Pre-Colonial Africa Unit Overview

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| |  | | --- | | **Essential Questions** |  * 6.H.2.4 - What role did key historical figures and cultural groups have in transforming society? * 6.G.1.2 - What factors influence the movement of people, goods, and ideas and what are the effects of that movement on societies and regions over time? * 6.E.1.1 - How does conflict, compromise, and negotiation over the availability of resources (natural, human and capital) impact the economic development of various civilizations, societies and regions? * E.1.2 - How is quality of life impacted by the economic choices of civilizations, societies and regions? * C. 1.1 - How is culture reflected through the values of civilizations, societies and regions? * 6.C.1.2 - In what ways did religion transform various societies, civilizations and regions? | | * I totally get it * I kinda get it * I don’t get it |
| **Books, Videos, & Movies to Dig Into** | **We learn about this because it helps us understand…** | |
| * Movie: *Lion King* * Book: *Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti* * Book: *Ancient African Civilizations: Kush and Axum* by Stanley Burstein * Book: *Mansa Musa and the Empire of Mali* by P. James Oliver * Book: *Great Zimbabwe (African Civilizations)* by Mark H. C. Bessire * Video Clip: Crash Course on Mansa Musa: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvnU0v6hcUo * Timbuktu - Africa's City of Gold - Ancient Civilizations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6wKaIEzxGo> | |  | | --- | |  |  * Mansa Musa transformed west African civilization by converting to Islam, sharing the wealth of west Africa and making Timbuktu a center of Islamic learning. * The lack of salt but the abundance of gold in western Africa led to the Gold-Salt trade which brought people, goods, and ideas across the Sahara Desert. * East African city-states blended traditional African cultures with those of peoples from the Middle East and South Asia as a result of an extensive trade network spanning the Indian Ocean. * West African civilizations began to decline and eventually disappeared due to Portugal's efforts to control gold and other valuable resources. * The peoples' standard of living in Ghana, Mali, and Songhai were impacted positively and negatively by their control of gold resources and trade with outside civilizations. * West African folktales and art reflect the peoples' history, cultural values and religious beliefs. * The expansion of Islam into sub-Saharan Africa, and Western Africa specifically, radically | |
| **Vocabulary to master** | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | * Savannah | * Congo River | * Timbuktu | * Great Zimbabwe | * Aksum | * Zulu | | * Sahara Desert | * Mt. Kilimanjaro | * Griots | * Sundiata | * Great Zimbabwe | * Bantu | | * Mansa Musa | * Kush | * Salt/Gold Trade | * Sahel | * Great Rift Valley | * Imperialism | | * Askia the Great | * Animism | * Nubia | * Proverbs | * Serengeti Plain |  | | | |

**Africa Unit Reflection**

* Complete the boxes on the overview sheet according to the key.
* Pick three words we did NOT cover during our unit study.
* Look up the words and supply a kid-friendly definition for each.

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| Word | Definition | Picture or Symbol |
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