

# **SOCIAL STUDIES**

*"We celebrate the past to awaken the future."*

John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Welcome to the Pride Rock and sixth grade social studies! Your student will soon begin an amazing journey through time—from the early days of hunter-gatherers to the year 1600 AD. We will explore the first civilizations and then continue through the days of classical Greece and Rome, to the Middle Ages and beyond! South Carolina standards for sixth grade social studies may be found at <http://www.sctlc.com/ss/soc/>

Our social studies text this year is **WORLD HISTORY** from Holt, Rinehart, and Winston publishers. While we use many varied resources in our classroom, the textbook provides a foundation on which to build. It is a resource readily available to parents. The books are very expensive, so we will want to take good care of them.

## **MATERIALS NEEDED DAILY IN SOCIAL STUDIES CLASS:**

Planner

Textbook

Social Studies/Science binder with

\*clean paper

\* unit papers in your divider

TWO pencils and your hand-held sharpener

Social Studies vocabulary composition book

\*\*If additional supplies (such as colored pencils or scissors) are needed, a notice will be placed outside our door or on the assignment board.

\*\*\*OPTIONAL supplies that may be helpful during our school year together include Scotch tape, scissors, glue sticks, and reinforcements for the holes in notebook paper (one pack will last a LONG time!).

All unit work—activities, notes, handouts, etc.—will be kept as a portfolio in the social studies divider of the science/social studies binder. Activities will be numbered and kept in order. A TABLE OF CONTENTS page should be placed on top. An ongoing contents list for the current unit will be kept on the front board of the classroom and posted on the Schoolnotes web site. At the conclusion of each unit, portfolios will be collected. Grades will count twice, equivalent to a test grade.

Important vocabulary terms will be placed in the bound composition book for social studies. This book will become an important resource during our year together.

**HOMEWORK:** Homework will average two to three times a week. Frequently, these assignments consist of activities begun in class and completed at home. It is VERY

important to complete all assignments thoroughly and accurately and to turn them in when due. Points will be deducted for late or incomplete work.

**ASSESSMENTS:** There will be frequent assessments of material as it is covered. Chapter and unit tests will be announced in advance. Graded unit tests and portfolios will be sent home for parent signatures. Students will receive BONUS POINTS for returning signed papers the following day.

**GRADING POLICY:** All regular assignments count once. Unit tests and portfolios count twice. At the end of each six weeks grading period, one regular grade is dropped.

**EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES:** Occasional extra credit opportunities are offered. No more than three extra credit grades may be added per six weeks grading period. NOTE- Extra credit grades DO NOT make up for missing regular grades.

**CONTACTS:** The planner is the single most important avenue for home-school communication. Please look over your child's planner and sign daily. I try to sign as often as I can. Spot checks will be made to note parent signatures. If you have Internet access, you may check daily entries at [www.schoolnotes.com](http://www.schoolnotes.com) . Class information, announcements, and social studies assignments will be posted. (School zip code is 29376; scroll down to "Sinclair")

Please feel free to contact me by email at [sinclairvb@spart6.org](mailto:sinclairvb@spart6.org) or by phone at 864-576-3500, ext. 5629. Our phones do not ring, but will record messages.

I look forward to a wonderful and exciting year of learning and discovery with your child.

Thank you,  
Vicki Sinclair