

6th / 7th / 8th Grade

Essential Standards

Social Science

Based on State Key Content Standards, compiled by Pulliam Group

Strand	Standard 6 th Grade	Standard 7 th Grade	Standard 8 th Grade
Analysis Skills Chronological And Spatial Thinking	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain how major events are related to one another in time. 2. Construct various timelines of key events, people, and periods of history. 3. Use maps and documents to identify physical and cultural features. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain how major events are related to one another in time. 2. Construct various timelines of key events, people, and periods of history. 3. Use maps and documents to identify physical and cultural features. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate consequences of past events, comparing present to past. 2. Analyze changes in technology, politics, values, and beliefs. 3. Use maps to interpret migration and other effects of geography. 4. Relate current events to physical and human characteristics of regions.
Research, Evidence, and Point of View	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Frame questions that can be answered by historical study and research. 2. Distinguish fact from opinion in historical narratives and stories. 5. Detect historical points of view and take historical context into consideration. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Frame questions that can be answered by historical study and research. 2. Distinguish fact from opinion in historical narratives and stories. 5. Detect historical points of view and take historical context into consideration. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Identify bias and prejudice in historical interpretation. 4. Collect, evaluate, and use primary and secondary sources in written presentations.
Historical Interpretation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the central issues and problems from the past, using time and place. 2. Understand the cause, effect, sequence, and correlation in historical events. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the political forces let loose by the Enlightenment, particularly the rise of democratic ideas. 2. Understand the continuing influences of these ideas in the world today. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Show connections between events and socio-economic/political issues of the time. 2. Students recognize the complexity and historical causes and effects.
Content Standards Citizenship			<p>8.1 Development of American constitutional democracy.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the relationship between the moral and political ideas of the Great Awakening and the development of revolutionary fervor. 3. Analyze how the American Revolution affected other nations, especially France.
Map Skills	<p>6.2 Early Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locate and describe the major rivers systems and physical settings of this area that supported permanent settlement and early civilizations. 3. Describe the relationship between religion and the social/political order in Mesopotamia and Egypt. 4. Know the significance of Hammurabi's Code. 8. Identify the location of the Kush civilization and describe its political, commercial, and cultural relations with Egypt. 	<p>7.2 Islam in the Middle Ages.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Trace the origins of Islam and the life and teachings of Muhammad. 4. Know the expansion of Muslim rule through military conquests and treaties. 5. Describe the growth of cities and the establishment of trade routes among Asia, Africa, and Europe, the products and inventions that traveled along these routes. 	<p>8.2 U.S. Constitution and implied powers of the federal government.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss the significance of the Magna Carta, the English Bill of Rights, and the Mayflower Compact. 2. Analyze the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution and the success of each in implementing the ideals of the Declaration of Independence. 3. Evaluate the major debates that occurred during the development of the Constitution. 6. Enumerate the powers of government set forth in the Constitution and then fundamental liberties ensured by the Bill of Rights. 7. Describe the principles of federalism, dual sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, the nature and purpose of majority rule.
Traditions	<p>6.3 The Ancient Hebrews</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the origins and significance of Judaism 	<p>7.3 China in the Middle Ages.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the reunification of China under the 	<p>8.3 American political system</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Understand how the conflicts between Thomas

