



## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Summer Homework

In 7<sup>th</sup> grade, we study the the Western Hemisphere and cover from the beginning of civilization all the way to today. Each unit is focused on one theme that will drive our learning. You will start off learning about the importance of water in the development of civilization, and from there will cover the following topics: the effectiveness of different government types, the environmental impact of economic gain, the human cost of colonization in Africa, and the role of policy in a country's development.

In order to be fully prepared for the first few weeks of class, please come back to school with the following assignment completed.

### **#1:** Answer the question: **In your opinion, why is it important to study the social sciences?**

This is a complex question, but as we encounter information from all over the world, if you do not understand how important social studies is to our day to day lives, it will be more difficult to jump into the incredible units of study you will have this upcoming year.

Students can answer this in anyway they choose! They can write a 5 paragraph essay, draw or paint a picture, make a comic book, write a song, make a poster, write a poem, make a PowerPoint or Prezi presentation, make a movie etc. Feel free to be as creative as you want. Some questions to think about as you answer this question are:

- What words do you think of when you hear the words, social scientist?
- How does trade affect how we live?
- How does history impact the decisions of our leaders?
- How does globalization help or hurt us?
- How do we deal with our natural resources? Climate Change? Animals?
- How do we speak up for what we believe in, even as a 7th grader?
- How does geography affect how we live?

**#2.** In Social Studies we will learn about the four social sciences of social studies:

**-History:** The study of past events

**-Geography:** The study of the details of the earth's surface including the land, bodies of water, climate, plants, animals and of course- people

**-Civics:** The study of the rights and responsibilities of citizens and of how governments work

**-Economics:** The study of the process of how goods and services are created, sold, bought or exchanged

*Throughout the summer, record 5 examples OF EACH from your life. See examples below:*

**History:** One day my grandpa explained to me why our family moved to Denver and I learned that they moved here because he got a job in Durango (family history). OR I read an article that explained how the ancient Egyptian farming methods are still used along the Nile today (world history).

**Geography:** On June 14, my family took a road trip to Colorado Springs and one of the differences between Denver and Colorado Springs is that the mountains are much closer to the city in Colorado Springs.

**Civics:** In July, my family used our right to protest against .... OR I read an article about how the Colorado State government passed a new law about...

**Economics:** In July my parents started paying me for cutting the grass. I decided to make a budget and save 20% of the money I earned over the summer.

Thanks,

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