

# Mount Pleasant Central School District

## 6th Grade, Social Studies



*We believe that all students should have a global perspective of diverse cultural, economic and political systems by showing understanding through inquiry, application and analysis.*

**How are we all connected? This course will explore the history of mankind, starting from the earliest humans through global exploration. The goal of the course is to provide students with an understanding of the interconnectedness of the world, as well as the skills to analyze artifacts, fossils, primary and secondary sources.**

Unit Title	Month	Content	Vocabulary	Standards	Skills	Big Ideas	Assessments
Human Origins	September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paleolithic vs. Neolithic life</li> <li>-Early human family tree</li> <li>-Artifact Analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- paleolithic</li> <li>- neolithic</li> <li>- nomadic</li> <li>- sedentary</li> <li>- agriculture</li> <li>- hunter - gatherer</li> <li>- hominin / hominid</li> </ul>	<p>Early peoples in the Eastern Hemisphere are often studied by analyzing artifacts and archaeological features.</p> <p>Archaeologists engage in digs and study artifacts and features in a particular location to gather evidence about a group of people and how they lived at a particular time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Geography Reasoning</li> <li>- Critical Thinking: Inferencing</li> </ul>	Social scientists are constantly reflecting on what evidence shows to update their thinking.	Writing: Artifact Analysis Claim Writing
River Valley Civilizations	October-January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key characteristics of the three major river valley civilizations: Mesopotamia, Egypt,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- irrigation</li> <li>- silt</li> <li>- surplus</li> <li>- city-state</li> </ul>	Humans living together in settlements develop shared customs, beliefs, ideas, and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communication: Claim Writing</li> <li>-Research</li> </ul>	History shows that humans regularly innovate and create to make life better and	Project: Mesopotamia Claim Writing Project: Egypt Museum Exhibit

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		and India  Characteristics: -Religion -Government -Writing -Specialized jobs/social classes -Public works -Art & architecture -Developed cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- social class</li> <li>- famine</li> <li>- writing-systems</li> <li>- temples</li> <li>- delta</li> <li>- papyrus</li> </ul>	languages that give identity to the group.  Complex societies and civilizations share the common characteristics of religion, job specialization, cities, government, language/record keeping system, technology, and social hierarchy. People in Mesopotamia, the Yellow River valley, the Indus River valley, and the Nile River valley developed complex societies and civilizations.		easier.	Project: India Storybook

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World Religions	February	- Five major world religions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism) Similarities and differences	- monotheistic - polytheistic - deity - prophet - sacred - pilgrimage - karma - fasting - places of worship (church, mosque, temple, synagogue) - golden rule	Civilizations and complex societies developed belief systems and religions that have similar, as well as different, characteristics.  Belief systems and religions are based on sets of mutually held values.  Belief systems and religions often are used to unify groups of people, and may affect social order and gender roles.	- Critical thinking: comparison	A core part of being human throughout history is a belief in what is beyond this world.	Project: World Religions Brochure

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Classical Civilizations	March-June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Three major “classical” Golden Age civilizations: Greece, Rome, China</li> <li>Aspects of a Golden Age:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prosperity</li> <li>-Expansion of borders</li> <li>-Flourishing of the arts</li> <li>-Increased learning</li> <li>-Extended period of peace</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- peninsula</li> <li>- myth</li> <li>- philosopher</li> <li>- dynasty</li> <li>- democracy</li> <li>- republic</li> <li>- monarchy</li> </ul>	<p>Geographic factors influence the development of classical civilizations and their political structures.</p> <p>Political structures were developed to establish order, to create and enforce laws, and to enable decision making.</p> <p>A period of peace, prosperity, and cultural achievements may be indicative of a golden age.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Geography Reasoning</li> <li>-Research</li> </ul>	Heights of civilizations create universal ideas that last until today.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Project: Chinese philosophies</li> <li>-Project: China Shark Tank</li> </ul>

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