Middle Ages

from about 500 to 1000 A.D. (C.E.)
STANDARD WHI.9a

The student will demonstrate knowledge of Western Europe during the Middle Ages from about 500 to 1000 A.D. (C.E.) in terms of its impact on Western civilization by

a) sequencing events related to the spread and influence of Christianity and the Catholic Church throughout Europe.
Essential Understandings

The Roman Catholic Church grew in importance after Roman authority declined. It became the unifying force in western Europe.

During the Middle Ages, the Pope anointed the Emperors, missionaries carried Christianity to the Germanic tribes, and the Church served the social, political, and religious needs of the people.
• Many “tribes” attacked and conquered pieces of the Western Roman Empire
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• Maps of Europe were *constantly changing* during this time period because of the movements of many peoples
• This time period became known as the Middle Ages
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**Era of European history that followed the fall of the Roman Empire – also called the Medieval Period**
Middle Ages

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  – Remember, this is what we call it, not what they called it

  – To them it would have been “the present” or “now” or maybe even “the modern world”
• This time period became known as the **Middle Ages**

- Middle Ages = Medieval Times
Germanic Kingdoms
Between 400 and 700 A.D. the Germanic tribes carved up western Europe into small kingdoms.
Foundations of early medieval society
• The Roman Catholic Church grew in importance after Roman authority declined.
Holy Roman Empire

Empire established in Europe in the 10th century, originally lands including Italy and Germany
• The Roman Catholic Church grew in importance after Roman authority declined.

• The Church became the unifying force in Western Europe.
• It was no longer an emperor from Rome who called the shots....

• It was the church leaders in Rome who did
During the Middle Ages, the Pope anointed the Holy Roman Emperors.
• During the Middle Ages, the Pope anointed the Holy Roman Emperors.

• Many Germanic tribes kept their own customs and religions.
Influence of the Roman Catholic Church
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- With the decline of the Roman Empire, the Roman Catholic Church grew in importance.
Influence of the Roman Catholic Church

- With the decline of the Roman Empire, the Roman Catholic Church grew in importance.
- The Church hoped to influence both spiritually and politically with the crowning of Charlemagne.
• It became the unifying force in western Europe.

• Monasteries preserved Greco-Roman cultural achievements.

• Missionaries carried Christianity and Latin alphabet to Germanic tribes.
The Church served the social, political, and religious needs of the people.

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The Church served the social, political, and religious needs of the people. Clergy, which consisted of Priests and Nuns, assisted the people in many of their needs. Such as aiding the sick and the poor.
• The Church and the Monarchs competed for power.
• The Church and the Monarchs competed for power.

Monarchs

Kings and Queens

vs.
Roman Catholic Church Ranking

- Clergy are religious officials.
- Pope heads the Church.
- Bishops and priests were under his authority.

- Sacraments - important religious ceremonies. These rites paved the way to salvation.
The Pope would often threaten excommunication - banishment from the church - to gain power from the monarchs.
• The Pope would often threaten excommunication - banishment from the church - to gain power from the monarchs.

Excommunication

To exclude or expel from membership or participation in any church!
Essential Questions

How and why did the Church grow in importance during the Middle Ages?
STANDARD WHI.9b

The student will demonstrate knowledge of Western Europe during the Middle Ages from about 500 to 1000 A.D. (C.E.) in terms of its impact on Western civilization by

b) explaining the structure of feudal society and its economic, social, and political effects.
Essential Understandings

The decline of Roman influence in Western Europe left people with little protection against invasion, so they entered into feudal agreements with landholding lords who promised them protection.
Feudalism in Europe

- The decline of Roman influence in Western Europe left people with little protection against invasions, so they entered into feudal agreements with landholding lords who promised them protection.
Feudal Society During The Middle Ages

• A new Social Order. Based on a rigid class system.
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Feudalism in Europe

Feudalism

Social system in which people worked and fought for nobles who gave them protection and the use of land in return.
Feudalism was based on mutual obligations. In exchange for military protection and other services, a lord, or landowner, granted land called a fief.

Lord

A person who controlled land and could therefore grant estates to vassals.
Feudalism was based on mutual obligations. In exchange for military protection and other services, a lord, or landowner, granted land called a **fief**.

**Lord**
A person who controlled land and could therefore grant estates to vassals

**Fief**
An estate granted to a vassal by a lord
The person receiving this land, fief, is a vassal. A vassal in return would pledge his loyalty and service to the lord.

**Vassal**

A person who received a grant of land from a lord in exchange for a pledge of loyalty and services.
Knight

Mounted, armored, warriors who pledged to defend their lords’ lands in exchange for a fief
There was a process to becoming a knight.

**Page**
- A boy would become a page at the age of 7 and serve until he was 14.
- The Page was a servant to the knight.

**Squire**
- At 14 a boy would become a squire.
- A Squire was an assistant to a knight and would help him prepare for battle as well as care for his armour and weapons.

**Knight**
- At the age of 21 a young man could become a knight.
- He was knighted in a special ceremony by his lord where he agreed to serve his lord.
• Serfs were peasants. They were bound to the land. The serfs worked for the protection of the lords.