	<p>as the first monotheistic religion.</p> <p>4. Discuss the locations of the settlements and movements of Hebrew people, including the Exodus; outline the significance of the Exodus to the Jewish and other people.</p>	<p>Tang Dynasty.</p> <p>2. Describe agricultural, technological, and commercial developments during the Tang and Sung periods.</p> <p>4. Understand the importance of both overland trade and maritime expeditions between China and other civilizations in the Mongol Ascendancy and Ming Dynasty.</p> <p>6. Describe the development of the imperial state and the scholar-official class.</p>	<p>Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton resulted in the emergence of two political parties.</p> <p>5. Know the significance of domestic resistance movements and ways in which the central government responded to such movements (e.g., Shay's Rebellion, The Whiskey Rebellion).</p> <p>6. Understand the functions and responsibilities of a free press.</p>
The Rule of Law	<p>6.4 Ancient Greece</p> <p>1. Discuss the connections between geography and the development of city-states in the region of the Aegean Sea, including patterns of trade and commerce among Greek city-states and within the wider Mediterranean region.</p> <p>2. Trace the transition from tyranny and oligarchy to democratic forms of government and back to dictatorship in early Greece, include importance of citizenship.</p> <p>3. State the differences between Athenian democracy and representative democracy.</p>	<p>7.4 Ghana and Mali in Medieval Africa</p> <p>3. Describe the role of the trans-Saharan caravan trade in the changing religious and cultural characteristics of West Africa and the influence of Islamic beliefs, ethics, and law.</p> <p>4. Trace the growth of the Arabic language in government, trade and Islamic scholarship in West Africa.</p> <p>5. Describe the importance of written and oral traditions in the transmission of African history and culture.</p>	<p>8.4 People of the New Nation</p> <p>1. Describe the country's landscapes, political divisions, and territorial expansion during the terms of the first four presidents.</p> <p>4. Analyze the rise of capitalism and the economic problems and conflicts that accompanied it.</p>
People who made a difference	<p>6.5 Early civilizations of India</p> <p>1. Locate and describe the major river system and physical setting that supported the rise of this civilization.</p> <p>3. Explain the beliefs and practices of Brahmanism and their evolution to Hinduism.</p> <p>7. Discuss important aesthetic and intellectual traditions (in science, literature, mathematics).</p>	<p>7.5 Medieval Japan</p> <p>1. Describe the significance of Japan's proximity to China and Korea and the intellectual, linguistic, religious, and philosophical influence of those countries on Japan.</p> <p>3. Describe the values, social customs, and traditions prescribed by the lord-vassal system consisting of shogun, daimyo, and samurai and the lasting influence of the warrior code in the twentieth century.</p> <p>4. Trace the development of distinctive forms of Japanese Buddhism.</p> <p>6. Analyze the rise of a military society in the late twelfth century and the role of the samurai in that society.</p>	<p>8.5 U.S. Foreign policy in the early Republic</p> <p>1. Understand the political and economic causes and consequences of the War of 1812 and know the major battles, leaders, and events that led to a final peace.</p>
	<p>6.6 Early civilizations of China</p> <p>1. Locate and describe the origins of Chinese civilization in the Huang-He Valley during the Shang dynasty.</p> <p>2. Explain the geographic features of China that made governance difficult and isolated the country from the rest of the world.</p> <p>4. Identify the political/cultural problems of Confucius/ time and how he tried to solve them.</p> <p>6. Detail the political contributions of the Han Dynasty.</p>	<p>7.6 Medieval Europe</p> <p>1. Understand the geography of the Europe and the Eurasian land mass, including its location, typography, waterways, vegetation, and climate and their relationship to ways of life in Medieval Europe.</p> <p>2. Describe the spread of Christianity north of the Alps and the roles played by the early church.</p> <p>3. Understand the development of feudalism, its role in the medieval European economy.</p> <p>5. Know the significance of developments in medieval English legal and constitutional practices and their importance in the rise of modern democratic thought and representative institutions (e.g. Magna Carta, parliament, development of</p>	<p>8.6 American people from 1800 to the mid 1800's</p> <p>2. Outline the physical obstacles to and the economic and political factors involved in building a network of roads, canals, and railroads.</p> <p>4. Study the lives of black Americans who gained freedom in the North and founded schools and churches to advance their rights and communities.</p> <p>6. Examine the women's suffrage movement.</p>

