

CARTERVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM
GRADE 6
Revised 2008

FIRST NINE WEEKS

- Improve geography skills by integrating the Daily Geography resource into the curriculum.
- Identify and apply the five themes of geography.
- Recognize and read different types of maps.
- Identify the major aspects of the physical geography of a country or state.
- Describe the relationships between people and geography.
- Recognize, understand, and use key geographical terms.
- Describe how early humans adapted to their environment.
- Explain how surpluses and labor specialization allowed complex villages to develop and how humans' lives changes as a result.
- Describe how the geography of Mesopotamia influenced where people settled and how they lived.
- Explain how a complex way of life, civilization, developed in Sumer.
- Describe how several successive great empires rose and fell in Mesopotamia and lands to the east.
- Identify benefits of the Nile River for the ancient Egyptians.
- Summarize how the prosperity of Egypt encouraged advances in the arts, religion, mathematics, and the sciences.

SECOND NINE WEEKS

- Improve geography skills by integrating the Daily Geography resource into the curriculum.
- Investigate how Egyptians put their advances to use in building powerful societies during the Old and Middle Kingdoms.
- Describe how the New Kingdom was another period of advancement for Egypt.
- Examine the complex civilization that developed in ancient India, which produced a sophisticated urban life as well as a rich culture.
- Identify the major influences of India that can be seen around the world today in religion, art, and mathematics.
- Describe how natural barriers isolated China's fertile river valleys from the rest of Asia.
- Identify which Chinese innovations are still used in the modern world.
- Explain how the geography of Greece led to sea travel and trade, which helped to influence Greek culture,
- Identify the gods ancient Greeks honored and describe how they developed their own literature.
- Describe how the growth of city-states in Greece led to the development of different political systems, including democracy.
- Compare and contrast the two city-states, Sparta and Athens.
- Explain how the Persian Wars led to Greek unification.

THIRD NINE WEEKS

- Improve geography skills by integrating the Daily Geography resource into the curriculum.
- Explain how the leadership of Pericles, made Athens the leading city-state of ancient Greece.
- Summarize the Peloponnesian War between Sparta and Athens.
- Explain how Phillip II of Macedonia conquered Greece and Alexander the Great built a huge empire, spreading Greek culture across parts of Europe and Asia.
- Describe the legacies of the Greek civilization.
- Describe how Rome grew from a city into a country and then into a republic.
- Trace the events that led to the overthrow of the Roman Republic.
- Describe the influence of Julius Caesar and Augustus on the transition from republic to empire.
- Explain how the daily lives of Romans evolved around family, religion, social class, sports, and public entertainment.
- Describe the spread of Christianity.
- Identify the causes and effect relationships in the decline of the Roman Empire.
- Compare the two empires into which the Roman Empire divided.

FOURTH NINE WEEKS

- Improve geography skills by integrating the Daily Geography resource into the curriculum.
- Identify legacies of the Roman Empire.
- Describe feudalism and life under it.
- Explain why the Roman Catholic Church was one of the most powerful organizations to emerge from the Middle Ages.
- Describe how disease and warfare brought sorrow and chaos to much of Europe after 1300 AD.
- Identify major events in the evolution law and government during the Middle Ages.
- Define humanism as it applies to the Italian Renaissance.
- Describe advances made by the Italian Renaissance artists, writers, and scientists.
- Examine how the printing press helped expand the Renaissance to northern Europe.
- Summarize how Martin Luther challenged the Catholic Church and started a period called the Reformation.
- Trace the split of Christianity into several branches.
- Explain how protestant churches that practiced self-government set a pattern for democracy and federalism.