



Butler 6 World History 2014-2015

Introduction to Butler 6 Social Studies:

1. What will we be studying this year in social studies?

Our journey as historians begins as we learn about the five themes of geography and cultural diversity. These units lead us to the study of early humans. Next, our travels turn to the exploration of the ancient world by becoming archeologists and looking at the Great Rift Valley in Africa. Our next stop along the way are the great ancient civilizations of the world. We begin our study by exploring the world's first civilization, Mesopotamia. Then we move on to the wonders of Ancient Egypt, China, India, Greece, and Rome. Finally, we end our year with a look at Medieval Times and the Middle Ages. In addition to exploring the ancient world, Butler 6 will learn about current events, United States politics, and will participate in a variety of service learning projects.

2. How should the subject dividers in my social studies binder be labeled?

Assignments: This section is for weekly assignment sheets. Assignment sheets are posted on my schoolwires page on Monday nights and you are responsible to print the assignment sheet and bring it to class on Tuesday. In addition, each assignment sheet has a political cartoon that is discussed in class on Tuesday. All assignment sheets should be arranged in your binder by chronological order. **The weekly assignment sheets count as a homework grade worth 5 points.**

Class Work: This section of your binder is dedicated to class notes and handouts. Make sure to date all handouts and write the proper heading on all notes. Notes should also be kept in chronological order.

Homework: This section is for all your homework and study guides. For most units you will receive a study guide. Study guides are used for both nightly homework assignments and review for tests/quizzes. All study guides are posted on schoolwires.

Tests & Quizzes: This section is for all completed tests and quizzes. In addition, you can keep review material in this part of your binder.

Projects: In this part of your binder keep materials for projects or long term assignments. For example, you should keep direction sheets, research notes, or anything else you need to complete a research project in this section.

3. How should papers or notes be labeled for social studies?

Proper Heading:

Social Studies & Class Section Number

Name:

Binder Section (Class Work, Homework, etc.)

Date:

4. What textbook are we using in social studies?

This year we will be using a new textbook called *myWorld History*. At the beginning of the year you will receive your textbook. Each textbook is numbered, and you are responsible for the condition of your textbook. You may leave your textbook at home. Also, all students will be given an access code for an online textbook, so you can access your textbook from any computer.

5. Will we have homework in social studies?

Yes! Homework is an important course requirement and will be assigned most days. In the process of completing assignments correctly and carefully, you strengthen your knowledge while developing important study skills. Think of

homework as an opportunity to learn and to display your sense of responsibility, your ability to organize your time, and your motivation to do well. If you are unable to do your homework, please bring a note from a parent. You will have until the next class period to make up the work. After one week late homework will not be accepted and a student will receive a zero for the assignment.

Daily assignments should take from 20-25 minutes to complete. Long term assignments will be spaced out over several days. Homework will also be written daily on the classroom board. Students are required to have an agenda book and are responsible to write down the nightly homework assignments.

6. How will we be graded?

Your grade in social studies is based on your class work, homework, tests/quizzes, and projects.

Homework:

Homework and class work will be graded using the following system:

- √+ Top quality homework earns this grade. The content is excellent. Capitalization, spelling, sentence structure, and grammar are all correct. The paper has a proper heading, is neat, and multiple papers are stapled together.
- √ A check on a paper means acceptable work, your content is correct, you followed directions, however the assignment is not neat or you are missing key elements.
- √- Something is wrong! Be sure to see me if you do not understand how to make corrections.

Test and quizzes: There will be tests/quizzes on a regular. Quizzes will test your knowledge of daily homework, reading assignments, and class notes. Quizzes are given on a weekly or biweekly basis, usually after a section of a chapter is completed. Tests are given once an entire topic or chapter from the textbook is covered. Tests are worth 100 points. In the event you fail a test or quiz you will be given the opportunity to make test correction and the failing test

or quiz score will be raised to passing. **You will not be given a retest.** If you fail a test or quiz you must have the exam signed by your parent/guardian.

Social Studies Binder: Your social studies binder counts as a 100 point test. You are required to bring your binder to class everyday. At the end of the quarter your binder will be collected and graded.

Projects: Throughout the year we will have projects based on the topics covered in class. Our first project will be centered on the study of geography. Projects are worth 100 points and there are multi-steps that are graded.

7. When can we come for extra help?

Extra help is everyday after school with the exception of Mondays and Fridays. Also, during reading and before school are good times to come for extra help. If you would like to come before school please make an appointment.

8. What about extra credit?

Great! Always welcomed! Perhaps you are interested in doing some research on a topic we're not studying in school. Maybe, you'd like to share your travel experiences with the class, plan a presentation, prepare a poster, or write about what you've learned from your trip. Come see me to discuss your ideas. **Extra credit projects should be discussed by the middle of the quarter.**

9. What supplies do you need at home?

You will need a quiet study area to work and a regularly scheduled time, free of interruptions, for homework. Equip your "office" with the tools and reference sources you will need. A dictionary, a thesaurus, and an atlas are essential. As you read assignments, get in the habit of looking up words and places that are unfamiliar.

10. How can my parents contact you?

Your parents can contact me by calling either the Butler Office, 721-2620. They can also e-mail at jcastiello@scarsdaleschools.org. I look forward to meeting all of your parents at the Butler 6 Open House in September.

Student's Signature

Parent or Guardian's Signature

***This paper should be placed in the front of your social studies binder.**