

EXPLORE THE WORLD!

First Philadelphia Charter School | Education Through Literacy

Why Social Studies?

Social Studies is not just the study of historical events, names and dates. My emphasis for this class will be on making connections, why do these things happen? We will look at cultural, political, social, and economic events that make these events happen. Understanding why events happen is a skill we can all apply to our own lives.

Analyze Documents

In order to understand historical events, we need to be able to analyze primary and secondary source documents. How people viewed themselves, their time, and events is important to understanding why events happened.

Geography

Geography is one of the most influential factors in history, and often gets ignored. In this class you will be asked to not only memorize geographical features, but explain how they factored in historical events.



My View on World History

When most people think of World History, they think of ancient civilizations; the Greeks, Romans, Egyptians. They think of agonizing over what seem like irrelevant dates, names, wars and places. I will not ask you to do most of that. While knowing names, dates and places can be important, the real purpose of history is understanding why things happen. Knowing names and dates is only a small part to doing that. In this class, I will ask you to analyze events and explain why they happened. We will do this through looking at various documents and using geography to better understand our units of study.





Curriculum Outline

We will pick up with where you may have left off in 6th grade, delving into the following regions and time periods:

- Unit 1 - Europe During Medieval Times
- Unit 2 - Islam in Medieval Times
- Unit 3 - The Culture and Kingdoms of West Africa
- Unit 4 - Imperial China
- Unit 5 - Japan During Medieval Times
- Unit 6 - Civilizations of the Americas
- Unit 7 - Europe's Renaissance and Reformation
- Unit 8 - Europe Enters the Modern Age

While we are limited to the time the school year allows for, my goal is to get us through all of the units. This means we may spend more or less time on a particular unit depending on the unit.

My Mission Statement to You:

Each and every day, I will do my best to foster the ability to learn for every student. The purpose of education, regardless of subject matter, is not only to educate the students on the topic, but also to allow students to explore their interests and gain real life skills. My mission is to help students to go beyond memorization of subject matter, but to acknowledge and apply the skills gained to their own lives.

“The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.”

What is our class mission statement?



