

WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT SOCIAL STUDIES GOAL STATEMENT

GRADE 6

First Cultures

- Identify the period called the Old Stone Age and place it in time
- Describe culture during the Old Stone Age
- Analyze how the use of tools developed as life changed among early humans
- Explain how early people discovered and began to use metals
- Describe the changes that occurred at the end of the Ice Age
- Explain the factors that led to permanent human settlements

The Fertile Crescent

- Explain how technology such as levees and canals improved the farming in the Mesopotamian region
- Analyze the reasons for the growth of civilizations in the Fertile Crescent
- Interpret time-line
- Analyze Babylonian life under the Code of Hammurabi
- Describe the origins of Judaism

The Nile River Valley

- Describe the Nile River and the effects of its floods on ancient farmers in the region
- Analyze the working of government and the importance of religion in Egypt
- Describe the structure and purpose of the pyramids
- Explain hieroglyphics

The Indus River Valley

- Identify the location and course of the Indus River
- Explain how the river affected farming in the Indus River Valley
- Identify the lost cities of the Indus
- Analyze effects of the Aryan migration into the Indus River Valley
- Explain the origins of Hinduism
- Identify the important beliefs of Hinduism
- Explain how Buddhism developed
- Describe how Buddhism has spread

Ancient China

- Analyze the effects of the Huang He on the development of the Hang He valley culture
- Describe the government and culture of different dynasties
- Analyze and evaluate the reign of Shihuangdi

Ancient Greece

- Analyze how the rugged terrain challenged the people of ancient Greece
- Analyze the structure of Greek city-states
- Compare and contrast the cultures of Sparta and Athens
- Understand and interpret historical maps

- Identify the great achievements and thinkers of Athens' Golden Age
- Describe the form of government during Athens' Golden Age
- Analyze how Alexander spread Greek culture through the expansion of his empire

Ancient Rome

- Describe the founding of Rome
- Analyze the wars with Carthage and the problems in Italy
- Explain how Julius Caesar and the Senate struggled for power over Rome
- Describe how Augustus created the Roman Empire
- Analyze daily life in a Roman city by investigating Pompeii
- Identify Rome's great architectural achievements
- Explain how Christianity developed
- Describe the spread of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire
- Explain how the Byzantine Empire continued Roman Traditions
- Describe the fall of the Roman Empire

The Arab World

- Identify the early life of Muhammad and the events that led to the founding of Islam
- Describe the growth and spread of Islam
- Analyze basic Muslim beliefs
- Describe the growth of the Muslim empire

African Civilizations

- Identify African's major geographical features
- Identify characteristics of West Africa
- Locate and describe Great Zimbabwe

Middle Ages

- Identify Europe's main geographic features
- Describe Charlemagne's empire
- Describe characteristics of life under feudalism
- Analyze the importance of the Magna Carta
- Describe the role of Christianity during the Middle Ages
- Analyze the effect of the Crusades on Europe
- Evaluate the effects of the Black Death on Europe
- Identify important writers and painters of the renaissance
- Explain how and where the Renaissance spread
- Identify problems that led to the Reformation
- Describe how Martin Luther and other Protestant leaders protested against the Church in Rome

New Empires in Asia

- Identify major regions and physical features of Asia
- Describe various dynasty's traits and accomplishments
- Explain how the Mughal Empire was established in India
- Describe Japan's feudal society

Revolutions

- Identify the important scientists and scientific advances of the Enlightenment
- Explain how the Enlightenment affected governments
- Explain the British colonization of Australia
- Identify the events that led to the French Revolution
- Explain why Napoleon rose to power and why he eventually fell
- Analyze the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution
- Explain the events behind the colonization of Africa

Twentieth Century

- Trace the steps that led to World War I
- Describe how World War I differed from previous wars
- Analyze the causes of the Russian Revolution
- Analyze the rise of fascism in Italy and Germany
- Identify the main event of the war in Europe, including the Holocaust
- Identify the origins of the Cold War
- Explain how the Cold War ended
- Analyze Britain's colonial relationship with India
- Explain how and why the state of Israel was formed
- Identify the causes of unrest in the Middle East
- Explain the causes and results of the Vietnam War
- Explain the basic history and characteristics of Australia and New Zealand