Belvidere Cluster Wide
Social Studies Curriculum
7th Grade
Updated November, 2018

All Belvidere Cluster curriculum and instruction areas are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) in accordance with the NJ Department of Education’s curriculum implementation requirements.

**Interdisciplinary Connections**
- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science/Next Generation
- Technology
- Visual and Performing Arts

Technology Standards and Integration
- iPads/Chromebooks
- Online resources
- Interactive SmartBoard activities

**NJSLA Technology**
- 8.1.2.A.2
  Create a document using a word processing application.
- 8.1.2.A.4
  Demonstrate developmentally appropriate navigation skills in virtual environments (i.e. games, museums).
- 8.1.P.B.1
  Create a story about a picture taken by the student on a digital camera or mobile device.
- 8.1.P.C.1
  Collaborate with peers by participating in interactive digital games or activities.
- 8.1.2.E.1
  Use digital tools and online resources to explore a problem or issue.

**CAREER EDUCATION**
(NJDOE CTE Clusters)
- Education & Training
- Finance
- Information Technology
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)

**21st Century Skills/ Themes**
- Global Awareness
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Civic Literacy
- Health Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical Thinking
- Problem Solving
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Information Literacy
- Media Literacy
- ICT (Information, Communication and Technology) Literacy
CRP1. Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP2. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP3. Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
CRP4. Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP5. Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP6. Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP7. Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP8. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP9. Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP10. Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP11. Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP12. Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

**Reading and Writing Companion Standards**

RH.6-8.1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
RH.6-8.2. Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
RH.6-8.3. Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered).
RH.6-8.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
RH.6-8.5. Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally).
RH.6-8.6. Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).
RH.6-8.7. Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
RH.6-8.8. Distinguish among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text.
RH.6-8.9. Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.
RH.6-8.10. By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

WHST.6-8.1. Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.
   A. Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue, acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
   B. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.
   C. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
   D. Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.
   E. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

WHST.6-8.2. Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
   A. Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information using text structures (e.g. definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g. headings, graphics, and multimedia) when useful to aiding comprehension.
   B. Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
   C. Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
   D. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
   E. Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.
   F. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.

WHST.6-8.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
WHST.6-8.5. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.

WHST.6-8.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.

WHST.6-8.7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.

WHST.6-8.8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

WHST.6-8.9. Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

WHST.6-8.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

### Integrated Accommodations and Modifications

**Special Education**
- Printed copy of board work/notes provided
- Additional time for skill mastery
- Assistive technology
- Behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- Check work frequently for understanding
- Computer or electronic device utilization
- Extended time on tests/ quizzes
- Have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- Highlighted text visual presentation
- Modified assignment format
- Modified test content
- Modified test format
- Modified test length
- Multiple test sessions
- Multi-sensory presentation
- Preferential seating
- Preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- Secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- Shortened assignments
- Student working with an assigned partner
- Teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Varied supplemental materials

**ELL**
- Allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- Teaching key aspects of a topic Eliminate nonessential information Using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slideshows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- Allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- Allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- Decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- Having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher’s notes
- Modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- Providing study guides
- Reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- Tutoring by peers
- Explain/clarify key vocabulary terms

**At Risk**
- Allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- Teaching key aspects of a topic Eliminate nonessential information allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slideshows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student’s learning
- Allowing students to select from given choices
- Allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- Collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test
- Decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- Having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher’s notes
- Marking students’ correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- Modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- Providing study guides
- Reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- Tutoring by peers
- Using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- Using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- Using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Varied supplemental materials

**Gifted and Talented**
- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Independent research and projects Interest groups for real world application
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Multiple intelligence options
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products

**504**
- Printed copy of board work/notes provided
- Additional time for skill mastery
- Assistive technology
- Behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- Check work frequently for understanding
- Computer or electronic device utilization
- Extended time on tests/ quizzes
- Have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- Highlighted text visual presentation
- Modified assignment format
- Modified test content
- Modified test format
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- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Varied supplemental materials
Seventh Grade Unit #1, Social Studies, Classical Civilizations- Rome

Enduring Understanding

Rome, considered a classical civilization, developed and expanded into an empire of unprecedented size and diversity. By creating a centralized government and promoting commerce, a common culture, and social values, it became a major force in the Mediterranean. Cultural exchange and diffusion dramatically increased, and enduring world religions emerged, during the era of classical civilizations. Though it declined as a result of internal weaknesses and external invasions, Rome left a lasting legacy.

