

History of Our World
2017-2018 School Year
Grade 6

Message from the Teacher

Our social studies class will be studying world history – from the beginning of human civilization to the present day. Along the way students will learn about the Fertile Crescent, ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Beyond the age of Exploration, they will study the growth of empires and nations, learn about the impact of wars, and examine the development of the world.

One of the first topics we will study is prehistory- the period of time before people recorded events in writing. As you go through your daily activities, look for opportunities to “piece together” history with your child.

Our social studies classes will be taking a closer look at the geography of civilizations we are studying as well. We will study how geography affected the ways civilization developed. From the rich soil to of the Fertile Crescent to the geographic protection of mountains, students will learn about the interrelationships between geography and history. The next time you travel through your community, discuss with your child how physical geography can impact how a town develops.

The study of world history is the study of people. Our exploration of world history will include learning about people who made history. We will also learn about how people in world history, talk about the community today. Look for opportunities to watch or read news reports that focus on challenges people all over the world share.

In the weeks ahead, your child may be talking about projects and activities assigned in social studies. Please take the time to support your child’s learning through discussion and involvement. I hope you will enjoy sharing in this exciting educational journey with your student.

Communication

Communication is key to your student’s success! Please feel free to contact us through phone, e-mail, or your student’s planner. Your student’s daily planner will occasionally contain comments or concerns. Please take time to review your student’s planner on a daily basis.

Course Description

To understand today’s world, we must learn about its past. Ancient civilizations laid strong foundations for modern cultures. The early ages of world history have added greatly to those cultures. During the year, students will learn how the ideas, events, and people of those early ages have shaped our lives today. Students will investigate the affect of geography, belief systems, accomplishments, government and economic activities of the ancient civilizations.

Student Textbooks & Materials

Prentice Hall: History of our World – The Early Ages

Required Student Supplies

It is imperative that students adhere to the Nitschmann COLOR CODED supplies outlined in our sixth grade supply list. This is a tool for teaching organization.

Major Course Objectives

Students will be able to recognize and recall information to the following objectives.

- Understand how physical geography affects the development and growth of societies around the world.

- Analyze how a society's belief system affected its historical accomplishments.
- Evaluate the beliefs and values of people who lived during ancient times.
- Understand how governments formed and developed.
- Examine the development and organization of economic activities.

Major Projects

All social studies projects are designed to provide students with hands-on involvement. Projects call for students to use skills in the **cognitive domain** to grow their knowledge, comprehension, and critical thinking on a particular topic.

Teacher Homework Policy

The Bethlehem Area School District Board policy states: "Homework is expected to be completed by students outside the school day and can count as much as 10-25% of the student's quarterly report grade." Please make time in your daily schedule to provide an atmosphere, which is conducive for your child to study and help him/her schedule and implement study time. Homework is designed to give meaningful activities that will reinforce classroom concepts. Homework will be given, as the teacher feels necessary. Points will be deducted from a student's homework average if an assignment is late or incomplete.

Students are to write their assignments in their planner.

If you child is absent, it is the student's responsibility to find out what work was missed upon their return. You may request missed work by e-mailing the teacher. Please allow 24 hours for the teacher to gather the missed work.

Teacher Grading Policy

Assignments and grades are available on the Home Access Center (HAC). We encourage you to check the HAC periodically. Grades are issued at each quarterly marking period. Current school year marking periods are listed in the BASD calendar, available on the district website (www.beth.k12.pa.us) Students will receive an interim progress report at the mid-point of each marking period and will also receive a final grade at the conclusion of each quarter.

Numerical Grade Equivalents for letter Grades

A+ = 97-100	B-= 80-82
A= 93-96	C+ = 79-77
A-=90-92	C = 73-76
B+ = 87-89	C- = 70-72
B = 83-86	F= 69 and below

Classroom Management Plan

The classroom teacher has a Classroom Management Plan that included a list or description of expected student behaviors and/or prohibited student behaviors within the class and consequences for failing to adhere to the procedures. The classroom teacher will manage the consequences for students who violate the classroom regulations outlined in the teacher's Class Management Plan.

Classroom Management Plan

Student Expectations

1. Be here...be ready to learn

Consequences

1. Verbal Warning

2. Be respectful
3. Be responsible notification
4. Be actively engaged in learning
5. Follow instruction the first time
6. Follow all classroom procedures

2. Student-Teacher Conference
3. Teacher Detention - parent
4. Parent/Guidance contact
5. Code of Conduct Referral

Extra Help

The student is responsible for his or her academic and behavioral success. The teacher is available from 3:05- 3:25 P.M. on selected days to assist your child. If your child is in need of assistance, beyond the classroom, he/she should make efforts to communicate with the instructor to determine how to best meet his/her individual needs in a timely manner.

Extra help and work time is offered on the days listed below or any other day by appointment, including Fridays.

Extra help is available from 3:05 -3:25 pm, unless there is an after school meeting or scheduled event. **It is the student's responsibility to use the Extra Help Calendar to sign-up for after school extra help.** Extra Help Calendars are located in each academic teacher's classrooms. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for transportation at the end of their Extra Help Session! If the student needs a bus pass, he or she must let the teacher know before leaving the Extra Help Session!