

7th GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

Welcome to 7th Grade! This guide will help you understand what your child will learn in social studies this year and how you can support their learning at home. Seventh grade is the second year of a two-year World Area Studies course. Students will explore Africa, Southwest Asia (Middle East), and Southern & Eastern Asia through the lenses of geography, history, government, and economics. If you have questions, contact your child's teacher.

This year's focus: World Area Studies - Africa and Asia

Your child will examine how geography, culture, history, and economics shape different regions of the world and influence global interactions.

HISTORY

- Understand the impact of European colonization and independence movements in Africa and the Southwest
- Analyze the creation of Israel and ongoing regional conflicts
- Explore the rise of nationalism in India and the influence of leaders like Gandhi
- Examine communism in China and U.S. involvement in Korea and Vietnam

GEOGRAPHY

- Locate major physical and political features in Africa and Asia
- Understand how geography affects population distribution, trade, and development
- Investigate environmental issues such as water scarcity, pollution, and desertification



CIVICS & GOVERNMENT

- Compare different forms of government (autocratic, democratic, parliamentary, presidential)
- Understand how citizens participate in governments across Africa and Asia
- Explore how government stability affects quality of life, education, and healthcare



ECONOMICS

- Compare traditional, command, and market economies
- Understand how countries answer basic economic questions
- Analyze trade relationships, barriers, and currency exchange
- Explore how literacy, capital investment, and entrepreneurship affect economic growth



HOW YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN

Seventh graders learn through inquiry, analysis, and real-world application:

- Ask & Wonder: Pose questions like "How does geography affect conflict?" or "Why do governments differ?"
- Investigate: Use maps, primary sources, and data to explore global issues
- Share & Explain: Write essays, create projects, and engage in discussions
- Reflect: Connect global events to current issues and personal experiences

SKILLS YOUR CHILD WILL BUILD

- Use maps, charts, and graphs to analyze information
- Compare historical and modern events across regions
- Interpret primary and secondary sources
- Formulate research questions and draw conclusions
- Understand cause and effect in global contexts

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- · Discuss current events and connect them to global history
- Explore world cultures through books, documentaries, or cuisine
- Talk about different forms of government and economic systems
- Encourage curiosity about global issues and diverse perspectives

7th Grade Social Studies helps students become informed global citizens who understand the interconnectedness of the modern world and their role in shaping it.

