## GRADE 6 SOCIAL STUDIES

### History

**Standard 1 – Historical Thinking Skills**

Students use historical thinking skills to examine the ancient world and its influence on the development of modern civilization.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade-Level Expectations</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1.1 Produce clear and coherent writing for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences by:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
  - Conducting historical research  
  - Evaluating a broad variety of primary and secondary sources  
  - Comparing and contrasting varied points of view  
  - Determining the meaning of words and phrases from historical texts  
  - Using technology to research, produce, or publish a written product |  
  - diaries/journals/letters  
  - newspaper articles and editorials  
  - political cartoons  
  - speeches |
| 6.1.2 Construct and interpret a parallel timeline of key events in the ancient world |  
  - historical documents  
  - newspapers  
  - biographies  
  - textbooks |
| 6.1.3 Analyze information in primary and secondary sources to address document-based questions |  
  - early humans  
  - technologies  
  - agriculture  
  - stable population  
  - communication |
| 6.1.4 Identify and compare measurements of time in order to understand historical chronology |  
  - eras  
  - millennia  
  - BCE (Before Common Era) and relationship to BC (Before Christ)  
  - CE (Common Era) and relationship to AD (Anno Domini – Latin for The Year of our Lord) |

**Standard 2 – Key Events, Ideas, and People**

Students examine key historical events, ideas, and people that contributed to the growth of civilizations from ancient times through the Middle Ages which led to the development of the modern world.

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<tr>
<td>6.2.1 Analyze the relationship between geographical features and early settlement patterns using maps and globes</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
  - coastal areas  
  - river valleys |
| 6.2.2 Examine how the achievements of early humans led to the development of civilization |  
  - technology (tools, weapons)  
  - development of agriculture  
  - stable population  
  - communication |
| 6.2.3 Describe the characteristics and achievements of the ancient river civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus Valley, and China | • communication – writing systems  
• religion and culture – Polytheism  
• government – Code of Hammurabi  
• technology – tools, irrigation |
| 6.2.4 Describe the development of the Greek city-state, the culture and achievements of Athens and Sparta, and the impact of Alexander the Great’s conquests on the spread of Greek culture | • military  
• government and political institutions  
• religion and culture  
• art/literature |
| 6.2.5 Describe the characteristics of Roman civilization, its cultural, political, and technological achievements, and its influence on other later cultures | • government and political institutions  
• military  
• religion and culture  
• aqueducts and road building |
| 6.2.6 Analyze the origin and spread of major world religions as they developed throughout history | • Judaism  
• Christianity  
• Islam  
• Hinduism/Buddhism |
| 6.2.7 Summarize key features of ancient West African kingdoms (Ghana, Mali, Songhai) | • development of trade networks  
• influence of religion and culture  
• political structure  
• oral tradition (storytelling) |
| 6.2.8 Identify key characteristics of Chinese dynasties’ political, economic, and social structures | • Shang, Qin, Han, Zhou leaders  
• Silk Road trade route  
• Yuan (Mongols)  
• Confucianism |
| 6.2.9 Describe the characteristics, significance, and influences of feudalism, the Crusades, and the growth of towns and cities through trade and commerce during the Middle Ages | • life of the nobility  
• work on a manor  
• the medieval church  
• political structure |
| 6.2.10 Examine the significance of the people and ideas that influenced the Renaissance in Europe | • |
# Geography

## Standard 3 – Geography Skills
Students examine the major physical and political features that influenced world history using maps, charts, graphs, and tools of technology.

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<tr>
<td>6.3.1 Identify and label major lines of latitude and longitude using a world map or globe to determine climate zones and time zones</td>
<td>Equator/Prime meridian, Arctic/Antarctic circles, Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3.2 Plot coordinates of latitude and longitude to determine location or change of location</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3.3 Compare and contrast physical and political boundaries of civilizations, empires, and kingdoms using maps and globes</td>
<td>River valley civilizations, Greek city states, Roman Empire, West African kingdoms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3.4 Determine world migration patterns and population trends by interpreting maps, charts, and graphs</td>
<td>Spread of human populations, spread of agriculture, spread of religion, trade routes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Standard 4 – Culture and Environment
Students identify and analyze the influence of the environment on migration, cultural diffusion, and human settlement in world history.

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<tr>
<td>6.4.1 Identify and describe physical features and climate conditions that contributed to early human settlement in regions of the world</td>
<td>End of ice age, proximity to bodies of water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.4.2 Explain how world migration patterns and cultural diffusion influenced human settlement</td>
<td>Specialization of labor, spread of commerce and long distance trade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.4.3 Explain the connection between physical geography and its influence on the development of civilization</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Civics

**Standard 5 – Government: Foundation and Structure**  
Students examine the influence of the structure, function, and origin of democracy.

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| 6.5.1 Describe the essential elements of Greek city-state government that influenced the development of democracy | • foundation and structure  
• direct and indirect democracy  
• citizenship |
| 6.5.2 Describe the government of the Roman Republic and how it influenced the development of democracy | • foundation and structure  
• republic – representative democracy  
• role of citizenship |

## Economics

**Standard 6 – Resources and Interdependence**  
Students explain how resources and interdependence influenced economic growth in the ancient world.

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<tr>
<td>6.6.1 Explain the impact of job specialization in the development of civilizations</td>
<td>• Neolithic Age people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6.2 Analyze the progression from barter exchange to monetary exchange</td>
<td>• Lydians – 1st coin money system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 6.6.3 Describe the economic motivation for expanding trade and territorial conquests in world civilizations using economic concepts | • supply and demand  
• interdependence  
• scarcity |
| 6.6.4 Explain how the development of trade and taxation influenced economic growth in the ancient world | • tariffs  
• gold for salt (West Africa) |