Essential Questions

1. How did the geographic features of Rome contribute to its growth and development.
2. How did the Roman form of government influence society (economic, cultural, religious, political)?
3. How has Rome impacted present society?

NJ Student Learning Standards

SOC.6.2.8.A.3.a
Compare and contrast the methods (i.e., autocratic rule, philosophies, and bureaucratic structures) used by the rulers of Rome, China, and India to control and unify their expanding empires.

SOC.6.2.8.D.3.d
Compare and contrast the tenets of various world religions that developed in or around this time period (i.e., Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, and Taoism), their patterns of expansion, and their responses to the current challenges of globalization.

SOC.6.2.8.D.3.a
Compare and contrast social hierarchies in classical civilizations as they relate to power, wealth, and equality.

SOC.6.2.8.D.3.b
Determine common factors that contributed to the decline and fall of the Roman Empire, Gupta India, and Han China.

SOC.6.2.8.B.3.a
Determine how geography and the availability of natural resources influenced the development of the political, economic, and cultural systems of each of the classical civilizations and provided motivation for expansion.

SOC.6.2.8.C.3.a
Analyze the impact of expanding land and sea trade routes as well as a uniform system of exchange in the Mediterranean World and Asia.

SOC.6.2.8.D.3.e
Determine the extent to which religion, economic issues, and conflict shaped the values and decisions of the classical civilizations.

SOC.6.2.8.A.3.e
Compare and contrast the American legal system with the legal systems of classical civilizations, and determine the extent to which these early systems influenced our current legal system.

SOC.6.2.8.C.3.b
Explain how classical civilizations used technology and innovation to enhance agricultural/manufacturing output and commerce, to expand military capabilities, to improve life in urban areas, and to allow for greater division of labor.

SOC.6.2.8.A.3.c
Determine the foundational concepts and principles of Athenian democracy and the Roman Republic that later influenced the development of the United States Constitution.

SOC.6.2.8.A.3.b
Compare and contrast the rights and responsibilities of free men, women, slaves, and foreigners in the political, economic, and social structures of classical civilizations.

SOC.6.2.8.D.3.c
Evaluate the importance and enduring legacy of the major achievements of Greece, Rome, India, and China over time.

SOC.6.2.8.A.3.d
Compare the status (i.e., political, economic, and social) of groups in the Ancient World to those of people today and evaluate how individuals perceived the principles of liberty and equality then and now.

SOC.6.2.8.B.3.b
Explain how geography and the availability of natural resources led to both the development of Greek city-states and to their decline.

SOC.6.3.8
All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.

Instructional Activities
1. Interactive Map Activities: Explore the growth of the Roman Empire from the Republic to its fall
2. Modern Geography: Explore the modern day countries that were once part of the Roman Empire
3. Travel Brochure: Create an Ancient Rome travel brochure of the various regions controled by Rome
4. Emporers' Biography: Select an emperor to research and present

Interdisciplinary Connections

Language Arts / Math: Roman Numerals; Compare and contrast common numbers and Roman numerals
Art: Roman-style art sculpture and architecture
Science: Explore volcanic eruptions; Pompeii, concrete

Assessment:

Formative Assessment:

A-B-C Summaries: Each student in the class is assigned a different letter of the alphabet and they must select a word starting with that letter that is related to the topic being studied.
Debriefing: A form of reflection immediately following an activity.
Idea Spinner: The teacher creates a spinner marked into 4 quadrants and labeled “Predict, Explain, Summarize, Evaluate.” After new material is presented, the teacher spins the spinner and if the spinner lands in the “Summarize” quadrant, the teacher might say, “List the key concepts just presented.”
Inside-Outside Circle: Inside and outside circles of students face each other. Within each pair of facing students, students quiz each other with questions they have written. Outside circle moves to create new

