**Curriculum**

**6th Grade Ancient Civilization**

**Course Overview**

Six Grade Ancient Civilization charts the rise and development of ancient societies. Using a variety of methods, sources and techniques, students will examine the importance of mankind’s struggle to develop civilization. These aspects include the arts, science and architecture, and the various social structures that make up our definition of civilization. An understanding of the geography of the ancient world will also be a major component of the course. By studying history from the dawn of civilization to the fall of Rome, students will be given an insight into the many concepts that shaped the past and still influence our world today.

**Department Standards**

Expected Outcomes:

1. Knowledge of and interest in history, the social and behavioral sciences and related subjects.
2. Constructive participation in a democratic society.
3. Understanding of various societies throughout history.
4. Development of critical analysis skills.
5. Development of research skills.
6. Development of communication and presentation skills.

**Benchmarks**:

The students will:

1.Demonstrate an understanding of the development of social structures within the ancient world.

2.Explore the five themes of geography and how these elements affected the progress of ancient societies.

3.Examine the contributions made by the ancients in the arts, the sciences and architecture, and their influences on civilization.

4.Become proficient in the use of technology in order to enhance their communication skills.

**Performance Indicators**

Chapter 1: Early Man and Societies

Students will be able to:

Define terms related to location

Use coordinates to find locations on a map

Define the elements that determine place

Identify types of physical features

Discuss the characteristics of the different regions of the world

List the reasons for the movement of peoples during ancient times

Discuss the development of the components of civilization

Identify the locations of early civilizations and how they adapted to their

environments

Analyze and evaluate primary source materials

Chapter 2: The Fertile Crescent

Students will be able to:

Locate major rivers and physical features of the Middle East

List Sumerian achievements

Discuss the polytheistic religion of the Mesopotamian people

Read excerpts from the Epic of Gilgamesh

Understand the creation of government

Explain Hammurabi’s code of laws

Defining the term the “cradle of civilization” using the city-states Babylon, Ur, etc.

Understanding how the geography of the Middle East shaped their way of life

Analyze and evaluate primary source materials

Chapter 3: Ancient Egypt

Students will be able to:

Explain the importance of the Nile for the Egyptians

Discuss the beliefs of the Egyptians

Describe the significant events of the Old, Middle and New Kingdoms

Explain the importance of hieroglyphics

Explain the importance of the Rosetta Stone

Describe how a step-pyramid transformed into the Great Pyramids of Giza

Compare and contrast Egyptian and Kush societies

Analyze and evaluate primary source materials

Chapter 4: Ancient Greece

Students will be able to:

List important events in Greek history and their dates

Explain how geography affected the way of life in ancient Greece

Compare and contrast the different types of government in ancient Greece

Trace the development of democracy in ancient Greece

Examine the polytheistic nature of ancient Greek religion

Analyze and evaluate primary source materialsList the causes and effects of the Persian War

List the causes and effects of the Peloponnesian War

Discuss major battles of these wars

Discuss the importance of Greek philosophy and literature

Identify important architectural monuments of the Greeks

Chapter 5: Ancient Rome

Students will be able to:

List important events in Roman history and their dates

Locate major rivers, physical features and provinces of the Roman Empire

Recount the story of the founding of Rome

Discuss the causes and effects of the Punic Wars

Understanding and evaluating the life of Julius Caesar

Discussing the growth of Rome as an international empire

Identify important architectural monuments of the Roman Empire

Identify the reasons for the decline and fall of the Roman Empire

**Assessments**

In all four Quarters, the students will be assessed by the following measures:

Reading aloud in class

Discussions in class, questions to individuals on a random basis

Expository/analytical writing

Project

Debate

Quizzes

Tests

**Core Topics**

Chapter 1: Early Man and Societies

-Five Themes of Geography

-Transition from hunter-gatherer societies to developing the components of

Civilization

-Geography

Chapter 2: Fertile Crescent

-Monotheism vs. Polytheism

-Connections / Differences

-Geography / Migration

Chapter 3: Ancient Egypt-Pharaohs

-Mummification

-Pyramids

-Religion

-The Nile

-Geography

Chapter 4: Ancient Greece-Government

-Culture

-Athenian Society vs. Spartan Society

-Persian War

-The "Golden Age" of Ancient Greece

-Peloponnesian War

-Philosophy

-Geography

Chapter 5: Ancient Rome

-Roman Empire / Government

-The Punic Wars

-Julius Caesar

-Christianity

-Geography

**Specific Content**

Chapter 1: Early Man & Societies

Location

Place

Region

Movement

Human and environment interaction

Development of Civilization

Chapter 2: The Fertile Crescent

Geography of early Middle Eastern civilizations

Sumerian achievements

Polytheistic Religion

*Epic of Gilgamesh*

Creation of Government

Hammurabi

City-states (Babylon, Ur, etc.)

Chapter 3: Ancient Egypt

Egyptian religion

Growth of the Egyptian empire

Egyptian achievements

The Kush

Pyramids

Rosetta Stone

Hieroglyphics

Old, Middle, & New Egyptian Kingdoms

Chapter 4: Ancient Greek

Geography of Greece

Minoans and Mycenaeans

City-states

Development of Greek democracy

Olympics

Greek religion

Greek philosophy

Greek myths

Persian War

Sparta and Athens

Peloponnesian War

Greek achievements

Everyday Greek Society

Chapter 5: Ancient Rome

Geography of Rome and the Roman Empire

Founding of Rome

Establishment of Roman Republic

Punic Wars and their effects

Rise of Caesar

Augustus’s accomplishments

Life in Roman times

Roman achievements

Christianity

**Resources**

First Quarter

Handouts, maps, literature of the culture, articles and essays *Epic of Gilgamesh*

Decisive Battles DVD (History Channel)

Articles, Websites, and Essays

Second Quarter

Handouts, maps, literature of the culture, articles and essays Decisive Battles DVD (History Channel)

Articles, Websites, and Essays

Third Quarter

Handouts, maps, literature of the culture, articles and essays Decisive Battles DVD (History Channel)

Articles, Websites, and Essays

*History and Geography*. Pearson Learning

*The Republic*, Plato

Fourth Quarter

Handouts, maps, literature of the culture, articles and essays Decisive Battles DVD (History Channel)

Articles, Websites, and Essays

*History and Geography*. Pearson Learning

\*In all four Quarters the text *Ancient Civilizations* (Holt Social Studies) will be the main resource.