

6th Grade - Curriculum Overview

Students explore the topic of the American Dream. They study the push and pull factors that caused populations of people to move during the Great Depression and World War II.

<p>Unit 6.1</p>	 <p>Read-Aloud Anchor Text Mystery, <i>The Westing Game</i></p> <p>Key Question: <i>What is the American Dream? Do you think Ellen Raskin based her character, Samuel Westing, on the real-life Andrew Carnegie?</i></p>	<p>Informational Non-Fiction: Article about Ellen Raskin, the American Dream, the Salem Witch Trials, Andrew Carnegie, and Napoleon Hill.</p> <p>Mystery Book Club Texts: <i>When You Reach Me</i> <i>The London Eye Mystery</i> <i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i></p>	<p>Expository Writing Retell Summaries Turning Point Summaries Synthesis Summaries Cause & Effect Opinion/Persuasive Persuasive Letter</p>	<p>Special Features Complex Plot American Symbolism Cause & Effect Research: Andrew Carnegie</p>
<p>Unit 6.2</p>	 <p>Read-Aloud Anchor Text Historical Non-Fiction, <i>Children of the Dust Bowl</i></p> <p>Key Questions: <i>What caused people to migrate during the Great Depression? How do people overcome hardship?</i></p>	<p>Informational Non-Fiction: Articles, videos, maps, primary documents and timelines about the Black Friday, the Great Depression, the migration of people, Dorothea Lange, and Franklin D. Roosevelt.</p> <p>Historical Fiction Book Club Texts: <i>A Letter to Mrs. Roosevelt</i> <i>Sylvia & Aki</i> <i>Out of the Dust</i></p>	<p>Expository Writing Retell Summaries Turning Point Summaries Synthesis Summaries Cause & Effect Opinion/Persuasive Opinions Opinion Essay</p>	<p>Special Features Iconic Symbolism Documentary Primary Documents Research & Note-Taking Connecting Past to Present</p>
<p>Unit 6.3</p>	 <p>Read-Aloud Anchor Text Historical Fiction, <i>Esperanza Rising</i></p> <p>Key Questions: <i>What causes people to migrate? How do people overcome hardship?</i></p>	<p>Informational Non-Fiction: Articles, maps, videos and timelines about the Mexican Revolution, the Mexican culture, migrant farms, the repatriation act, and immigrant rights.</p> <p>Non-Fiction Autobiography Book Club Text: <i>Four Perfect Pebbles</i></p>	<p>Expository Writing Retell Summaries Turning Point Summaries Synthesis Summaries Opinion/Persuasive Opinion Essay</p>	<p>Special Features Mythology Author's Style Situational Irony Motif Supporting One's Opinion Connecting Past to Present</p>

Strategies taught explicitly across the 6th grade curriculum:

Literary Strategies:

- Narrative text structure & features
- Character analysis
- Author's craft
- Theme/author's message

Non-Fiction Strategies:

- Non-fiction text structure & features
- Main Idea and details
- Author's purpose
- Research and evaluation of sources

Instructional Strategies:

- Discussion and collaboration
- Note taking and graphic organizers
- Drawing on prior knowledge
- Writing in response to reading
- Scaffolding complex text
- Differentiating instruction for diverse learners