Reader’s Theater:
Exit Card: Exit cards are written student responses to questions posed at the end of a class or learning activity or at the end of a day.
Portfolio Check: Check the progress of a student’s portfolio. A portfolio is a purposeful collection of significant work, carefully selected, dated and presented to tell the story of a student’s achievement or growth in well-defined areas of performance, such as reading, writing, math, etc. A portfolio usually includes personal reflections where the student explains why each piece was chosen and what it shows about his/her growing skills and abilities.
Quiz: Quizzes assess students for factual information, concepts and discrete skill. There is usually a single best answer.
Journal Entry: Students record in a journal their understanding of the topic, concept or lesson taught. The teacher reviews the entry to see if the student has gained an understanding of the topic, lesson or concept that was taught.
Choral Response: In response to a cue, all students respond verbally at the same time. The response can be either to answer a question or to repeat something the teacher has said.

Misconception Check: Present students with common or predictable misconceptions about a designated concept, principle, or process. Ask them whether they agree or disagree and explain why. The misconception check can also be presented in the form of a multiple-choice or true-false quiz.
Student Conference: One on one conversation with students to check their level of understanding.
3-Minute Pause: The Three-Minute Pause provides a chance for students to stop, reflect on the concepts and ideas that have just been introduced, make connections to prior knowledge or experience, and seek clarification.
Observation: Walk around the classroom and observe students as they work to check for learning.
Self-Assessment: A process in which students collect information about their own learning, analyze what it reveals about their progress toward the intended learning goals and plan the next steps in their learning.

Index Card/Summaries/Questions: Periodically, distribute index cards and ask students to write on both sides, with these instructions: (Side 1) Based on our study of (unit topic), list a big idea that you understand and word it as a summary statement. (Side 2) Identify something about (unit topic) that you do not yet fully understand and word it as a statement or question.

Hand Signals: Ask students to display a designated hand signal to indicate their understanding of a specific concept, principal, or process: - I understand ______________ and can explain it (e.g., thumbs up). - I do not yet understand ______________ (e.g., thumbs down). - I’m not completely sure about ______________ (e.g., wave hand).
**One Minute Essay:** A one-minute essay question (or one-minute question) is a focused question with a specific goal that can, in fact, be answered within a minute or two.

**Analogy Prompt:** Present students with an analogy prompt: (A designated concept, principle, or process) is like ______________ because ________________________________.

**Web or Concept Map:** Any of several forms of graphical organizers which allow learners to perceive relationships between concepts through diagramming key words representing those concepts. [http://www.graphic.org/concept.html](http://www.graphic.org/concept.html)

**Benchmark:**
ELA Research based benchmark

**Summative:**
End-of-marking period Assessment/ Performance Task
Unit Test
Culminating Learning Project
End-of-year Assessment

**Alternative:**
Portfolio
Living History Museum
Conferences
Concept Map
Demonstration Station

**Texts and Resources**

World: Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw Hill
World History: Ancient Civilizations, Holt
[http://rome.mrdonn.org/index.html](http://rome.mrdonn.org/index.html)
[http://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/ancient-rome](http://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/ancient-rome)
[https://app.discoveryeducation.com/learn/search?q=ancient%20rome](https://app.discoveryeducation.com/learn/search?q=ancient%20rome)
Unit #2, Social Studies, Classical India and China

Content Area: Social Studies
Course(s): Social Studies
Time Period: November
Length: 40 days
Status: Published

Enduring Understanding

Due to the Greek and Roman empires opening up the world to the influences of Indian and Chinese empires, people were influenced by new ideas in religion and philosophies. The expansion of trade routes allowed the world to experience natural resources and product developed in the near and far East.

Essential Questions

1. How did the geography and natural resources impact the growth and development of India and China?
2. How has religion impacted the specific regions and the broader world?

