

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: _____

7th Grade Social Studies

**Unit 1: Introduction to Our World
(Estimated timeframe of 20 days)**

Vocabulary Term and Definition

1. **history** – story of the successes and failures from the past that shaped our world today
2. **philosopher**- a person who offers views or theories
3. **geography**- study of our surroundings
4. **environment**- surroundings
5. **absolute location**- uses latitude and longitude to find the exact location of a place on Earth
6. **latitude**- an imaginary line that measures a location's distance north or south of the Equator
7. **longitude**- an imaginary line that measure a location's distance east or west of the prime meridian
8. **relative location**- a location described by where it is in relation to somewhere else
9. **human geography**- characteristics that include languages spoken, customs practiced, and belief systems
10. **physical geography**- characteristics that include landforms, climate, and vegetation
11. **political science**- study of different types of governments
12. **civic life**- how citizens' decisions affect the local community and its decisions
13. **personal life**- decisions that people make about their own personal interests
14. **politics**- process through which people with different opinions are able to reach decisions together that are agreed to and enforced
15. **government**- made up of the people and institutions in a society that have the authority to make, carry out, and enforce laws as well as settle disputes
16. **economics**- study of how decisions are made about how to distribute limited resources
17. **scarcity**- situation that exists when there is unlimited demand but not enough supply of a good or service
18. **trade**- the voluntary exchange of goods and services among people and countries
19. **specialization**- countries focus on producing the goods and services they can make best and trading for what they are unable to produce.
20. **domestic**- having to do with one's own country
21. **globalization**- the development of an increasingly worldwide economy
22. **decision**- a determination reached after consideration
23. **issue**- problem that needs to be solved
24. **options**- choices
25. **consequences**- outcomes
26. **values**- what you are, or what is most important to you