Helping Students Learn to Study

**Study Tips:**

* Create a *graphic organizer* to pinpoint and display important information. (Ex. Outline of Main Ideas and Supporting Details, Venn Diagram, Series of Events Chain, or Semantic Map)
* *GRASP Summaries*: Read the passage, write down the important facts you remember, use a different colored pen to add in or correct missing information.
* *Annotations* (Make notes in the margins while reading on important information and any further questions you may have)
* *Flashcards* for vocabulary words and key ideas.
* *Cornell Notes Process* (Record information from lesson, develop questions, try to answer the questions without looking at the notes, reflect on the information, review information summary of your notes each week)
* Completion the Unit *Study Guide*.

**The Importance of Developing Study Skills:**

Studying the text is extremely important, it helps the students make connections and think more deeply about the information they encounter while reading. However, the development of study strategies is even more important since the only way to effectively study is to have the students engaged with the materials in deep concentration while using reflective thinking or else studying can be a waste. Using the above study strategies will help to organize the information to the students’ advantage.

Within a social studies classroom, the information is vast and there are various details and overall concepts that the students must comprehend for the assessments. In order to ensure their success, I will assign various tasks listed above, throughout the unit, to help the students comprehend the text that they are reading. However, these review assignments will not always be assigned. I suggest that when a reading or important information is assign that the students use one of the above method to make the information stand out to them, even without it being assigned.

These procedures will help the students comprehend the materials prior to and after the assessment is complete. These strategies will also make studying for an exam easier on the few days prior to the test. Also, in the week before each unit exam, I will give the students a study guide to complete that will help to organize, clearly present, and to review the material with the students prior to the test.

In order to ensure the success of the students, I ask that parents ensure that the study guide is completed and that they have a quiet area to study in. I also ask that you assist the students with reviewing for the test by quizzing them on the vocabulary using their flashcards or asking them the questions they formulated while reading to see if they now know the information. Together, we will all ensure the success of our students by ensuring their comprehension of the materials in the course.