

China

You Will Know:

How China's geography affected its development.
How Chinese culture unified people over time.
About the imperial government and the dynastic cycle
The main accomplishments of Chinese dynasties.
The main ideas of Confucianism, Legalism, Daoism and their effects on Chinese society.

Terms & Concepts You'll Be An Expert On:

Background:

"Middle Kingdom"
Yellow and Yangtze Rivers
North China Plain
family structure
Mandate of Heaven
dynastic cycles

Chou dynasty (1027-221 BC):

time of warring states
Confucius – Confucianism
5 basic relationships
filial piety
Lao Tzu – Taoism

Qin (Ch'in) dynasty (221-202 BC):

Shi Huangdi
Legalism
Great Wall
terra cotta soldiers

Han dynasty (202 BC - 220 AD):

Wudi
Analects
Great Silk Road

Sui dynasty (590-618 AD):

Period of Disunion
Grand Canal
Wendi

T'ang dynasty (618-906 AD):

Wu Zhao
Buddhism in China

Song (Sung) dynasty (960-1126 AD):

scholar-officials
paper money
trade in silk & porcelain (China)
gentry

Mongol Empire and Yuan Dynasty:

Ghengis Khan, Kublai Khan
Pax Mongolia
Marco Polo

Ming dynasty (1368-1644):

Hongwu
Yonglo
Forbidden City (Peking)
Zheng He (Grand Fleet)

Inventions:

wheel barrow, printing, movable type, fireworks,
gunpowder, magnetic compass

The Big Ideas:

How does people's culture bind them together?
What is the best way to lead if you are a ruler?
Are there times when one form of leadership is better than another?