

**Stratford Public Schools Social Studies Curriculum  
Grade 6 - Unit 4**

**Unit Name: Historical Research**

**Est. # of Weeks: 4-6 weeks**

**Synopsis:** In this unit, students will study ancient cultures by applying the five themes of geography and through guided research develop independent research skills.

**STUDENT LEARNING GOALS**

**Content-Specific Powered Standards**  
**Knowledge of concepts and information from history and social studies is necessary to promote understanding of our nation and our world**

- 1.4 – Demonstrate an understanding of geographical space and place
- 1.5 – Describe the interaction of humans and the environment.
- 1.6 – Describe patterns of human movement across time and place.

**Competence in literacy, inquiry and research skills is necessary to analyze, evaluate and present history and social studies information**

- 2.1 – Access and gather information from a variety of sources.
- 2.2- Interpret information from a variety of sources.
- 2.3- create various forms of written work to demonstrate an understanding of history.

**Civic competence in addressing historical issues and current problems requires the use of information, skills and empathic awareness**

- 3.1-Use evidence to identify, analyze and evaluate historical interpretations.
- 3.2- analyze and evaluate human action in historical and/or contemporary contexts from alternative points of view.

**Interdisciplinary Standards**

**Key Vocabulary**

Big Six-Task definition, Information-seeking Strategies, Location and Access, Use of Information, Synthesis, Evaluation

**Enduring Understandings**

- Posing questions creates a purpose for research.
- The research process uses and evaluates a variety of resources.
- Organization of data is critical to the outcome of your research.
- Writing is a process.
- Writers have a purpose for writing.
- The use of proper formats results in effective communication.

**Essential Questions**

- What questions do I want my research to address?
- What are all the possible sources of information that answer my research questions?
- Do my sources address my research questions?
- How do I know that my resources are reliable?
- Are my notes organized according to each research question and have I cited all my sources?
- How do I put together and present my data?
- How can I use evaluation and reflection to improve my writing?
-

**ASSESSMENT PLAN**

**Summative Assessment(s)**

- A student made poster that illustrates data gathered that answers the students' research questions and applies the five themes of geography, displays the impact the past has on today, shows the development and transmission of culture, and explains the type of government and economy of the ancient civilization studied.
- A research paper presenting the information from the poster.

**Formative and Diagnostic Assessment(s)**

- Self- evaluation of applying the Big Six at each step of their guided research.
- Use of research rubrics for student feedback and self-evaluation.