



STRAND 1: GEOGRAPHY

Unit Title: Geography and Human Activities

Enduring Understandings:

- Geography plays a crucial role linked to human history, exploration, settlement patterns, and environmental impact.
- Maps and geographic information are valuable tools for comprehending the Earth's features, human history, and the consequences of human actions on geography.
- Human activities can have both positive and negative effects on the environment.

Lessons:

- Latitude and Longitude
- Geographic Features
- Mountain Ranges and Rivers
- Regions of the World
- Humans and the Environment
- Understanding Maps and Geographic Information

STRAND 2: ECONOMICS

Unit Title: Economic Systems and Principles

Enduring Understandings:

- Scarcity forces us to make choices, which come with associated opportunity costs.
- Banks and governments shape economic systems and influence production.
- Government involvement (roles) in economic systems varies based on the economic system.
- Supply and demand determine market prices.
- GDP, inflation, and unemployment rates are key indicators for assessing economic health and trends.

Lessons:

- Scarcity and Decision-Making
- Economic Resources and Institutions
- Economic Systems
- Government's Role in Economics
- Supply and Demand
- Exploring Market Structures
- Competition, Prices, and Wages
- Economic Indicators
- Financial Literacy

Unit Title: Global Trade and Economics

Enduring Understandings:

- Globalization has evolved to foster interdependence among countries through trade and specialization.
- Trade and specialization drive economic growth, fostering global interdependence.
- Technological advancements, such as automation, AI, and e-commerce, are transformative forces in market economies, driven by innovation and research.
- Economic treaties like NAFTA, the EU Treaty, and the TPP influence a country's economy, politics, and society.

Lessons:

- Economic Globalization and Trade
- Economic Policies and Government Impact
- Economic Treaties
- Technology's Impact on Economies
- Currency Exchange in Global Trade
- Economic Interdependence Among Nations
- Current Events in Global Economics

Unit Title: Economic Policy and Global Dynamics

Enduring Understandings:

- Government policies have historically shaped economic development and resource allocation.
- Government decisions directly impact economic growth and stability.
- Socioeconomic inequality arises from various causes and can be addressed through targeted policies.
- Central banks play a crucial role in shaping economies through monetary policies, including interest rate adjustments and money supply management.

Lessons:

- Government Policies
- Monetary Policies and Central Banking
- Entrepreneurs in the U.S. Free Enterprise System
- International Economic Organizations and Their Global Influence

STRAND 3: CIVICS AND GOVERNMENT

Unit Title: Founding Documents of the United States

Enduring Understandings:

- The Declaration of Independence outlined the founders' vision for American values and ideals.
- The weakness of the Articles of Confederation led to the writing of the Constitution.
- The Constitution outlines the fundamental principles of the U.S. government.
- Creating the Constitution required significant compromise.
- The Bill of Rights, influenced by historical documents, safeguards individual liberties and addresses concerns about government power.

Lessons:

- Exploring the Declaration: The Road to Independence
- Exploring the Articles of Confederation
- The Federalist Papers
- Crafting the Constitution
- The Bill of Rights: Safeguarding Individual Liberties

Unit Title: Influential Roots of Government

Enduring Understandings:

- Ancient Athens introduced democracy, influencing citizen participation in government and shaping modern democratic ideals.
- The Roman Republic's principles, like representative governance, inspired both the U.S. Constitution's structure and the system of checks and balances.
- The Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights influenced American government ideals.
- Enlightenment ideas shaped American beginnings, influencing perspectives on freedom, government, and human rights.
- The Iroquois Confederacy's system of governance inspired the structure of the U.S. government.

Lessons:

- Athenian Foundations of Democracy
- Roman Contributions to Republican Governance
- The Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights: Shaping American Ideals
- Enlightenment Foundations
- The Iroquois Confederacy's Impact on U.S. Government
- Government Limits and Civic Engagement in Modern Democracies

Unit Title: Foundations of Citizenship and Governance

Enduring Understandings:

- U.S. citizenship guarantees individuals' freedoms and rights in exchange for their participation in civic duties.
- Different forms of government vary in how they treat citizen participation, individual rights, and power distribution.
- Various forms of government impact citizen rights differently, with constitutional systems supporting civic participation and totalitarian systems restricting it.
- The judicial system plays a crucial role in protecting individual rights and interpreting the laws in the United States.
- Governance models differ around the world, and understanding these differences helps us appreciate how diverse systems affect societal development and citizen welfare.

