Grade: 6  
Unit Name: Medieval Times  
Suggested Timeline: 8 weeks  

New Era: Expanding Exchanges and Encounters (500 CE - 1450 CE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Studies Standards</th>
<th>Cross Curricular Standards:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.2.A.4.a</td>
<td>Analyze the role of religion and other means rulers used to unify and centrally govern expanding territories with diverse populations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.2.A.4.b</td>
<td>Compare and contrast the Japanese and European systems of feudalism and the effectiveness in each in promoting social, economic, and political order.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.2.A.4.c</td>
<td>Determine the influence of medieval English legal and constitutional practices (i.e., the Magna Carta, parliament, and the development of habeas corpus and an independent judiciary) on modern democratic thought and institutions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.2.B.4.a</td>
<td>Explain how geography influenced the development of the political, economic, and cultural centers of each empire as well as the empires' relationships with other parts of the world.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.2.B.4.b</td>
<td>Analyze the causes and outcomes of the Crusades from different perspectives, including the perspectives of European political and religious leaders, the crusaders, Jews, Muslims, and traders.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.2.B.4.c</td>
<td>Assess the demographic, economic, and religious impact of the plague on Europe.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.2.B.4.d</td>
<td>Determine which events led to the rise and eventual decline of European feudalism.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Essential Questions:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What were the causes and effects of the collapse of the Roman Empire?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What was the church’s role during the Middle Ages?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What was the structure of government during Medieval times?</td>
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<tr>
<th>Enduring Understandings:</th>
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<tr>
<td>The gradual decrease in political, economic, and military institutions contributed to the collapse of the Roman Empire.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The effects of the collapse of the Roman Empire led to no central government, town abandonment, unsafe travel, and decreased trade.</td>
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Comment [1]: Changes in the standards and/or wording is indicated in BOLD print.
How does feudalism in Medieval Europe compare to Japanese feudalism?

What were the relationships among people under feudalism and manorialism?

What contributed to the growth of medieval towns?

What was a guild and how does it relate to our unions today?

How did changes in government structure affect the citizens of Medieval towns?

What were the conditions of the Magna Carta and how did it influence the U.S Constitution?

What challenges did people face during the Middle Ages?

How did the Black Death affect the economy of Europe?

How did geography impact trade, politics, and culture within Medieval times?

Why were Constantinople and the Mediterranean Sea of economic importance and a source of conflict?

What impact did the Crusades have on Western Europe’s expansion?

The social order and government structure of the Middle Ages influenced Europe into a modern society.

The church played a major role in how Medieval towns were structured.

Medieval citizens had to overcome many challenges such as political conflicts, diseases, and economic struggles.

Geography impacted trade, economic prosperity, and relationships during the Middle Ages.

**Vocabulary:**
- Medieval Towns
- Feudalism
- Manorialism
- Guild
- Magna Carta
- The Plague
- The Crusades

**Social Studies Skills:**

**Chronological Thinking (CH)**
- Develop a timeline to show the time period of the middle ages
- Identify important events on the timeline

**Spatial Thinking (SP)**
- Map out a Medieval town to highlight important places
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conflict</th>
<th>Critical Thinking (CR)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Compare the Black Plague to other diseases (i.e. AIDS in Africa)</td>
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**Presentational Skills (PS)**

## Learning Targets

- Students will understand that the Middle Ages resulted because of Rome’s destruction
  - Discuss the factors that led to Rome’s destruction: i.e.: separation of eastern and western empires, political conflict, economic struggles, and military weakness
  - Show history.com video and Brain Pop video on Fall of Rome as visual overview
  - Read Dateline Article textbook p. 290 and Causes for Roman's Empire article and highlight the multiple causes historians feel led to the decline of the Roman Empire
  - Ask students to reflect and select what they feel are the three most important reasons for why the Roman Empire declined. Have students justify why they chose those three reasons with supporting statements.

## Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>History.com video: Fall of Rome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.history.com/topics/middle-ages/videos#the-fall-of-rome">http://www.history.com/topics/middle-ages/videos#the-fall-of-rome</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Brain Pop video: Fall of Rome</th>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/worldhistory/feudalism/">http://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/worldhistory/feudalism/</a></td>
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<th>Causes for Roman's Empire</th>
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<tr>
<th>Textbook: McDougal Littell: World Cultures and Geography</th>
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<tr>
<td>Time of Change: The Middle Ages p. 290-295</td>
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</table>

- Students will examine the role religion played within the Middle Ages
  - Discuss the role Charlemagne played to bring more political order and structure of the lives of people.
  - List the improvements Charlemagne brought as the Holy Roman Emperor: improvement of education, strengthening government, and the spread of religion
  - Discuss how medieval communities were centered around the church. Brainstorm different functions the church might have served within a medieval town. Read Charlemagne and the Christian Church and Role of the Church textbook p. 291 Have

<table>
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<th>Textbook: McDougal Littell: World Cultures and Geography</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>p. 291-292</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlemagne and the Christian Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Role of the Church</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monks &amp; Monasteries, Nuns &amp; Convents</th>
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<tr>
<td>Benedictine Rule</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://medieval">http://medieval</a> europe.mrdonn.org/monks.html</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Students will pull out the different functions of a church during medieval times:
1) offered religious services
2) cared for the sick and needy
3) established orphanages
4) hosted feasts and celebrations
5) preserved books and learning

In 4-5 sentences, students will summarize how religion played a foundational role within medieval towns.

Students will identify the structure of government during Medieval times
Discuss how during the Middle Ages two political systems existed: feudalism and manorialism.
Provide overview of each system for students and go over the visual charts.

Textbook: McDougal Littell: World Cultures and Geography
Time of Change: The Middle Ages
Feudalism p. 292 Manorialism p. 293
Overviews:
http://edtech2.boisestate.edu/lockwoodm/Feudalism/european.htm
Visual Chart of European Feudalism:
http://edtech2.boisestate.edu/lockwoodm/Feudalism/images/EuropeanF.GIF
Visual Chart of Manorialism:
http://edtech2.boisestate.edu/lockwoodm/Feudalism/images/manorialism.GIF
Example of chart p. 292

Students will examine the Medieval systems of feudalism and manorialism
Read and discuss two medieval systems p. 292-293
Review visual charts on European feudalism and manorialism.
Guide students to create a diagram to show the obligations and rewards of both feudalism and manorialism.
Through chart created students can see how each

Visual Chart of European Feudalism:
http://edtech2.boisestate.edu/lockwoodm/Feudalism/images/EuropeanF.GIF
Visual Chart of Manorialism:
http://edtech2.boisestate.edu/lockwoodm/Feudalism/images/manorialism.GIF
Example of chart Textbook p. 292
Students will identify the factors that led to the rise and eventual decline of European feudalism.

| Students will identify the factors that led to the rise and eventual decline of European feudalism. | Review with students how the nobles developed a feudal system to protect their land and positions. Students will view Brain Pop video on Feudalism to understand the factors that contributed to the decline of feudalism. Take online quiz for review of political system. Go over decline of feudalism factors. As exit slip students write out factors that led to decline of feudalism. | Brain Pop video: Feudalism
http://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/worldhistory/feudalism/preview.weml
Decline of Feudalism
http://www.middle-ages.org.uk/decline-of-feudalism.htm |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Students will compare and contrast European feudalism to Japanese feudalism | Read overview on Japanese Feudalism. Students will discuss the similarities and differences between Japanese feudalism and European feudalism using compare and contrast graphic organizer. | Japanese Feudalism
http://edtech2.boisestate.edu/lockwoodm/Feudalism/Japanese_feudalism.htm
European Feudalism
http://edtech2.boisestate.edu/lockwoodm/Feudalism/european.htm |
| Students will compare daily life during the Middle Ages to present day. | Discuss the medieval ways of life. P. 293-294 Show Brain Pop video on the Middle Ages. Students will review key information by taking online quiz. | Brain Pop video: The Middle Ages
http://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/worldhistory/middleages/ |
Discuss the technology available during medieval times and what challenges might arise.

Students will complete Then and There to Here and Now chart. Students think about how people traveled, what work people did, what was important to people during the medieval times to their lives today.

**Students will examine the plague and its effect on society**

Present overview of the black death- using power-point presentation. Read aloud p. 299 with class and discuss how the plague affected society.

View interactive map showing the spread of the black plague. Reinforce information with Brain Pop video The Black Death.

Students will read FYI articles, World Book Informational article, and refer to p. 299. As students read articles they will organize information in Important Information graphic organizer. Students will list the "top ten" facts they find. Students will reflect on the most important fact they found and why the think is important.

