

6th Grade Overview

Course Description		Topics at a Glance	
<p>Sixth graders will analyze historical sources and eras through the study of the Western Hemisphere, focusing on the components of civilizations both ancient and modern, analyzing patterns in history, and looking at how the past influences the present. Emphasis is placed on resource distribution, competition, cooperation and conflict and human-environment interaction. Students will use geographic tools to analyze information and data pertaining to Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Canada. Civic and global awareness is highlighted, as is the role of the U.S. in the Western Hemisphere. Multiple perspectives and appreciation of diverse backgrounds will also be explored. Students will also study how savings and investing can contribute to financial well-being.</p>		<p>History of the Americas: Using primary and secondary documents and technology to learn about the history of the Americas and its impact on the present; rise and fall of ancient civilizations; unique cultural features; Spanish Conquest; Columbian Exchange; Colonization; Influence of United States; multiple perspectives; information accuracy; author intent.</p> <p>Human and Physical Systems Vary and Interact: interdependence between places; resource distribution, use and acquisition; decision making; trade routes and center, sustainability, environmental degradation; adaption to physical environment.</p> <p>Using Geographic Tools to Solve Problems: analyze data and reach conclusions; thematic maps, cartograms, climographs, GIS, GPS, web-based software, atlases, tables, graphs, longitude, latitude, scale.</p> <p>Government and Economic systems: scarce resources, production, goods, services, development, education, income, globalization, compare and describe government systems; traditional, command, market and mixed; trade.</p> <p>Personal Financial Literacy: Savings and investment; decision making; short- and medium-term goals; risk and reward; emergency funds; debt; consumerism.</p> <p>Civic and Global Awareness: interconnectivity; global community; productive member of society; challenges and opportunities, global viewpoints; empathy with issues people face; laws and regulation; technology and information; multiculturalism, diverse backgrounds.</p>	
Assessments		Technology Integration & Information Literacy	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher-designed assessments • Student-designed assessments 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize that people from different cultures and different times in history make contributions to our culture. • Use technology responsibly for communication and transfer of ideas. • Identify different information sources and assess sources. • Use appropriate tools, technology and maps to gather, organize and report data and other information. • Organize and report information in a variety of complex ways, including tables, graphs charts and reports. • Collaborate with others to identify problems and seek solutions. • Present information in a variety of formats, including written paragraphs, posters, illustrations, oral reports, maps, etc. 	
Grade Level Expectations			
Standard	Grade Level Expectations (Big Ideas in Social Studies)		
1. History	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze and interpret historical sources to ask and research historical questions. 2. Be familiar with the historical eras, individuals, groups, ideas and themes within regions of the Western Hemisphere and their relationships with one another. 		
2. Geography	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use geographic tools to solve problems. 2. Understand how human and physical systems vary and interact. 		
3. Economics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and analyze different economic systems. Economic freedom, including free trade, is important 2. Recognize how saving and investing are key contributors to financial well being (PFL). 		
4. Civics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze the interconnected nature of the United States to other nations. 2. Compare multiple systems of government. 		