Lessons:

- Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens
- The Evolution of Citizenship
- Different Forms of Government
- Limited and Unlimited Government
- Role of the Judicial System in Protecting Rights
- Global Citizenship
- Environmental Citizenship

Unit Title: Civic Engagement: Exploring the Pillars of U.S. Democracy

Enduring Understandings:

- Voting is a civic responsibility and a fundamental aspect of a democratic society.
- Political parties play a crucial role in the electoral process and shaping public policy.
- Campaign finance has a significant impact on elections and political representation.
- Presidential elections in the United States involve a unique process with the electoral college.
- Media strategies, political advertising, and public opinion polling significantly impact U.S. elections, while social movements and grassroots activism play a vital role in driving policy changes and shaping citizenship.

Lessons:

- Informed Voters: A Civic Responsibility
- Understanding Political Parties: Their Roles and Ideologies
- Campaign Finance
- The Journey to the Presidency: Understanding U.S. Elections
- Elections and Media in U.S. Politics
- Social Movements and Grassroots Activism
- Foreign Policy and International Relations

Unit Title: The Seven Principles of the U.S. Constitution

Enduring Understandings:

- The U.S. Constitution's seven principles are essential to the structure and function of the government.
- Popular sovereignty forms the basis of political authority in the United States.
- Republicanism emphasizes representation and the pursuit of public good, shaping the U.S. legislative process and government.
- Federalism defines the power distribution between national and state governments.
- The separation of powers divides roles across government branches, with checks and balances limiting government overreach.

Lessons:

- Introduction to the Seven Principles of the U.S. Constitution
- Popular Sovereignty
- Republicanism
- Federalism
- Separation of Powers
- Checks and Balances
- Limited Government
- Individual Rights: Protecting Personal Liberties

STRAND 4: HISTORY

SUBSTRAND 4A: WORLD HISTORY

Society, Governance, and Culture in Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush

Enduring Understandings:

- The geographic locations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush influence their culture, economy, and history.
- The political structures and leaders of these ancient civilizations significantly impacted their governance, culture, and legacy.
- Trade was crucial in Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush for economic prosperity and cultural exchange.
- Religious beliefs and legal systems were fundamental in shaping the societal structure, cultural identity, and legal practices of these ancient civilizations.

Lessons:

- Introduction to Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush
- Political Structures and Leaders
- Economic Activities and Trade
- Religion and Belief Systems
- Hammurabi's Code and Legal Systems
- Ancient Egypt: Innovation Along the Nile

Unit Title: Ancient Hebrew Civilization: Geography, Society, and Faith

Enduring Understandings:

- Location and geography significantly influenced the history of the Hebrews and their development as a civilization.
- The political and social structures of the Hebrew civilization, including their leadership and governance systems, were foundational to their society and had lasting impacts on later civilizations.
- The religious beliefs and practices of the Hebrews, particularly monotheism and the Ten Commandments, were central to their society and played a key role in shaping their culture and values.
- The traditions and values of the Hebrews influenced the moral and ethical foundations of Western civilization.

Lessons:

- Geographic and Historical Context
- Hebrew Political and Social Structures
- Religious Beliefs and Practices
- Destruction of the Second Temple

Unit Title: Ancient Greece: City-States, Culture, and Conquests

Enduring Understandings:

- The geographic features of ancient Greece played a crucial role in shaping the development of independent city-states, each with its own unique culture and government.
- Trade and commerce were fundamental to the prosperity of ancient Greek city-states, driving economic activities and facilitating cultural exchange within Greece and with other civilizations.
- Ancient Athens was where the concept of direct democracy evolved, significantly influencing modern democratic principles and practices, including those in the United States.
- Greek mythology, literature, philosophy, and scientific thought, shaped by figures like Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, and Alexander the Great, have profoundly impacted Western culture, education, and thinking.

Lessons:

- Geographic Features and City-States
- Ancient Greece's Trade, Commerce, and Economy
- Greek Influence on Modern Culture
- Ancient Greek Wars and Alexander's Empire
- Ancient Greece

Unit Title: Ancient India: Geography, Religions, and Empires

Enduring Understandings:

- The major geographic features and river systems of ancient India played a crucial role in shaping its early civilizations, influencing their development and cultural practices.
- The Aryan invasions significantly influenced early Indian society, leading to the evolution of Brahmanism into Hinduism, a major religion that shaped many aspects of Indian culture and daily life.
- The caste system in ancient India was a defining element of its social structure, deeply influencing the cultural, economic, and social dynamics of Indian society.
- Buddha's teachings and the spread of Buddhism, the success of the Maurya Empire, and advancements in Indian writing and math are examples of ancient India's important cultural contributions.

Lessons:

- Geographic Features and River Systems
- Aryan Invasions and Early Hinduism
- The Caste System
- Life, Teachings, and Spread of Buddhism
- The Maurya Empire and Emperor Asoka
- Sanskrit Literature and Mathematics

Unit Title: China's Ancient Past

Enduring Understandings:

- Ancient China's rich history and culture have had a lasting impact on the world, from technological advancements to philosophical principles.
- Confucianism played a significant role in shaping Chinese society and government, emphasizing moral values, social harmony, and respect for authority.
- The Silk Road served as a vital trade and cultural exchange network, connecting China to the rest of the world and facilitating the spread of goods, ideas, and religions across vast distances.

