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Read All About It: Exciting New Middle School Digital *Interactive* Social Studies Text

***INTERACTIVE...INNOVATIVE...DIGITAL....* TEXTBOOK!**

Sarasota County Schools are among the first in the state to provide students in the 8 middle schools with a new *interactive* digital Social Studies textbook. Students will access their digital, *interactive* textbook in class using school-provided laptops and Kindle Fires. Students may bring their own mobile devices to use in class. Students also can access their *interactive* social studies textbook at home and anywhere they have internet access on any device; i.e. laptop, desktop, tablet, iPad, smartphone, Kindle Fire, etc.

Students will be able to digitally engage with all of the content in their new Social Studies text for hands-on activities, video tutorials, taking notes, highlighting text, and many more exciting enhancements in the learning process. Part of the power of this new *interactive* textbook is that your student can save all notes, highlighting, and learning activities to create a personalized digital textbook they keep for the year.

If your child does not have access to technology at home, please contact the school district's computer donation program, Texcellence, at <http://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/departments/texcellence>.

**Also available is a Digitized Application for Middle School Students
to Access Science, Math, and Social Studies Textbooks on Personal Mobile Devices**

Florida Department of Education Implementation Project

The digital textbooks support Florida legislation (Florida Statute 1006.29 (3)) that requires all instructional materials to be provided digitally by the school year 2015-2016. In preparation for this transition to digitally delivered instructional materials, Sarasota County Schools is exploring options to meet this legislation while meeting the varying needs of our students. Recognizing that more and more students have their own personal digital devices and would like to use them in their educational experience, Sarasota County Schools has made available a textbook "app" for Middle School students for their science, math, and social studies textbooks.

Middle School students can download for free a digital copy of their science, math, and social studies textbooks on their own personal technology device. A compatible technology device will run: Android OS Smartphones Version 1.6 or higher, Android OS tablet Version 2.3 or higher, Apple iPhone or iPod Touch iOS Version 4.2 or higher, Apple iPad iOS Version 4.2 or higher, Kindle Fire, and a laptop or netbook with the latest version of Adobe AIR (*free download*). The "How-To" for downloading the "app" can be found at www.sarasotacountyschools.net/etexts.

To submit a question and/or find out additional information, please go to the etexts website at www.sarasotacountyschools.net/etexts.

Thank you,
The Sarasota County Schools Technology and Instructional Materials Team