



Understanding the Black Death Lesson

Central Historical Question: How did people in the 14th century understand the Black Death?

California State Standard

7.6.7 Map the spread of the bubonic plague from Central Asia to China, the Middle East, and Europe and describe its impact on global population.

Common Core State Standard(s):

Reading

1. *Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.*
2. **Determine the central ideas of information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.**
4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
6. Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose.
7. Integrate visual information with other information in print and digital texts.
10. *By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.*

Writing

1. *Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.*
 - a) Introduce claims about a topic or issue, acknowledge and distinguish the claims from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
 - b) Support claims with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate and understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.
 - c) Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
 - d) Establish and maintain a formal style.
 - e) Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose and audience.
8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources (primary and secondary), using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
9. Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis reflection and research.
10. *Write routinely over extended time frames and short time frames for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.*