		<p>habeas corpus, an independent judiciary in England).</p> <p>6. Explain the causes and course of the religious Crusades and their effects on the Christian, Muslim, and Jewish populations in Europe, with emphasis on the increasing contact by Europeans with cultures of the Eastern Mediterranean world.</p> <p>7. Map the spread of the bubonic plague from Central Asia to China, the Middle East, and Europe and describe its impact on global population.</p>	
	<p>6.7 The development of Rome</p> <p>1. Identify the location and describe the rise of the Roman Republic, including key historic figures such as Aeneas, Romulus and Remus, Cincinnatus, Julius Caesar, and Cicero.</p> <p>2. Describe the government of the Roman Republic and its significance.</p> <p>3. Identify the location of and the reason for the growth of Roman territories.</p> <p>7. Describe the circumstances that led to the spread of Christianity in Europe.</p> <p>8. Discuss Roman Art and architecture, technology and science, literature, language and law.</p>	<p>7.7 Meso-American and Andean civilizations</p> <p>1. Know the locations, landforms, and climates of Mexico, Central America, and South America and their effects on Mayan, Aztec, and Incan economies, trade, and development of urban societies.</p> <p>2. Know the roles of people in each society, including class structures, family life, warfare, religious beliefs and practices, and slavery.</p> <p>5. Describe the Meso-American achievements in astronomy and mathematics, including the development of the calendar and the Meso-American knowledge of seasonal changes to the civilizations agricultural systems.</p>	<p>8.7 American people in the South from 1800 to the mid-1800's.</p> <p>1. Describe the development of the agrarian economy in the South, identify the locations of the cotton-producing states, and discuss the significance of cotton and the cotton gin.</p> <p>2. Trace the origins and development of slavery; its effects on black Americans and on the region's political, social, religious, economic, and cultural development.</p> <p>4. Compare the lives of and opportunities for free blacks in the North with those of free blacks in the South.</p>
		<p>7.8 Renaissance</p> <p>2. Explain the importance of Florence in the early stages of the Renaissance and the growth of independent trading cities.</p> <p>5. Detail advances made in literature, the arts, science, mathematics, cartography, engineering, and the understanding of human anatomy and astronomy (e.g. Dante Alighieri, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo di Buonarroti Simoni, Johann Gutenberg, and William Shakespeare).</p>	<p>8.8 American people in the West from 1800 to the mid- 1800's.</p> <p>2. Describe the purpose, challenges, and economic incentives associated with westward expansion, including the concept of Manifest Destiny.</p> <p>4. Examine the importance of the great rivers and struggles over water rights.</p> <p>5. Discuss Mexican settlements and their locations, cultural traditions, attitudes toward slavery, land-grant system and economics.</p> <p>6. Describe the Texas War for Independence and the Mexican-American War.</p>
		<p>7.9 Reformation</p> <p>1. Explain the causes for the internal turmoil in the weakening of the Catholic church (e.g. tax policies, selling of indulgences).</p> <p>2. Describe the theological, political, and economic ideas of the major figures during the Reformation.</p> <p>7. Describe the Golden Age of cooperation between Jews and Muslims in medieval Spain that promoted creativity in art, literature, and science.</p>	<p>8.9 Early attempts to abolish slavery</p> <p>2. Discuss the abolition of slavery in early state constitutions.</p> <p>4. Discuss the importance of the slavery issue as raised by the annexation of Texas and California's admission to the union as a free state under the Compromise of 1850.</p> <p>6. Describe the lives of free blacks and the laws that limited their freedom and economic opportunities.</p>
		<p>7.10 Scientific Revolution</p> <p>1. Discuss the roots of the Scientific Revolution.</p> <p>2. Understand the significance of the new scientific theories, (e.g., those of Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, and Newton) and the significance of new inventions (e.g., the telescope, microscope, thermometer, and barometer).</p>	<p>8.10 Civil War</p> <p>2. Trace the boundaries constituting the North and the South, the geographical differences between the two regions, and the difference between agrarian and industrialists.</p> <p>3. Identify the constitutional issues posed by the doctrine of nullification and secession and the</p>

			<p>earliest origins of that doctrine.</p> <p>5. Study the views and lives of leaders and soldiers on both sides of the war, including those of black soldiers and regiments.</p> <p>6. Describe critical developments and events in the war, including the major battles, geographical advantages and obstacles, technological advances, and General Lee's surrender at Appomattox.</p> <p>7. Explain how the war affected combatants, civilians, the physical environment, and future warfare.</p>
		<p>7.11 Age of Exploration, the Enlightenment, and the Age of Reason</p> <p>1. Know the great voyages of discovery, the locations of the routes, and the influence of cartography in the development of a new European worldview.</p> <p>3. Examine the origins of modern capitalism,</p> <p>5. Describe how democratic thought and institutions were influenced by Enlightenment thinkers (e.g., John Locke, Montesquieu, American founders).</p> <p>6. Discuss how the principles in the Magna Carta were embodied in such documents as the English Bill of Rights and the American Declaration of Independence.</p>	<p>8.11 Reconstruction</p> <p>1. List the original aims of Reconstruction and describe its effects on the political and social structures of different regions.</p> <p>3. Understand the effects of the Freedmen's Bureau and the restrictions placed on the rights and opportunities of freedmen, including racial segregation.</p>
			<p>8.12 Industrial Revolution</p> <p>5. Examine the location and effects of urbanization, renewed immigration, and industrialization.</p> <p>6. Discuss child labor, working conditions, and laissez-faire policies toward big business and examine the labor movement, including its leaders, its demand for collective bargaining, and its strikes and protest over labor conditions.</p> <p>8. Identify the characteristics and impact of Grangerism and Populism.</p> <p>9. Name the significant inventors and their inventions and identify how they improved the quality of life (e.g., Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Orville and Wilbur Wright).</p>