Lessons:

- Shang Dynasty and Early Chinese Civilization
- Confucianism: Principles and Influence
- Qin Dynasty and Shi Huangdi
- Ancient China: River Origins to Han Legacy
- Silk Roads

Unit Title: Ancient Rome: Civilization, Culture, and Legacy

Enduring Understandings:

- The geography of ancient Rome played a crucial role in shaping its development and history.
- Key historical figures like Aeneas, Romulus, and Julius Caesar had significant roles and made notable contributions to Roman history.
- The Roman government and its constitution were distinctive, and understanding them provides insight into the governance of ancient civilizations.
- Roman art, architecture, technology, literature, language, and law were influential aspects of Roman culture that continue to impact the modern world.

Lessons:

- Geography and Rise of the Roman Republic
- Key Figures of Ancient Rome
- Roman Government and Constitution
- Religious, Social, and Cultural Aspects of Ancient Rome
- Roman Art, Architecture, and Technology
- Ancient Rome: Trade and Prosperity
- Roman Conflict, Wars, and the Transition to Empire

Unit Title: Pre-Columbian Civilizations

Enduring Understandings:

- Before Europeans arrived, the Americas had many advanced societies like the Olmecs, Maya, Aztecs, and Incas, each with distinct cultural traditions and their own ways of governing and living together.
- Pre-Columbian civilizations developed significant technological and agricultural innovations, which supported large populations and complex societies.
- The myths, religious beliefs, and art of Pre-Columbian societies offer deep insights into their citizens' worldviews, values, and interactions with the environment.
- The encounter between Pre-Columbian civilizations and Europeans marked a significant turning point, leading to cultural exchanges and dramatic changes in Indigenous societies that reshaped the global landscape.

Lessons:

- Hunter-Gatherer Societies
- The Olmec and Maya Civilizations
- The Aztec and Inca Civilizations
- Social Structures and Daily Life in Pre-Columbian Societies
- Trade and Economy in Pre-Columbian Times
- Myths and Religious Beliefs
- Consequences of European Contact

Unit Title: Exploration and Colonization

Enduring Understandings:

- The pursuit of wealth and new trade routes fueled European exploration.
- Technological advancements and cartography played a crucial role in enabling exploration.
- European exploration had profound effects on Indigenous populations and cultures.
- Economic, religious, and political motives drove colonization, influencing American development.

Lessons:

- The Age of Exploration: Why Explorers Set Sail
- Early European Explorers: 1400s–1500s
- Exploration Technology
- Early European Explorers: 1500s–1600s
- The Triangle Trade
- Impact of Colonization on Indigenous Peoples
- Native American Displacement and Policies

Substrand 4B: U.S. History

Unit Title: Colonial America: Foundations of a Nation

Enduring Understandings:

- The Mayflower Compact of 1620 established self-government, influencing early American politics.
- The distinct traits of the 13 colonies fostered regional identities and cultural diversity in the United States.
- Religion shaped social norms, creating varied religious experiences in American society.
- Diverse governance structures in early America laid the groundwork for democratic principles.
- Farming, trade, and labor practices like slavery impacted colonial economies and social structures.

Lessons:

- Early Colonial Challenges and Founding Documents
- Thirteen Colonies: Society, Politics, and Economy
- Religion's Role in Colonial Life
- Colonial Governance and Political Evolution
- Colonial Economies and Labor Practices
- Colonial Conflicts and Resistance
- Mercantilism, Conflicts, and Development
- Colonial Economic Systems and Labor
- Colonial Identity and Independence

Unit Title: The American Revolution

Enduring Understandings:

- The American Revolution was driven by factors like British taxation policies and protests.
- Key individuals and influential groups played essential roles in the American Revolution, shaping its outcome and influencing both the American and British sides.
- The Constitutional Convention of 1787, facing many challenges and compromises, addressed the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation by creating the U.S. Constitution.

Lessons:

- The American Revolution
- Forging a Nation: The Constitutional Convention
- Revolutionary Figures: Leaders and Influencers

Unit Title: The War of 1812 and Its Impact on American History

Enduring Understandings:

- Important events caused the War of 1812, resulting in battles and outcomes that had a lasting impact on American history.
- The War of 1812 brought about significant political and cultural changes in the United States and profoundly influenced the nation's development.

