

Curriculum – Grade 7 Social Studies

	History	Geography	Civics and Government	Economics
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How societies in the following ancient cultures rose and fell in power and influence: Greece, Rome, Medieval Europe, Russia, Byzantine and Islamic Empires • The major religious and political leaders of these ancient societies • How people in these societies both cooperated and fought one another for land and resources • The impact of religion on the lives of ancient people • Overview of early Pennsylvania history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How geography affected the growth of civilizations • Why most early settlements began near major rivers • The role natural environments have played on the impact of human activities • How ancient civilizations adapted to their surroundings • Map skills identifying the locations of ancient societies including their physical and human geographic characteristics. • Pennsylvania's major geographic regions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How ancient societies organized themselves into political and social hierarchies • How early attempts at governments brought order and stability to their societies • Greek, Roman, and Medieval civilizations' impact on the modern world • The cultural, economic, historical and governmental development of Pennsylvania 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of both food shortages and food surpluses on the decisions made by early societies • How people used agriculture and resources to advance their technologies and to create trading relationships between societies • Commerce and trade in the ancient world • Growth of trade and banking during the Middle Ages • The development of free markets and capitalism

<p>What your child will do</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read selected passages about the history of ancient cultures and Pennsylvania • Use primary and secondary source documents to learn about the culture, daily life, and attitudes of the past • Participate in project-based learning experiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in activities that demonstrate the five themes of geography • Use historical maps of ancient societies and early Pennsylvania • Participate in activities that bring awareness about diverse cultural groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in historical research using primary and secondary sources • Use primary and secondary source documents to learn about ancient and modern governments • Compare/contrast ancient and modern governments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify economic causes for Rome's collapse • Trace the development of modern banking and trade to the Medieval sources
<p>What you'll see (products)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A five-paragraph written project about Greek or Roman themes • Graphic organizers and timelines • Student-created notes that use proper note-taking skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Theme's of Geography project • Maps (throughout the year) • Student-created notes that use proper note-taking skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Greek or Roman project • Creative writing activities • Student-created notes that use proper note-taking skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps that highlight the development of civilizations and major trade routes • Student-created notes that use proper note-taking skills

How you can help

- Dialogue with your child about history, making connections between the modern world and the historical events and people that created it
- Encourage your child to watch the news and/or read the newspaper
- Monitor homework and your child's grades online
- Use online textbook and resources

- Allow your child to become involved with travel decisions and planning
- Encourage your child to use maps and point out geographic features in the environment
- Monitor homework and your child's grades online
- Use online textbook and resources

- Encourage your child to be involved in civic/community groups
- Expose your child to different cultural traditions
- Encourage your child to watch the news and/or read the newspaper
- Monitor homework and your child's grades online
- Use online textbook and resources

- Work with your child to create a personal or family budget that tracks personal income and spending
- Point out to your child the different products you own that are made in foreign nations
- Encourage your child to watch news and/or read the newspaper
- Monitor homework and your child's grades online
- Use online textbook and resources