

# **Global Discoveries in History**

## **Session 2**

**Instructor: Melanie Ware**

**Objective:** Students will explore historical discoveries and inventions from all over the globe. Each lesson will cover the who, what, where, when and how of a topic and also explore its current relevance in today's society. Using videos, journal articles, current events, and interviews with historians, students will learn from experts as a primary source. These will then lead students to engage in discussion, creative thinking and writing about the topics.

**Required Materials:** Pencil & eraser

Class 1: Defining Moments in history: Brainstorm major historical discoveries of humankind and discuss their lasting impacts. Consider how the smallest things can lead to greater discoveries and change how humanity behaves.

Class 2: Gutenberg's Printing Press: The 15th century invention of mass produced books and written works. Spread knowledge widely and quickly and changed how we communicate ideas with one another.

Class 3: The Steam Engine: Invention of the Industrial Revolution that powered various types of machines. Lead to the rapid expansion of cities and the ability to build factories away from water sources.

Class 4: Moving Pictures: The late 1800s saw the creation of motion picture cameras that, for the first time, captured movements rather than just stills. This led to many other important inventions, like the television, and changed the way we consume information.

Class 5: Presentations – Students' choice of historic topic, 5-10 minutes, including visual aids, scientific sources/citations, verbal presentation and Q&A time.

Class 6: The Airplane: In 1903 the Wright Brothers changed the course of history with their invention. It has helped win wars, connect nations and explore space.

Class 7: Rosetta Stone: 2,000 year old granite block that enabled scholars to learn how to read Egyptian hieroglyphs. We now understand many of the mysteries of ancient Egypt.

Class 8: City of Pompeii: After Mt. Vesuvius erupted in 79 A.D. this Roman city was covered in ash and left preserved until excavations began in 1726. We continue to learn more about the lives and culture of the people in this town.

### **Grading breakdown:**

Attendance/participation – 20%

Classwork – 50%

Homework – 10%

Final Presentation – 20%