



**6<sup>th</sup> Grade UNIT 2 OVERVIEW: Americas**

<b>Unit Outcomes</b> At the end of this unit, your student should be able to:	<b>Key Vocabulary</b> Terms to deepen the student’s understanding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Examine the migration of the first people into the Americas.</li> <li>✓ Assess how early Americans modified their environment to meet their needs by building structures suited to their geographic features.</li> <li>✓ Evaluate the religious beliefs of the Aztec, Incan, and Mayan that influenced governments, structures, and practices.</li> <li>✓ Compare and Contrast the early Americas approach to acquiring resources.</li> <li>✓ Determine the Aztec social structure that influenced interaction within society in both positive and negative ways.</li> <li>✓ Analyze the cultural art, architecture and writing of the Mayan and Aztec civilizations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Andes Mountains</li> <li>✓ Conquistadors</li> <li>✓ Disease</li> <li>✓ Inca</li> <li>✓ The Mayan Calendar</li> <li>✓ Polytheistic</li> <li>✓ Aztecs</li> <li>✓ Francisco Pizarro</li> <li>✓ Hernan Cortes</li> <li>✓ Machu Picchu</li> <li>✓ The Mayans</li> <li>✓ Quetzalcoatl</li> </ul>
<b>Key Standards Addressed</b> Connections to Common Core/NC Essential Standards	<b>Where This Unit Fits</b> Connections to prior and future learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ H.2.1 – Explain how invasions, conquests, and migrations affected various civilizations, societies and regions.</li> <li>✓ G.1.4 – Explain how and why civilizations, societies and regions have used, modified and adapted to their environments.</li> <li>✓ C&amp;G.1.2 – Summarize the ideas that shaped political thought in various civilizations, societies and regions.</li> <li>✓ E.1.1 – Explain how conflict, compromise, and negotiation over the availability of resources (natural, human and capital) impacted the economic development of various civilizations, societies and regions.</li> <li>✓ C.1.1 – Analyze how cultural expressions reflected the values of civilizations, societies and regions.</li> <li>✓ C.1.3 – Summarize systems of social structure within various civilizations and societies over time.</li> </ul>	<p>Coming into this unit, students should have a strong foundation in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The influence physical features and human characteristics of a place have on the development of civilizations, societies and regions.</li> <li>✓ The factors that influence the movement of people, goods and ideas and the effects of that movement on societies and regions over time.</li> <li>✓ The way civilizations, societies and regions have used, modified and adapted to their environments.</li> <li>✓ The use of technology tools to draw conclusions about the emergence, expansion and decline of civilizations, societies and regions.</li> </ul> <p>This unit builds to the following future skills and concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Create charts, graphs, and historical narratives to explain pre-existing data, events and conflicts.</li> <li>✓ Establish the theme of a historical document by determining nonfigurative meaning.</li> <li>✓ Use sources of information from multiple perspectives to understand events or conflict.</li> </ul>



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<b>Additional Resources</b> Materials to support understanding and enrichment	<b>“Learning Checks”</b> Questions Parents Can Use to Assess Understanding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ DiscoveryEd Board: Americas</li><li>✓ LearnNC Digital Textbook: Americas</li><li>✓ <a href="http://catalog.loc.gov/">http://catalog.loc.gov/</a></li><li>✓ <a href="http://www.history.com">http://www.history.com</a></li><li>✓ <a href="http://www.discoveriesoftheamericas.org/">http://www.discoveriesoftheamericas.org/</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ How does migration change societies and influence the course of history?</li><li>✓ How do people modify their environment in order to survive and thrive?</li><li>✓ Why are religious beliefs of a culture independent from its political and economic ideas and practices?</li><li>✓ How does a person’s environment impact their economic decision making?</li><li>✓ Why do societies develop social structures and how do these systems impact the daily lives of citizens?</li><li>✓ How are art, architecture and writing a reflection of a society’s values?</li><li>✓ What current or historical connections can we make to this unit?</li></ul>