NJ Student Learning Standards

SOC.6.2.8.A.3.a Compare and contrast the methods (i.e., autocratic rule, philosophies, and bureaucratic structures) used by rulers of Rome, China, and India to control and unify their expanding empires.
SOC.6.2.8.D.3.d Compare and contrast the tenets of various world religions that developed in or around this time period (i.e., Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, and Taoism), their patterns of expansion, and their responses to the current challenges of globalization.
SOC.6.2.8.D.3.b Determine common factors that contributed to the decline and fall of the Roman Empire, Gupta India, and Han China.
SOC.6.2.8.B.3.a Determine how geography and the availability of natural resources influenced the development of the political, economic, and cultural systems of each of the classical civilizations and provided motivation for expansion.
SOC.6.2.8.C.3.a Analyze the impact of expanding land and sea trade routes as well as a uniform system of exchange in the Mediterranean World and Asia.
SOC.6.2.8.B.4.b Assess how maritime and overland trade routes (i.e., the African caravan and Silk Road) impacted urbanization, transportation, communication, and the development of international trade centers.
SOC.6.2.8.D.4.e Analyze the immediate and long-term impact on China and Europe of the open exchange between Europe and the Yuan (Mongol) Dynasty.
SOC.6.2.8.D.3.c Evaluate the importance and enduring legacy of the major achievements of Greece, Rome, India, and China over time.
SOC.6.3.8 All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.

Instructional Activities

1. Interactive map activities: Explore the creation of trade routes from the near East, India and China
2. The Silk Road: Explore the various routes and their impact on economy, politics, and society

Interdisciplinary Connections

Language Arts: Research and present on the various products traded between Europe and India and China
Art / Technology: Explore and create various styles of religious art; Hinduism, Buddhism, classical mythology
Assessment:

Formative Assessment:
A-B-C Summaries: Each student in the class is assigned a different letter of the alphabet and they must select a word starting with that letter that is related to the topic being studied.

Debriefing: A form of reflection immediately following an activity.

Idea Spinner: The teacher creates a spinner marked into 4 quadrants and labeled “Predict, Explain, Summarize, Evaluate.” After new material is presented, the teacher spins the spinner and if the spinner lands in the “Summarize” quadrant, the teacher might say, “List the key concepts just presented.”

Inside-Out Circle: Inside and outside circles of students face each other. Within each pair of facing students, students quiz each other with questions they have written. Outside circle moves to create new pairs.

Reader’s Theater:

Exit Card: Exit cards are written student responses to questions posed at the end of a class or learning activity or at the end of a day.

Portfolio Check: Check the progress of a student’s portfolio. A portfolio is a purposeful collection of significant work, carefully selected, dated and presented to tell the story of a student’s achievement or growth in well-defined areas of performance, such as reading, writing, math, etc. A portfolio usually includes personal reflections where the student explains why each piece was chosen and what it shows about his/her growing skills and abilities.

Quiz: Quizzes assess students for factual information, concepts and discrete skill. There is usually a single best answer.

Journal Entry: Students record in a journal their understanding of the topic, concept or lesson taught. The teacher reviews the entry to see if the student has gained an understanding of the topic, lesson or concept that was taught.

Choral Response: In response to a cue, all students respond verbally at the same time. The response can be either to answer a question or to repeat something the teacher has said.

Misconception Check: Present students with common or predictable misconceptions about a designated concept, principle, or process. Ask them whether they agree or disagree and explain why. The misconception check can also be presented in the form of a multiple-choice or true-false quiz.

Student Conference: One on one conversation with students to check their level of understanding.

3-Minute Pause: The Three-Minute Pause provides a chance for students to stop, reflect on the concepts and ideas that have just been introduced, make connections to prior knowledge or experience, and seek clarification.

Observation: Walk around the classroom and observe students as they work to check for learning.

Self-Assessment: A process in which students collect information about their own learning, analyze what it reveals about their progress toward the intended learning goals and plan the next steps in their learning.

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One Minute Essay: A one-minute essay question (or one-minute question) is a focused question with a specific goal that can, in fact, be answered within a minute or two.

