7th GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES
FLAT ROCK MIDDLE SCHOOL
MR. DUBIN'S CLASSES
2008-2009
FIRST QUARTER – AUGUST 25th TO OCTOBER 24th

Welcome to Seventh Grade Social Studies! Our primary goals this year will be to foster a love of learning and to be sure that you are well prepared to be successful in social studies in the eighth grade and in high school. Much of our effort will be directed toward the development of study skills, reading comprehension, and oral and written communication. In earlier grades you have had the opportunity to study North Carolina, the United States, Europe, and South America. This year you will study Africa, Asia, and Australia. You will learn about the social, economic, and political institutions and recognize similarities and differences among societies. Although we will consider history and various social and physical sciences, our primary focus will be cultural geography. It is a fascinating and worthy field of study. As we study distant lands, you will recognize that local issues are interconnected to regional, national, and global issues, and you will more fully realize that the decisions you make as a citizen of the world must be informed, judicious, and responsible if we hope to repair, preserve, and enhance life and culture in our world. To this end, students will consider these concepts:

- Geographic relationships
- Historic perspectives
- Economics and development
- Government and active citizenship
- Global connections
- Technological influences and society
- Individual identity and development
- Cultures and diversity

SEVENTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES OBJECTIVES

1. Use the five themes of geography and geographic tools
2. Assess relationships between physical environment and cultural characteristics
3. Analyze the impact of the interactions of humans with their physical environments
4. Identify significant patterns in the movement of people, goods, and ideas over time and place
5. Evaluate the ways decisions are made to allocate wealth
6. Recognize the relationship between economic activity and the quality of life
7. Assess the connections between historical events and contemporary issues
8. Assess the influence and contributions of individuals and cultures
9. Analyze different forms of government
10. Compare rights and responsibilities of individuals within various political structures
11. Recognize common cultural characteristics
12. Assess the influence of major religions, ethical beliefs, and values
13. Describe historic, economic, and cultural connections that exist among the people of the world.