

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade History

### Age of Enlightenment News Website

**Driving Question:** In what ways did the Enlightenment, the Scientific Revolution, and the Age of Discovery change Europe and the world?

#### **Curricular Content:** California Social Science 7th Grade Standard Identifier:

7.10 Students analyze the historical developments of the Scientific Revolution and its lasting effect on religious, political, and cultural institutions.

1. Discuss the roots of the Scientific Revolution (e.g., Greek rationalism; Jewish, Christian, and Muslim science; Renaissance humanism; new knowledge from global exploration).
2. Understand the significance of the new scientific theories (e.g., those of Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Newton) and the significance of new inventions (e.g., the telescope, microscope, thermometer, barometer).
3. Understand the scientific method advanced by Bacon and Descartes, the influence of new scientific rationalism on the growth of democratic ideas, and the coexistence of science with traditional religious beliefs.

7.11 Students analyze political and economic change in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries (the Age of Exploration, the Enlightenment, and the Age of Reason).

1. Know the great voyages of discovery, the locations of the routes, and the influence of cartography in the development of a new European worldview.
2. Discuss the exchanges of plants, animals, technology, culture, and ideas among Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries and the major economic and social effects on each continent.
3. Examine the origins of modern capitalism; the influence of mercantilism and cottage industry; the elements and importance of a market economy in seventeenth-century Europe; the changing international trading and marketing patterns, including their locations on a world map; and the influence of explorers and map makers.
4. Explain how the main ideas of the Enlightenment can be traced back to such movements as the Renaissance, the Reformation, and the Scientific Revolution and to the Greeks, Romans, and Christianity.
5. Describe how democratic thought and institutions were influenced by Enlightenment thinkers (e.g., John Locke, Charles-Louis Montesquieu, American founders).
6. Discuss how the principles in the Magna Carta were embodied in such documents as the English Bill of Rights and the American Declaration of Independence.

#### *Chronological and Spatial Thinking*

1. Students explain how major events are related to one another in time.
2. Students construct various time lines of key events, people, and periods of the historical era they are studying.

#### *Historical Interpretation*

1. Students explain the central issues and problems from the past, placing people and events in a matrix of time and place.

**Major Products:** The final product will be a Canva website with at least 5 publicly viewable and clickable pages. One page will be dedicated to one important **philosophical innovation/ideology** that students think is the most important from this time. One page will be dedicated to a **biography of an important historical figure** during the Age of Enlightenment, including their impact on the movement. One page will discuss a **scientific discovery** that changed the world during this time. One page will discuss a place that Europeans "**discovered,**" **colonized,** or otherwise impacted during the age of exploration and the effect that this new land had on Europe and the world. One page will feature an **advise ment for contemporary products**, for example the steam engine, the power loom, or the cylinder boring machine.

**Public Presentation:** Students will present their final products at the end of a 5 day work session. Students will do a 3-5 minute presentation on their Age of Enlightenment Websites.