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ELA Research based benchmark
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End-of-year Assessment

**Alternative:**
Portfolio
Living History Museum
Conferences
Concept Map
Demonstration station

Texts and Resources
World: Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw Hill
World History: Ancient Civilizations,
Holt http://www.ancientindia.co.uk http://www.pbs.org/thestoryofindia/
Unit #3, Social Studies, The Middle Ages

Enduring Understanding
The emergence of empires (i.e., Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas) resulted from the promotion of interregional trade, cultural exchanges, new technologies, urbanization, and centralized political organization. The rise and spread of new belief systems unified societies, but they also became a major source of tension and conflict. While commercial and agricultural improvements created new wealth and opportunities for the empires, most people’s daily lives remained unchanged.

Essential Questions
1. How did the fall of the Roman Empire affect the growth of Medieval society?
2. What role did religion play in the political, economic, and societal evolution from the early to late medieval period?

NJ Student Learning Standards

SOC.6.2.8.B.4.d Explain why the Arabian Peninsula’s physical features and location made it the epicenter of Afro-Eurasian trade and fostered the spread of Islam into Africa, Europe, and Asia.
SOC.6.2.8.A.4.b Compare and contrast the Japanese and European systems of feudalism and the effectiveness of each in promoting social, economic, and political order.
SOC.6.2.8.B.4.a Explain how geography influenced the development of the political, economic, and cultural centers of each empire as well as the empires’ relationships with other parts of the world.
SOC.6.2.8.D.4.d Determine which events led to the rise and eventual decline of European feudalism.
SOC.6.2.8.A.4.c Determine the influence of medieval English legal and constitutional practices (i.e., the Magna Carta, parliament, the development of habeas corpus, and an independent judiciary) on modern democratic thought and institutions.
SOC.6.2.8.D.4.c Assess the demographic, economic, and religious impact of the plague on Europe.
SOC.6.2.8.B.4.f Explain how the geographies and climates of Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas influenced their economic development and interaction or isolation with other societies.
SOC.6.2.8.D.4.b Analyze the causes and outcomes of the Crusades from different perspectives, including the perspectives of European political and religious leaders, the crusaders, Jews, Muslims, and traders.
SOC.6.2.8.A.4.a Analyze the role of religion and other means rulers used to unify and centrally govern expanding territories with diverse populations.
SOC.6.2.8.B.4.e Analyze the motivations for civilizations to modify the environment, determine the positive and negative consequences of environmental changes made during this time period, and relate these changes to current environmental challenges.
SOC.6.2.8.D.4.f Determine the extent to which the Byzantine Empire influenced the Islamic world and western Europe.
SOC.6.3.8.A.3 Collaborate with international students to deliberate about and address issues of gender equality, child mortality, or education.
SOC.6.2.8.C.4.a Explain how and why the interrelationships among improved agricultural production, population growth, urbanization, and commercialization led to the rise of powerful states and kingdoms (i.e., Europe, Asia, Americas).
SOC.6.2.8.C.4.b Determine the extent to which interaction between the Islamic world and medieval Europe increased trade, enhanced technology innovation, and impacted scientific thought and the arts.
SOC.6.2.8.B.4.c Determine how Africa’s physical geography and natural resources presented challenges and opportunities for trade, development, and the spread of religion.
SOC.6.3.8 All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.
**Instructional Activities**

1. Interactive map activities: Trace the decline of the Roman Empire and the rise of small kingdoms throughout Europe
2. Medieval Life: Research and report on the various aspects of life during the Middle Ages
3. Castle Project: Research and construct a typical Medieval castle
4. The Black Death: Analyze the impact on the economy, political life, society, and the rise of the middle class from the plague
5. The Crusades: Analyze the several Crusades focusing on the rise and spread of Islam, the movements to the Holy land and the Reconquista of Spain

**Interdisciplinary Connections**

Art / Music: Explore and create Medieval art, literature, and music  
Language Arts: Research and present various aspects of life during the middle ages

**Assessment:**

**Formative Assessment:**

**A-B-C Summaries:** Each student in the class is assigned a different letter of the alphabet and they must select a word starting with that letter that is related to the topic being studied.

**Debriefing:** A form of reflection immediately following an activity.

**Idea Spinner:** The teacher creates a spinner marked into 4 quadrants and labeled “Predict, Explain, Summarize, Evaluate.” After new material is presented, the teacher spins the spinner and if the spinner lands in the “Summarize” quadrant, the teacher might say, “List the key concepts just presented.”

