

Core Knowledge® 
National Conference 2009

Top-Priority Unit Topics ~ Middle School History & Geography

Units on the following topics will receive the highest priority as we select from among submissions for the “Share the Knowledge” sessions to be given during the 2009 Core Knowledge National Conference.

To read this list, look at topic headings below, then refer to the *Core Knowledge Sequence* for more specific content within that topic. Note: The items listed are identical to the lettering and numbering of the *Sequence*. Gaps in lettering and numbering are intentional.

In addition to the topics listed below, preference will be given to instructional units that incorporate ideas such as:

- *the Enlightenment, Latin American Independence Movements (6th grade)
- *America Becomes a World Power (7th grade)
- *Geography of Canada and Mexico (8th grade)
- *Civics (8th grade)

Finally, note that submitting a unit on these topics does not guarantee acceptance as we have a limited number of presentation spaces available. *However, high-quality, **completed units** will receive the highest priority among proposals.*

Grade 6: World

I. World Geography

- A. Spatial Sense
- B. Great Deserts of the World

III. The Enlightenment

VII. Latin American Independence Movements

- A. History
- B. Geography of Latin America

Grade 7

I. America Becomes a World Power

II. World War I, “The Great War”

III. Russian Revolution

- A. History
- B. Geography

VI. Geography of United States

Grade 8

I. Decline of European Colonialism

II. Cold War

- B. The Korean War

III. The Civil Rights Movement

IV. Vietnam War and the Rise of Social Activism

V. The Middle East and Oil Politics

- A. History

B. Geography of the Middle East

VI. End of the Cold War: Expansion of Democracy and Continuing Challenges

- A. The American Policy of Détente
- B. Breakup of the USSR
- D. Contemporary Europe

- E. The End of Apartheid in South Africa

VII. Civics: The Constitution – Principles and Structure of American Democracy

VIII. Geography of Canada and Mexico