Most of the population were peasants.
Feudal Society During The Middle Ages

• A new Social Order. Based on a rigid class system.
• Feudalism was based on *mutual obligations*. In exchange for military protection and other services, a *lord*, or landowner, granted land called a *fief*. 
How Feudalism Works

**KING**
- Provides money, army on demand
- Bestows land on his many Nobles

**NOBILITY**
- Provides military service and protection on demand
- Bestows land on his many Knights

**KNIGHTS**
- Provides military service and food on demand
- Bestows land on his many Vassals

**VASSALS**
Feudal Pyramid of Power
Feudal Pyramid of Power

- King
  - Nobles
    - Lords
    - Knights (vassals)
  - Peasants

- Money and Knights
- Protection and Military Service
- Food and Services
- Land (fief)
- Land and protection
How Feudalism Works

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**VASSALS**
Le Fief des Cordeliers
• Feudalism was based on *mutual obligations*. In exchange for military protection and other services, a *lord*, or landowner, granted land called a *fief*.

• The lords were seen to have the power. Kings were a figure head with very little power or control over the people.
• The person receiving this land, fief, is a *vassal*. A vassal in return would pledge his *loyalty* and service to the lord.
How Feudalism Works

**KING**
Provides money, army on demand
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**VASSALS**
• Serfs were peasants. They were bound to the land. The serfs worked the land for the protection of the lords. Most of the population were peasants.
Manorial System During the Middle Ages
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• Manors were the lords’ estates. It was the basic economic system.
Manor

A lord’s estate
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A lord’s estate
Manors were the lords’ estates. It was the basic economic system.
• Manors were a self-sufficient community. Everything one needed was obtained within the manor. From crops, clothing, fuel, to a water source.
Essential Questions

How did a feudal society develop in Europe during the Middle Ages?

How did the medieval manor function as a social and economic system?
STANDARD WHI.9c

The student will demonstrate knowledge of Western Europe during the Middle Ages from about 500 to 1000 A.D. (C.E.) in terms of its impact on Western civilization by c) explaining the rise of Frankish kings, the Age of Charlemagne, and the revival of the idea of the Roman Empire.
Essential Understandings

Frankish kings used military power to expand their territory.

The alliance between Frankish kings and the Church re-established Roman culture (Christianity) in Western Europe.
Age of Charlemagne
Age of Charlemagne

- The Franks were the strongest and most successful of the Germanic kingdoms.
Franks

Germanic people who settled in the Roman province of Gaul
Age of Charlemagne

- The Franks were the strongest and most successful of the Germanic kingdoms.
- Frankish kings used military power to expand their territory.
• Clovis became king of the Franks.
• Conquered the former Roman province of Gaul.
• He converted to Christianity and gained a powerful ally, the Roman Catholic Church.
• Charlemagne, Charles the Great, becomes the next king of the Franks
Charlemagne
• He built a short-lived empire reaching across France, Germany, and a part of Italy.
He built a short-lived empire reaching across France, Germany, and a part of Italy.
• Crushing rebellious Roman nobles, Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne as Holy Roman Emperor in 800 A.D.
• His military conquests helped to spread Christianity and the blending of German, Roman, and Christian traditions throughout Western Europe.
Roman Culture was revived
• Charlemagne built churches, roads, and schools which helped unite the empire!
• The power of the church was established in political life (government)

• Is this good or bad?
• As a brilliant leader he was concerned with learning and set up a palace school in Aachen with emphasis based on Latin learning.
• Upon his death, Charlemagne’s Empire was divided much like Alexander the Great’s Empire.
Essential Questions

How did Charlemagne revive the idea of the Roman Empire?
STANDARD WHI.9d
The student will demonstrate knowledge of Western Europe during the Middle Ages from about 500 to 1000 A.D. (C.E.) in terms of its impact on Western civilization by sequencing events related to the invasions, settlements, and influence of migratory groups, including Angles, Saxons, Magyars, and Vikings.
Invasions by Angles, Saxons, Magyars, and Vikings disrupted the social, economic, and political order of Europe.
New Invasions in Western Europe

Invasions by the Vikings, Magyars, Angles, and Saxons disrupted the social, economic, and political order of Europe.
Areas of Settlement

Vikings

• Were expert sailors and ferocious fighters that originated in Scandinavia and looted and burned communities from Ireland to Russia.
• Scandinavian countries include: Norway, Finland, Sweden, and Denmark.
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Magyars

• They were nomadic people that overran Central Asia and then plundered parts of Germany and France.
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Magyars
•After 50 years they were turned back and settled into what is present day Hungary.
Angles and Saxons

• Angles and Saxons were Germanic tribes that invaded England.
Angles and Saxons

• Angles and Saxons were Germanic tribes that invaded

• England = *Angles Land*
Influences of these invasions:

• These invasions disrupted trade, towns declined, and the feudal system was strengthened.
• Manors with castles provided protection from invaders, reinforcing the feudal system.
Manors with castles provided protection from invaders, reinforcing the feudal system.
Essential Questions

How did invasions by the Angles, Saxons, Magyars, and Vikings influence the development of Europe?