

## 4th Grade - History

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Grade 4 Geography covers a wide swath of physical features from mountains to bodies of water. Students are expected to master geography terminology and concepts such as longitude and latitude, relative location, and hemisphere. Longitude, latitude, and the use of coordinates are taught using maps and globes. It is also expected that our students will learn the location and facts about the world's major mountain ranges.

After Geography, students will learn about Ancient African Kingdoms from the time of the kingdom of Kush to the Middle Ages taking them into the Rise of Islam throughout the Middle East to the Mediterranean basin. This will lead students into an in-depth examination of European medieval history. Our study of medieval European history begins with the fall of the Western Roman Empire and continues through the rise of the Byzantine Empire, the Norman Invasion of England, and through to the conclusion of the Hundred Years' War. After this, we turn our attention to the East and explore the Chinese dynasties from the medieval era to the early 20th century. Finally, we move to the New World and delve into how the War for Independence came about, resulting in the creation of the United States. Our history course concludes with a consideration of early American reformers who acted as advocates for those who were being deprived of their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Throughout this very robust course, we encourage our students to consider important themes that connect each unit of content. One emergent theme worth investigating is origins. As students are immersed in the narrative of the studied history, they can be guided to see how particulars of each culture is rooted in the surrounding geography, events of the past, and the actions of individuals and groups of people. For example, the foundations of the government of the United States are deeply rooted in the ideals of the Enlightenment and principles articulated in the Magna Carta.

**Unit 1: Geography**

**Unit 2: African Kingdoms and the Islamic Empire Unit**

**3: The Middle Ages**

**Unit 4: Chinese Dynasties Unit**

**5: American Revolution Unit 6:**

**The U.S. Constitution Unit 7:**

**The Early Presidents**

**Unit 8: Early Social Reformers**