**Students will understand how the Magna Carta challenged the European nobility and influenced**

Introduce the reason why the Magna Carta was written by English nobles. Ask students if they think the nobles forced King John to sign the Magna Carta.

**The Black Death School History Powerpoint**

World Book The Black Death Article:
http://worldbookonline.com/student/article?id=ar062340&st=the+plague

Textbook: McDougal Littell: World Cultures and Geography
How can trade spread diseases? P. 299

Important information graphic organizer

National Archives & Records Administration
http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured_d
Read textbook p. 295 Magna Carta. Relate the nobles' rebellion against King John in 1215 to the constitution and Bill of Rights. Read aloud national archives article on Magna Carta. Note the two principles expressing liberty that still hold true today. Highlight how the Magna Carta served to inspire colonists and influenced the fifth amendment of the constitution.

Read Cicero Dialogue: Magna Carta The Source and Liberty - follow-up discussion questions.

Students will understand the benefits of belonging to a medieval guild and relate it to present day unions

Discuss what guilds provided during Medieval times. Refer to textbook page 294 on Guilds.

Students will read article on Medieval guilds
http://medievaleurope.mrdonn.org/guilds.html
After reading discuss the main idea of guilds and how they can be related to unions today. Refer to "Collect Evidence to Support an Idea" graphic organizer for activity.

Textbook: McDougal Littell: World Cultures and Geography
Time of Change: The Middle Ages p. 290-295

Guild Article
http://medievaleurope.mrdonn.org/guilds.html

Students will examine the conflicts that resulted between Europe and the Middle East during the Crusades

Read The Crusades for Kids

Refer to political map during The First Crusades, 1189 compare map to modern Europe.

Read and discuss Dateline article and European Encounter New Cultures textbook p. 301.

Read Brain Pop article Did You Know? On the

The Crusades for Kids
http://medievaleurope.mrdonn.org/crusades.html

Brain Pop article: Did You Know?
http://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/worldhistory/middleages/fyi/

Political map - The First Crusades
http://www.shadowedrealm.com/maps/political/view/europe_at_the_time_of_the_crusades
Students will examine how the geography of Europe had a powerful impact on the lives of the people who lived there during the Middle Ages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students will examine how the geography of Europe had a powerful impact on the lives of the people who lived there during the Middle Ages.</th>
<th>Refer to pages 273-277. Ask students what is special about Europe's physical environment? Note the distinctive features it has—oceans, rivers, peninsulas, mountain ranges, and central plains. Discuss how the geography of Europe had a powerful impact on the lives of the people who lived there during the Middle Ages:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| religious conflicts that occurred during the Crusades. Students can organize the main idea of article using graphic organizer. "I can infer the main idea when I read". Students will explain their thinking about how they figured out the main idea in a short-answer response. | Fling The Teacher - The Crusades
http://www.schoolhistory.co.uk/games/pling/crusades/index.shtml |
| | Who Has Conquered The Middle East Interactive
http://www.mapsofwar.com/images/EMPIRE/17.swf |
| | Textbook: McDougal Littell: World Cultures and Geography p. 301 Dateline and European Encounter New Cultures |
| | Textbook: McDougal Littell: World Cultures and Geography p. 273-275 The Geography of Europe Activity p. 275 Photocopy Map of Europe |
| | Explore More—How Europe’s Geography Affected People’s Lives
| 1) It determined how people migrated—where they relocated and settled. 2) Which groups had contact with one another for trading purposes, sharing of ideas, traditions, and conflicts for land that was open and vulnerable for attack 3) Some areas were more isolated 4) How natural boundaries such as mountains provided protection against invasions 5) Affected crops, animals available as resources, and the types of shelters that could be built 6) Technologies and advances we have today |
were not readily available—geography had a huge impact.

Text book Page 275 Map Activity
Students will reflect on the following questions:
How do waterways, such as rivers and seas, strengthen trade in Europe?

Discuss Europe’s geography and how the combination of ideas, events, and human actions explains the emergence of new patterns.

What would you like to know more about in terms of European geography and the relationship between geography and people’s lives during the Middle Ages?

Assessments:
1) Map Work
2) Graphic Organizers
3) Essay Writing

Modifications: Modified tests, quizzes, assignments, partner project activities, cooperative learning groups, extended time