

6th Grade World Cultures
PISD Curriculum: Year at a Glance

Bundle	Title Big Ideas/Enduring Understandings	Guiding Questions
1	<p><i>Introduction to Culture and Citizenship</i> Understanding our own specific culture, in terms of school and family, can help us understand other cultures in the world, which are coming up in future bundles. Citizenship is about knowing and respecting our rights and responsibilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do communities depend on their citizens' voluntary participation to be successful? ▪ Who are you? ▪ Where did you come from? ▪ What are the common features of culture?
2	<p><i>Introduction to Government and Economics with Integrated Map Skills</i> Governments can be controlled by one person, a few people, or a group. A society's economic system determines what, when, and how much will be produced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How and why do people organize themselves? ▪ How do people organize economic systems? ▪ How does the free enterprise system benefit U.S. citizens?
3 – 4	<p><i>North Africa and Southwest Asia</i> The physical environment influences our culture. Religion can be a very important cultural characteristic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How does geography influence the ancient and modern societies of North Africa and Southwest Asia? ▪ What are similarities and differences among Christianity, Judaism, and Islam?
5	<p><i>South Asia</i> Physical, geographic processes greatly affect how and where people live. Religious beliefs and customs influence a culture in many ways. Just one person can bring about enormous change. Events that happened in the past can continue to influence how we live today.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Which person in South Asian history brought about the most change? ▪ How do physical processes such as mountains and earthquakes affect where and how people live? ▪ How does the history of colonialism still affect South Asia today?
6	<p><i>East Asia</i> To meet their wants and needs, people sometimes adapt themselves to an environment and sometimes they modify the environment itself. Religions and philosophies influence an individual's choices and other aspects of his/her culture. Communism continues to shape East Asia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do people adapt themselves to the environment in which they live? ▪ How do people modify the environment to meet their wants and needs? ▪ Why do different countries have different economic systems? ▪ What is the difference between a religion and a philosophy? ▪ How does someone's philosophy influence other aspects of their culture? ▪ How has communism shaped East Asia?
7	<p><i>Southeast Asia: Crossroads of Asia (A Summary) / Australia, New Zealand, and Oceania (Cont. in Bundle #8)</i> Cultures borrow ideas and items from each other and then use those ideas in similar and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do ideas spread? ▪ What cultural features has Southeast Asia borrowed from East Asia, especially China, South Asia, especially India, and Europe. ▪ How have the people of Southeast Asia created their own unique identity?

6th Grade World Cultures
PISD Curriculum: Year at a Glance

Bundle	<i>Title</i> Big Ideas/Enduring Understandings	Guiding Questions
	different ways.	
8	<p><i>Australia, New Zealand, and Oceania (Cont.) / Central Asia and Russia</i> Central Asia and Russia’s vast size and few natural resources have greatly influenced their history and cultures. The history of Central Asia and Russia influence the cultures there today.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How have Central Asia and Russia’s vast size and few natural resources influenced their history and cultures? ▪ How are the cultures of Central Asia and Russia today similar to and different than cultures of Central Asia and Russia in ancient times?
9	<p><i>Europe</i> Unlimited governments are above the law, and individuals’ rights have little or no protection. Ancient Greeks had the first recorded democracy. Since then, democracy has seen many different interpretations. Citizens in democracies have both rights and responsibilities. The free enterprise system has the most benefits of any economic system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Where did the idea of democracy come from and how have governments over time been more or less democratic? ▪ Why is it important to limit governments’ power? ▪ How have individuals in the past given or taken away rights from people in their countries? ▪ What is the relationship between rights and responsibilities in a democracy? ▪ How did the free enterprise system develop and what are its benefits and weaknesses?
10	<p><i>Sub-Saharan Africa</i> Political boundaries and other colonizing decisions, made by imperialist European nations in the 1800s, greatly affect the politics, economies, and culture of Sub-Saharan African countries. Although Africa has many natural resources, it does not have other factors of production necessary to make profits. African cultures have rich and diverse histories.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why did the European nations participate in the “Scramble for Africa”? ▪ What can happen when one group of people thinks that they are superior to another group of people? ▪ How do decisions made during colonial times still affect African countries and groups today? ▪ How does Africa’s geography affect its economy, politics, and culture?
11	<p><i>Latin America</i> Spain’s and Portugal’s colonized the Americas in order to bring Catholicism to native peoples, find gold and riches, and secure territories in the names of their rulers greatly influenced the current cultures of Latin American countries. Immigration between and from Latin American countries shapes cultures today. The geography of Latin American countries, including natural resources and transportation barriers, greatly influences their economies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How have colonization shape culture in the past and effect culture in the present? ▪ How does immigration today shape culture in Latin American countries? ▪ How do factors of production, especially natural resources and available labor, influence the economies of selected Latin American countries? ▪ How does geography shape a nation’s culture and economy?

6th Grade World Cultures
PISD Curriculum: Year at a Glance

Bundle	<i>Title</i> Big Ideas/Enduring Understandings	Guiding Questions
12	<p><i>Summary of Self: What More Do I Know About Myself and My Fellow Human Beings</i> The more I learn about other people, the more I understand myself. I am a citizen of the world and have rights and responsibilities as a citizen.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How am I similar to and different than people my age in different cultures around the world? ▪ What have I learned about myself and my own culture this year? ▪ How can I make my community and the world a better place? ▪ How is the world becoming smaller? ▪ How are we each dependent on each other?