

## Russia: Land of the Tsars (Part I)

**Russia: Land of the Tsars** is a four-part series about the leaders of Russia from the Vikings in 862 to the Revolution in 1918. It discusses aspects of Russian history including expansion of the monarchy, the origins of the Russian Orthodox Church, armed conflicts, the changing political climate, opposition to the Tsars, and the gradual modernization of Russian society.

### Objectives:

Students will explore and analyze the history of the Russian rulers and the impact of their policies on the Russian people. They will examine complex political intrigues, the development of a nation, the process and consequences of introducing new political ideas, and the role of opposition movements in historical change.

### Discussion Questions: (remember Tsar/Czar are synonyms)

1. Who said, "Russia is a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma"?
2. Russia is a nation of many \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ warriors sailed down the rivers of Russia to trade in Asia.
4. Russia means "land of the \_\_\_\_\_"; what the native people called the Vikings.
5. What essential physical feature held Medieval Russia together?
6. Vladimir became the Grand Prince of \_\_\_\_\_?
7. Grand Prince Vladimir sought to unite Russia with which religion?
8. Who were Boris and Gleb? What happened to them?
9. What was the Golden Horde? How long did they rule Russia?
10. The Mongol Horde laid siege to the city of \_\_\_\_\_ in 1240 and burned it.
11. The Mongol warriors who ruled Russia were called \_\_\_\_\_ by the Russians.
12. What was the first Russian civilization known as?
13. \_\_\_\_\_ was a great city built around the fortress known as the Kremlin.
14. In 1380, Prince Dimitri led the Russians against the Mongols on the banks of the River \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Czar is Russian for \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Who were the Boyars?
17. In the Late 1400s, Ivan III drove out the \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Ivan the IV formally adopted the term \_\_\_\_\_ at his coronation in January, 1547.
19. What did Ivan IV do to be named "Ivan the Terrible"?
20. Who were the Oprichniki? What role did they play in Ivan's terror?
21. The \_\_\_\_\_ burned Moscow to the ground, killing over 60,000 people.
22. How did Ivan the Terrible's son die?