

6th Grade Resources

Global Studies: World Regions and Cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere (Early Civilizations to 1500s)

The content focus will be viewed through geographic and historical lenses. Sixth grade students will understand the cultural, religious, economic, and political systems of selected societies in the Eastern Hemisphere. Regions in the Eastern Hemisphere include the Middle East and North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Europe, Asia (east, south, and southeast), and Oceania. A course on world regions and cultures can be approached from many angles and perspectives.

There are many topics to pursue in 6th grade. LEAs should identify topical emphases to allow for depth of study needed to effectively engage student/learners in the inquiry process. Educators may choose to take a regional approach, a thematic approach, or a historical approach to the content.

Course Considerations:

- Beginnings of human society such as early hominid development, peopling of the earth, and the Neolithic Revolution
- Early river civilizations such as Mesopotamia, the Nile River Valley, the Indus River Valley, and the Yellow River Valley
- World religions including, but not limited to Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shintoism, Sikhism, and Taoism, (origins, founders, major tenets, practices, and sacred writings)
- Classical civilizations such as Greek, Roman, Persian, and Chinese (political, social, religious, and economic systems)
- Rise and fall of empires and the impacts to the region
- Growth of trade networks across the Eastern Hemisphere and impacts such as cultural exchange and diffusion, inventions, ideas, diseases, and languages
- Development of feudal systems in medieval Europe and Japan
- Different civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere during the Middle Ages with regards to political, social, religious, and economic systems
- Origins, accomplishments, and geographic diffusion of the Renaissance and the Reformation
- Ancient and modern geography of the Eastern Hemisphere
- Examination of primary and secondary sources including written and oral histories, images, and artifacts
- Disciplinary skills and processes including change and continuity over time, multiple perspectives, using and understanding sources, and cause and effect

NOTE: Resources may be listed as a different grade based upon national or other state curriculum. Please search by topic for sources to use.

Resource	Website	Description
2019 Notable Social Studies Books	https://www.cbcbooks.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/NOTABLES2019_PreviewList2.pdf	List of notable books to teach and use for social studies broken down by grade band. There are also past lists available at https://www.cbcbooks.org/readers/reading-lists/best-of-lists/notable-social-studies/ .
Asia for Educators	http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/	Great lessons and primary sources for Asia. Geared to high school, but can be easily modified for 6 th grade.
New Visions Social Studies Curriculum	https://curriculum.newvisions.org/social-studies	Use the Global History tabs to find resources, compelling questions, and lessons for course considerations.
Stanford History Education Group	https://sheg.stanford.edu/history-lessons	Document-based resources for both U.S. and World History. Lessons include documents, PowerPoints, and handouts all available to edit.
History Assessments – Beyond the Bubble	https://sheg.stanford.edu/history-assessments	History assessments for both U.S. and World that use disciplinary skills and processes standards to assess students.
Arizona Geographic Alliance	https://geoalliance.asu.edu/	Lessons and resources with a geography focus. Lessons are searchable by topic and grade level.
C3 Inquiry	http://www.c3teachers.org/inquiries/	Search by topic to find inquiries that cover the course considerations. Use all or part of the inquiries in your classes.
Newsela	https://newsela.com/	Current events searchable by topic, and grade level. Manipulate the lexile of the article to suit your students' needs.
Digital Public Library of America	https://dp.la/primary-source-sets/	Primary source documents and lessons on world history. Many may be adapted for 6 th grade.
Project Learn Smart	https://www.projectlooksharp.org/?action=main	Sources and lessons organized by topic or by grade level and contains a media literacy focus. Many come with teacher and student guides.
Facing History and Ourselves	https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library	Collection of primary sources and teacher resources on a variety of topics.
CommonLit	https://www.commonlit.org	Search the library for texts on a variety of subjects. Sources and lessons searchable by lexile and include reading guides.
Read Works	https://www.readworks.org/	Similar to Newsela. Searchable sources for social studies with adaptable lexile levels. Great resource for many topics.
Primary Source Nexus	http://primarysourcenexus.org/psn-resources/themed-link-sets/cps-social-studies/	Resource partnered with the Library of Congress. Searchable topics and grade levels and includes lessons.
Teaching Tolerance	https://www.tolerance.org/	Great K-12 lessons, posters, and film on civics, history, geography, and economics with a focus on tolerance and community.
PBS Media Learning	https://az.pbslearningmedia.org/subjects/social-studies/	Interactives, videos, lessons, galleries, audio, images, and documents all for K-12. Search by topics in addition to grade level.

EDSITEment	https://edsitement.neh.gov/	Lessons from the National Endowment for the Humanities. All lessons are searchable by grade level or subject/topic.
Council for Economic Education	https://www.econedlink.org/	K-12 lessons on economic principles. Many are hands on and interactive.
Brain Pop Jr.	https://jr.brainpop.com/	High quality short videos on a variety of subjects K-6. No corresponding resources.
The Smithsonian Museum Lab	http://smithsonianeducation.org/	Huge number of resources for many topics, not just social studies. Resources include lessons, video clips, and interactives. Read or watch the getting started guide to narrow your searches.
Teaching History.org	https://teachinghistory.org/teaching-materials	Searchable lessons and resources for K-12 as well as teacher methodologies.
Women in World History	http://www.womeninworldhistory.com/	Lessons, biographies, and reviews of documentaries of women throughout world history. Many primary sources that add perspective.
Teaching History with Technology	http://thwt.org/	Lessons, activities, multimedia and more for grades 6-12 on all social studies content areas.
History World	http://www.historyworld.net/	Timelines, history texts, and a great Google map feature all geared toward world history.
National Geographic History Site	https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/history-civilization	Quality National Geographic video clips for world history. Other content areas are available to search for as well.
Annenberg Learner	https://www.learner.org/	Annenberg Media's K-12 site for videos, lessons, and interactives. Other content areas are available as well.