

This week in Social Studies

9/07/2026-9/11/2026

6th Grade

This week, sixth graders explored how farming helped early communities grow into permanent settlements and cities. Students learned how a surplus of food allowed people to take on specialized jobs and develop trade. Through our readings and discussions about Çatalhöyük and Uruk, we examined how permanent homes, organized government, and protective walls shaped life in early cities. Our focus was understanding how these changes transformed the way people lived and worked together.

7th Grade

This week, seventh graders reviewed Cahokia and explored what artifacts and other evidence can reveal about the people who lived there. We also studied European exploration, including the reasons Europeans traveled to the Americas and how contact affected Indigenous communities. Students reviewed the Columbian Exchange and considered both the exchange of goods and the harmful consequences of European contact. Review questions and vocabulary practice helped students strengthen their understanding and support their answers with historical evidence.

Coming up...

Coming up in Social Studies, students will continue building on their learning through readings, class discussions, and interactive activities. Each grade will have a quiz covering the vocabulary and key concepts we have practiced in class, so students should review their notes and completed assignments. As we finish each unit, students will receive a study guide and have time to review before their unit test.

8th Grade

This week, eighth graders explored cultural hearths—the places where early civilizations and new ideas developed. Students studied Southwest Asia, China, Mesoamerica, and North Africa, examining how geography, rivers, and farming supported growing communities. We also learned about cultural diffusion, or how ideas and practices spread from one society to another. Through our readings and discussions, students connected the development of early civilizations to their environments and interactions with other groups.

Thank You, Ms. Layan