

## Mr. Thorpe's 6th Grade Social Overview

Sixth grade Social Studies is based on the history and geography of the Eastern Hemisphere, including the development of cultures, civilizations and empires, interaction between societies and the comparison of trends in government and economics. It also incorporates elements of some of the social sciences. The course is divided into eight Key Ideas that cover a time span from prehistory into the 1300's.



1. Individual Development and Cultural Identity
2. Development, Movement and Interaction of Cultures
3. Time, Continuity and Change
4. Geography, Humans, and the Environment
5. Development and Transformation of Social Structure
6. Power, Authority and Governance
7. Creation, Expansion and Interaction of Economic systems
8. Global Connections and Exchange

### **Common Core/IB Focus**

To engage students in the literature and text that will guide them to becoming Global Citizen while also incorporating the IB Attitudes and traits.

### **How can we understand the world around us?**

- a. Geography and World Regions
- b. World History and Culture
- c. People and Culture
- d. Economy

### **Unit 1 Rivers and Civilizations – *How does geography affect civilizations?***

#### **People, Places and Events**

1. Early People
2. The Beginning of Agriculture
3. The Fertile Crescent
4. Babylonia, Israel and Assyria
5. The Kingdoms of Egypt
6. The Culture of Egypt
7. Early Indian Civilization

8. Early Indian Empires
9. China's First Dynasties
10. The Chinese Empire

## **Unit 2 The Ancient World – *Why do Empires rise and fall?***

### **People, Places and Events**

1. Greek Civilization
2. Alexander's Empire
3. The Roman Republic
4. The Roman Empire
5. Ancient North Americans
6. Toltec, Aztec and Inca

## **Unit 3 trade and Tradition – *How do cultures influence each other?***

### **People, Places and Events**

1. The Arab World
2. The Muslim Empire
3. The Ottoman Empire
4. Early African Kingdoms
5. West African Empires
6. Great Zimbabwe

## **Unit 4 Cultures and Change – *What makes civilizations change?***

### **People, Places and Events**

1. The Middle ages
2. The Middle Ages and the Church
3. Renaissance and Reformation
4. China's Dynasties
5. The Indian Empire
6. Feudal Japan
7. Southeast Asian Kingdom

## **Unit 5 Changing ideas - *How do new ideas change the lives of people?***

### **People, Places and Events**

1. The Age of Ideas
2. Exploring the World
3. Europeans in the Americas
4. The First Revolutions
5. Independence Spreads
6. The Industrial Revolution
7. the Age of Imperialism

## **Unit 6 A Century of Challenge - *What causes conflict among people?***

### **People, Places and Events**

1. War and Revolution
2. World War II
3. Modern China
4. The Cold War
5. Struggles in India
6. Searching for Peace
7. Independence in Africa
8. Southeast Asia and the Pacific
9. Global Challenges

# Mr. Thorpe's Homework Policy

Homework is defined as the time students spend outside the classroom in assigned learning activities. Any Where Schools believes the purpose of homework should be to practice, reinforce, or apply acquired skills and knowledge. We also believe as research supports that moderate assignments completed and done well are more effective than lengthy or difficult ones done poorly.



Homework serves to develop regular study skills and the ability to complete assignments independently. Any Where Schools further believes completing homework is the responsibility of the student, and as students mature they are more able to work independently. Therefore, parents play a supportive role through monitoring completion of assignments, encouraging students' efforts and providing a conducive environment for learning.

Homework will account for 10% of a student's grade. It will not be assigned nightly, thereby giving the students more time to work on the Math and ELA. However, incomplete classwork may be assigned to be completed by our next meeting day. Periodic assignments will be given in the form of thought provoking questions to increase the understanding and enrich the dialogue with the classroom. There is a monthly Current Event Project in which each student has been given a schedule of the due dates for the year.

The actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills, and selected course load. If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, please let me know.