> <li>● What are the major achievements of early river valley civilizations?</li> <li>● How did Hammurabi's law code differ from that of the Hebrews? How does it compare to modern day law?</li> <li>● How did large, well-organized empires develop and change over time?</li> <li>● What theories are given to explain the collapse of some early river valley civilizations (e.g. Indus)?</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;">NJSL STANDARDS</p>	<p><a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/cccs/2020/2020%20NJSL-SS.pdf">https://www.nj.gov/education/cccs/2020/2020%20NJSL-SS.pdf</a></p>	<p>6.2.8.1, 6.2.8.B</p>

**Amistad supplemental resources - used throughout middle school years**

<http://www.njamistadcurriculum.net/>

<https://www.nj.gov/education/amistad/>

<https://sites.rowan.edu/sjicr/centers-programs/multicultural/Initiatives/amistad.html>

<https://www.amistadresource.org/about.html>

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Dates	Unit 3	Unit 4
BIG IDEAS	<p>Civilizations in India &amp; China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indian civilization developed in the Indus River Valley. The Harpian civilization was followed by the Aryans. As Aryan society became more complex, it divided into strict groups. This class system became an integral part of Indian society. Two major religions, Hinduism and Buddhism, developed in India. Two great empires also emerged. The Mauryan and Gupta empires united much of India. During these empires, Indians made great advances in the arts and sciences. Chinese civilization also developed along rivers.</li> </ul>	<p>Foundations of Western Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Hebrew people appeared in Southwest Asia sometime between 2000 and 1500 BCE. The Hebrews eventually established a kingdom called Israel. The lives of the Hebrews were dominated by their religion, Judaism. In time, the Hebrews became known as Jews. Conquered by different groups, Jews scattered around the world. Their shared beliefs and customs helped them maintain their religion and sense of identity.</li> <li>The geography of Greece shaped life there. Greece is a mountainous land surrounded by water. Travel across the mountains was difficult. As a result, Greeks turned to the sea for trade. They also developed independent city-states. The city state became the foundation of Greek civilization. The ancient Greeks made lasting contributions. They created the first democracy as well as myths and literature that still influence life today.</li> <li>The powerful Greek city-states of Athens and Sparta were very different. They joined forces to defeat a Persian invasion, but later became enemies and went to war. The Spartans defeated the Athenians in 404 BCE. Lack of unity among the city-states helped Macedonia conquer Greece in the 300s BCE. Macedonian Alexander the Great built a large empire across much of Europe, Asia, and Egypt. The ancient Greeks' lasting contributions include achievements in the arts, philosophy, and science.</li> </ul>

## ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Have human needs changed over time?
- To what extent does our natural environment shape human life?
- Can the Ancient World be a blueprint for today's world?
- Are there general lessons to be learned from history?
- What causes societies to change over time?
- Why is there political and social conflict?
- How much influence do individuals have in changing history?
- How can multiple historical sources be used to investigate a historical question and to formulate and defend a thesis with evidence?
- Which historical eras, individuals, groups, ideas and themes in regions of the Eastern Hemisphere are important?
- Which regional issues and perspectives in the Eastern Hemisphere are important?
- How does the distribution of resources influence economic production and individual choice?
- How do various nations define the rights, responsibilities, and roles of citizens?
- How do different forms of government and international organizations influence the world community?

- From whose point of view is this history being told? What are the voices we are hearing and not hearing?
- How credible is the source?
- What were the religious beliefs of the Greeks?
- What was the purpose of the Greek fables and stories?
- What impact did Greek drama have on entertainment today?
- How did the geography of Greece impact life in Ancient Greece?
- Why did Persia attack Greece and what was the result?
- How did the democracy of Athens compare to our democracy today?

<b>NJSLS STANDARDS</b>	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/cccs/2020/2020%20NJSLS-SS.pdf">https://www.nj.gov/education/cccs/2020/2020%20NJSLS-SS.pdf</a>	
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<b>Dates</b>	<b>Unit 5</b>	<b>Unit 6</b>
<b>BIG IDEAS</b>	<p>The Roman World</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rome's location and climate helped it to become a major world power. In 509 BCE, Roman nobles overthrew the monarchy and established a new form of government called a republic. From a small town in Italy, Rome grew to become the center of one of the world's greatest empires. Like the Greeks, whom they admired, the Roman had a lasting influence on world history.</li> <li>• The legacy of Rome was great. The Romans made many huge advances in engineering and architecture, and they developed advanced systems of written laws and government. In the first century AD, a new religion called Christianity appeared and spread throughout the empire.</li> <li>• The unit will focus on the rise of Rome, the growth and spread of Christianity, and the ultimate division and decline of one of the world's greatest empires.</li> </ul>	<p>Islamic and African Civilizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the 600s a prophet named Muhammad introduced the religion of Islam to the people of Southwest Asia. One hundred years later, Islam had spread throughout the region, across North Africa, and into parts of Europe. Later, Islam spread into West Africa, the home of rich and vibrant trading kingdoms.</li> <li>• In this unit, you will learn about the rise and spread of Islam and the kingdoms of West Africa into which it spread.</li> </ul>

## ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- How did Rome's location and government helped it become a major power in the ancient world?
  - How was the development of the Roman Empire influenced by geography? How does this compare to the experiences of the Greeks?
  - How did the social structure of Rome change as it evolved from the republic to the empire?
  - What similarities exist between the government and legal system of the ancient Roman Republic and the modern United States?
  - How did the creation of the Empire transform the Roman government, society, economy and culture?
  - What achievements did the Romans make in the fields of literature, philosophy, history, art, architecture, technology and science?
  - Why were Christian teachings seen as being at odds with Roman values and religious ideas?
  - Why did Western Roman civilization eventually collapse and how did greed influence this?
  - How has ancient Roman culture influenced later civilizations?
- How does geography influence the growth of a civilization?
  - How did technological developments change lifestyles?
  - How did the mass migrations of people contribute to the development of civilization?

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