Lessons:

- War of 1812: Causes
- Monroe Doctrine
- War of 1812: Battles and Outcomes

Unit Title: Westward Expansion

Enduring Understandings:

- Westward expansion was driven by various factors, including economic opportunities, land incentives, and political ideologies.
- The Louisiana Purchase stemmed from Thomas Jefferson's goal of acquiring more land and Napoleon's need for money.
- Settlers were encouraged to move westward by economic opportunities, the promise of land, and the pursuit of a better life.
- Westward expansion had profound impacts on Indigenous peoples, leading to forced removal, resistance, and disruption of their traditional ways of life.

Lessons:

- Driving Forces of Westward Expansion
- The Transcontinental Railroad
- The Louisiana Purchase
- Chinese Workers and the Transcontinental Railroad
- The Louisiana Purchase: The Expedition
- The Steel and Oil Industries
- Westward Expansion in the United States
- Environmental Impacts of Westward Expansion
- The California Gold Rush
- Broader Impacts of Westward Expansion
- The Impact of Westward Expansion on American Indian Nations
- Cultural Landscapes in Manifest Destiny America

Unit Title: The Road to Civil War

Enduring Understandings:

- Slavery has deep economic, social, and political roots in the United States.
- The Civil War was rooted in complex causes and had political, economic, and social impacts on the North and the South.
- History is open to multiple interpretations, and the same piece of evidence can support conflicting claims.

Lessons:

- The North and South
- The Missouri Compromise and the Kansas-Nebraska Act
- The Compromise of 1850
- A Nation Separates
- Frederick Douglass

Unit Title: The American Civil War

Enduring Understandings:

- The Civil War arose from sectionalism, economic conflicts, and the 1860 election.
- Battles like Bull Run and Antietam held significant historical consequences.
- The Emancipation Proclamation influenced military enlistment and global views.
- The Civil War affected U.S. international relations.

Lessons:

- The Civil War Begins
- Abraham Lincoln
- Major Battles of the Civil War
- Economic Impacts of the Civil War
- The Civil War Shifts at Gettysburg
- The Emancipation Proclamation
- The Civil War: A Union Victory

Unit Title: Reconstruction: Rebuilding a Nation

Enduring Understandings:

- Reconstruction aimed to rebuild the United States and bring about significant changes in the South after the end of the Civil War.
- Key amendments and laws, such as the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments, were introduced during Reconstruction to address issues like slavery, citizenship, and voting rights, promoting equality and civil rights.
- Reconstruction resulted in significant societal changes, including shifts in the Southern economy, educational opportunities, and cultural norms, which had an enduring effect on American history.

Lessons:

- The Reconstruction Era
- The Reconstruction Amendments
- Early Reconstruction
- Radical Reconstruction
- Economic Reconstruction
- Social and Cultural Changes During Reconstruction
- Education and Literacy in the Reconstruction Era
- Reconstruction Era: Key Court Decisions
- The Aftermath of Reconstruction

Unit Title: The Industrial Revolution

Enduring Understandings:

- The Industrial Revolution transformed economies from handcrafting to machine-based production.
- Major inventions during the Industrial Revolution significantly changed daily life and work.
- Industrialization led to significant social and economic changes, including urbanization and the rise of labor movements.
- Advancements in communication technologies during the 1800s revolutionized how people interacted and did business.

Lessons:

- The First Industrial Revolution
- The Industrialization of the United States
- The New England Textile Industry
- Urbanization and Social Change During the American Industrial Revolution
- Communication Technologies in the 1800s

STRAND 5: HISTORICAL INQUIRY AND ANALYSIS

Unit Title: Source Analysis, Bias Recognition, and Media Literacy

Enduring Understandings:

- History relies on analyzing various sources, both primary and secondary, to uncover the past.
- Recognizing bias is crucial in understanding historical events accurately.
- Effective research skills help us compile and present well-organized historical information.
- History provides valuable insights into current events and informs our understanding of the present.
- Media literacy is essential for evaluating information critically and understanding its impact on public perception.

Lessons:

- Primary vs. Secondary Sources
- Analyzing Primary Sources
- Understanding Bias and Credibility
- Researching like a Historian
- Current Events and Historical Context
- Propaganda and Media Literacy
- Exploring Political Cartoons in Historical Context

Unit Title: Analyzing Historical Patterns Through Inquiry

Enduring Understandings:

- Recognizing historical patterns helps us make informed decisions for the present and future.
- Examining historical causes and effects deepens our understanding of complex events.
- Small historical events can lead to significant, widespread outcomes.
- Using historical lessons guides our present actions and future planning.
- Critical analysis of cause and effect in history reveals the interconnected nature of events.

Lessons:

- Introduction to Historical Inquiry
- Investigating Historical Causes and Consequences
- The Butterfly Effect in History
- Using Historical Lessons for the Future
- Analyzing Cause-and-Effect Relationships in Historical Events