**Inside-Out Circle:** Inside and outside circles of students face each other. Within each pair of facing students, students quiz each other with questions they have written. Outside circle moves to create new

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http://www.graphic.org/concept.html

**Benchmark:**
ELA Research based benchmark

**Summative:**
End-of-marking period Assessment/ Performance Task
Unit Test
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End-of-year Assessment

**Alternative:**
Portfolio
Living History Museum
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**Texts and Resources**
World: Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw Hill
World History: Ancient Civilizations, Holt
http://www.britishmuseum.org/about_us/tours_and_loans/international_exhibitions/medieval_europe.aspx
Unit #4, Social Studies, Renaissance and Reformation

Content Area: Social Studies
Course(s): Social Studies
Time Period: February
Length: 40 days
Status: Published

Enduring Understanding

The era of the Renaissance created a rebirth of learning in Europe concerning the cultures of antiquity.

Essential Questions

1. How did the rise of Islam and the Crusades impact Europe during the late Middle Ages?
2. What impact did the ideas of the Renaissance (political, religious, economic, technological) have on the world?

NJ Student Learning Standards

SOC.6.2.8.D.4.a Analyze the role of religion and economics in shaping each empire’s social hierarchy, and evaluate the impact these hierarchical structures had on the lives of various groups of people.
SOC.6.2.8.D.4.c Assess the demographic, economic, and religious impact of the plague on Europe.
SOC.6.2.8.D.4.b Analyze the causes and outcomes of the Crusades from different perspectives, including the perspectives of European political and religious leaders, the crusaders, Jews, Muslims, and traders.
SOC.6.2.8.A.4.a Analyze the role of religion and other means rulers used to unify and centrally govern expanding territories with diverse populations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.4.f Determine the extent to which the Byzantine Empire influenced the Islamic world and western Europe.
SOC.6.2.8.C.4.b Determine the extent to which interaction between the Islamic world and medieval Europe increased trade, enhanced technology innovation, and impacted scientific thought and the arts.
SOC.6.2.8.D.4.g Evaluate the importance and enduring legacy of the major achievements of the people living Asia, Africa (Islam), Europe and the Americas over time.
SOC.6.3.8 All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.

Instructional Activities

1. The Renaissance: Research and report on the various ideas and inventions spurred on by the Renaissance
2. The Renaissance: Explore the ideas of the rebirth of philosophical ideas from Greece and Rome
3. The Renaissance: Art; Examine, analyze, and create Renaissance style art work
4. The Reformation: Biography of Martin Luther, John Calvin, Henry VIII, or other leaders of the Reformation
5. The Crusades- Research the purpose of each crusade and its influence on people involved.

Interdisciplinary Connections

Language Arts: Research and debate the splitting of the catholic church
Art: Renaissance Art
Science: Examine the inventions of Leonardo daVinci
**Texts and Resources**

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http://www.britishmuseum.org/search_results.aspx?searchText=renaissance&q=renaissance
https://app.discoveryeducation.com/learn/search?q=renaissance
http://www.history.com/topics/renaissance-art
http://worldhistory.mrdonn.org/renaissance.html
http://www.teachersfirst.com/lessons/art-ren/
http://www.pbs.org/empires/martinluther/class_lesson1.html

**Assessment:**

**Formative Assessment:**

**A-B-C Summaries:** Each student in the class is assigned a different letter of the alphabet and they must select a word starting with that letter that is related to the topic being studied.

**Debriefing:** A form of reflection immediately following an activity.

**Idea Spinner:** The teacher creates a spinner marked into 4 quadrants and labeled “Predict, Explain, Summarize, Evaluate.” After new material is presented, the teacher spins the spinner and if the spinner lands in the “Summarize” quadrant, the teacher might say, “List the key concepts just presented.”

**Inside-Out Side Circle:** Inside and outside circles of students face each other. Within each pair of facing students, students quiz each other with questions they have written. Outside circle moves to create new

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