

Measuring the Travels of Two Adventurers: Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta

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Grade Level: 6-8

Duration: 2 Class periods

National Geography Standards

Element One: The World in Spatial Terms

1. How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective

Arizona Geography Standards

Essentials 3SS-E6

Describe the economic, political, and social processes that interact to shape patterns of human populations, interdependence, and cooperation and conflict with emphasis on:

PO2. The causes and types of human migration and its effects on places

Essentials 3SS-E4

Demonstrate understanding of the characteristics, purposes, and use of geographic tools to locate and analyze information about people, places, and environments with emphasis on:

PO3. Constructing and interpreting maps, charts, and geographic databases using geographic information

Arizona Math Standards

Strand 1: Number and sense operations

Concept 2: Numerical Operations

Grade 6

PO1. Select the grade level appropriate operation to solve word problems

PO2. Solve word problems using grade level appropriate operations and numbers

Grade 7

PO3. Select the grade level appropriate operation to solve word problems

PO4. Solve word problems using grade level appropriate operations and numbers

Grade 8

PO1. Select the grade level appropriate operation to solve word problems

PO2. Solve word problems using grade level appropriate operations and numbers

Concept 3: Estimation

Grade 6

PO1. Solve grade level appropriate problems using estimation

Grade 7

PO1. Solve grade level appropriate problems using estimation

Grade 8

PO1. Solve grade level appropriate problems using estimation

Strand 4: Geometry and Measurement

Concept 4: Measurement

Grade 6

PO5. Convert within a single measurement system (US customary or metric)

PO11. Determine the actual measure of objects using a scale drawing or map

Grade 7

PO3. Convert a measurement from US customary to metric, and vice versa

PO8. Compare estimated to actual lengths based on scale drawings or maps

Overview

It is important that students are able to make comparisons and convert between US customary and the metric system. Students will find that most other countries use the metric system.

Purpose

Students will learn about two medieval explorers, the Venetian Marco Polo, and the Moroccan Ibn Battuta, and how their travels affected Asian trade and migration. Students will use maps of their travels to compare and estimate distances covered by Polo and Battuta.