



BARRINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
Providing our Community with a Positive Learning Environment

Grade 6 Social Studies Course Syllabus With Power Standards - 2019-20

Teacher/Contact Information:

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Students who need extra help should see me to schedule a time.

Course Title and Grade Level(s): 6th grade Social Studies – Geography and Ancient World History

Course overview:

We will begin by studying the five themes of geography – concepts that will be revisited throughout the year. Subsequent topics will include Early People and the Cradle of Civilization (Mesopotamia). Various ancient civilizations will be studied within the context of the characteristics of civilization. We will also focus on note taking and study skills. Art, videos, simulations, and student creativity will help make the past come to life.

Power Standards:

Power Standard 1: Culture and Civilization: Students will understand the characteristics of ancient cultures and civilizations and analyze their influence.

Power Standard 2: People, Places and Environment: Students will understand the connection between history, current events and geography.

Power Standard 3: Social Studies Skills and Abilities: Students will understand and demonstrate the ability to use and cite sources to research and facilitate studying and learning.

Required Supplies:

Students need to come to class with a pencil, planner, homework folder, and reading book. A 1” binder is also needed and will remain in class most of the time. Textbooks will not be assigned. We will be using them in class and students have access to the textbook online. While having an atlas at home is not required, it is strongly suggested. See website/google classroom for suggestions and information about a few of the ones we use in class.

Reassessing in 6th Grade: (additional information on back side to be signed and returned)

If a student receives a 2.5 or below on a summative assignment, they **may** have an opportunity to reassessment. A copy is also available in your child’s google classroom as well the team website.

Habits of Work Scores:

Responsible

Come prepared to learn
 Follow classroom expectations
 Work to the best of your ability

Respectful

Communicate respectfully using appropriate tone and body language
 Listen respectfully to classmates and teachers
 Respect personal space of self and others

Safe

Use tools and materials properly
 Demonstrate self-regulation of emotions and behavior

Reassessing in Sixth Grade



Formative Assessments (25% of overall grade): assignments and activities used to inform the teacher about students' progress in understanding of concepts/material. (classwork, homework). Formative assessments are essentially practice work and are **not subject to reassessment.**

Summative Assessments (75% of overall grade): evaluation of student learning at the end of an instructional period (tests, quizzes, projects). This is an opportunity for students to show what they know **without assistance.**

Under a standards-based grading system, extra credit is not an option. If a student receives a **2.5 or lower** on a **summative assessment**, he or she may request the opportunity to reassess.

1. **Students MUST have produced evidence of preparation before the first assessment.** Without this, students are ineligible for the reassessment opportunity.

Evidence of Preparation is how students "prove" that they have attempted to prepare for a summative assessment outside of class. It is work, done outside of class, producing artifact(s) that show that they attempted to prepare for a summative assessment. This could include making flash cards, making up their own questions/answers, recopying notes, etc. Students will receive instruction and will practice many study strategies in their classes over the course of the school year. **Having physical evidence of preparation is a prerequisite for reassessment.**

Sorry, but please understand that pictures of students studying and/or notes from parents stating the student studied cannot be counted as evidence of preparation.

2. **Students must arrange to meet with the core teacher during recess or after school to discuss and arrange reassessment.**

We teachers understand that students in the 6th grade have not yet had a lot of experience with studying for a test. Many mistakenly think that when they write "study for test" in their planner, it means "no homework".

Even those with the best of intentions just may not know how to study effectively.

Learning this skill is an important part of 6th grade.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____