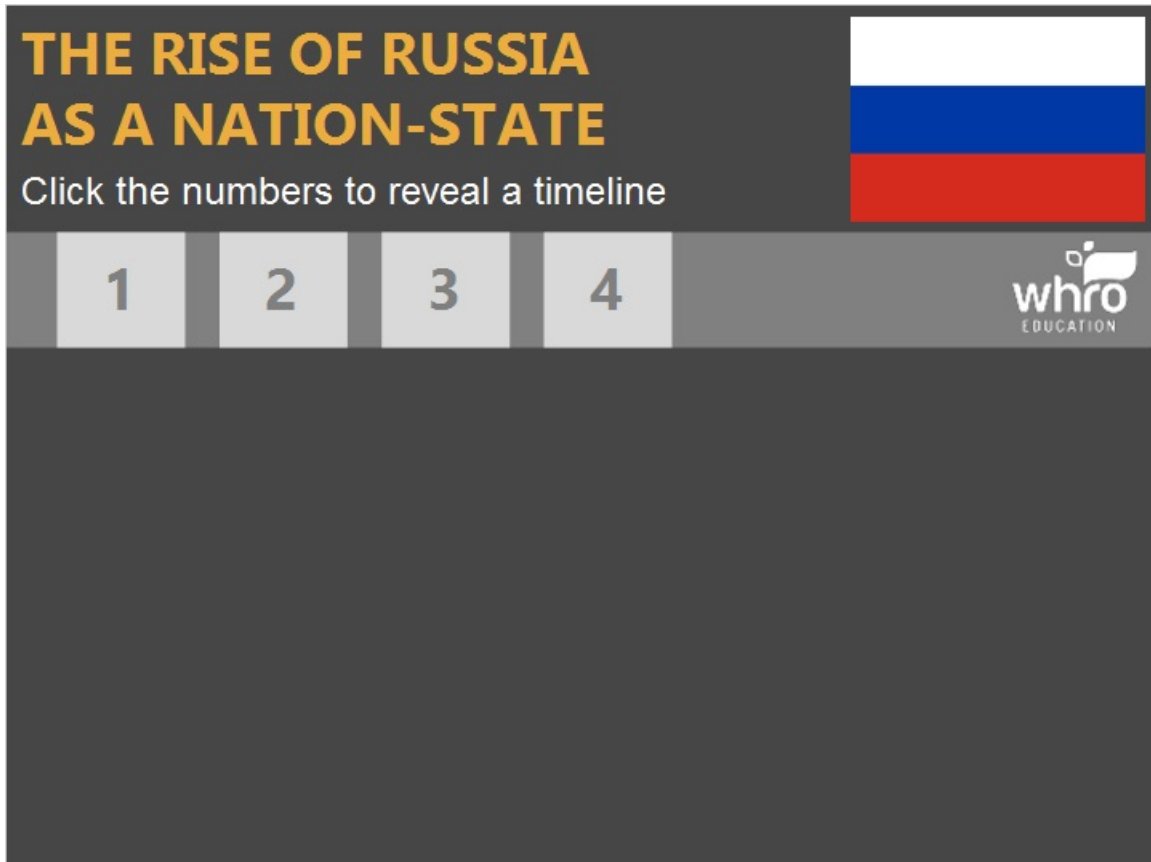


Module 11: The High Middle Ages
Topic 1 Content: The Rise of Russia as a Nation-State

Introduction



**THE RISE OF RUSSIA
AS A NATION-STATE**

Click the numbers to reveal a timeline

1 2 3 4

whro
EDUCATION

The image shows a dark grey rectangular interface. At the top left, the title 'THE RISE OF RUSSIA AS A NATION-STATE' is written in large, bold, yellow-orange capital letters. Below the title, the instruction 'Click the numbers to reveal a timeline' is written in white. To the right of the title is a vertical representation of the Russian flag with three horizontal stripes: white at the top, blue in the middle, and red at the bottom. Below the title and instruction is a horizontal row of four light grey rectangular buttons, each containing a white number: '1', '2', '3', and '4'. To the right of these buttons is the 'whro EDUCATION' logo, which consists of the lowercase letters 'whro' in a bold, sans-serif font with a small white icon above the 'o', and the word 'EDUCATION' in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font below it.

Click the numbers to reveal a timeline. Exit the interactivity when you are done exploring the content.

Module 11: The High Middle Ages

Topic 1 Content: The Rise of Russia as a Nation-State


Ivan the Great

THE RISE OF RUSSIA AS A NATION-STATE

Ivan the Great

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

- Accomplishments**
Tripled the size of Russia
- 1480 A.D. (C.E.)**
Refusal to pay a tax



Ivan III, also known as Ivan the Great, tripled the size of Russia by annexing northern lands. Some of the rulers before the reign of Ivan III had unsuccessfully attempted to overthrow the Mongols, but Ivan III took a different tactic in 1480 A.D. (C.E.), when he refused to pay the Mongols a tax they demanded. This caused conflict between the Russian and Mongol forces. Although both sides retreated, the Russians never paid the tax again.

Module 11: The High Middle Ages

Topic 1 Content: The Rise of Russia as a Nation-State

Orthodox Church

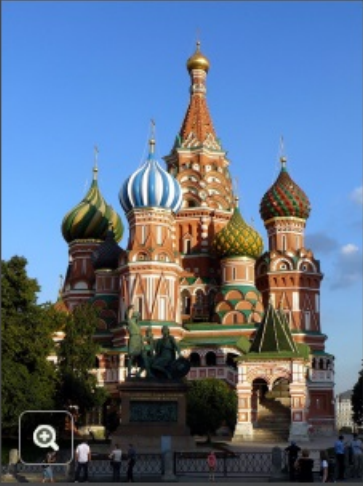
THE RISE OF RUSSIA AS A NATION-STATE

Orthodox Church

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

1453 A.D. (C.E.)
Constantinople fell
Leaders of the Orthodox Church fled to Moscow

Moscow Flourished
Art
Culture
Religion



During Ivan III's long reign, Russia experienced a period of intellectual growth. In 1453 A.D. (C.E.), the capital city of the Byzantine Empire, Constantinople, fell to the Turks. As a result, many leaders of the Orthodox Church fled to Moscow in Russia. They brought art, culture, and religion with them, and Moscow flourished as the center of the Eastern Orthodox Church, which helped further unify Russia. Take a moment to examine this image of St. Basil's Cathedral in Russia. Do you notice the Turkish and Byzantine influences?

Module 11: The High Middle Ages

Topic 1 Content: The Rise of Russia as a Nation-State

Centralized Power

THE RISE OF RUSSIA AS A NATION-STATE

Centralized Power

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4



- Moscow**
Grand Royal Court
Kremlin
- Tsar**
Centralized government
Sole leader
- Ivan the Terrible**
Codified laws
Diminished power of boyars
Unified and expanded Russia

Moscow also became home to the Grand Royal Court. Under Ivan III's rule, a renovation of the Kremlin in Moscow took place to make Moscow the capital city. A kremlin is the citadel, or fortified central complex, that serves as the seat of government in Russian cities. The Kremlin in Moscow is the most well-known. In addition, Ivan developed an autocratic, centralized government with a tsar, or emperor of Russia, as its sole leader. Ivan viewed himself as an heir of the Roman Empire due to his second marriage to a Byzantine princess. This marriage increased the Byzantine influence in the empire, and allowed the tsar to rule.

The son of Ivan III was Ivan the IV, also known as Ivan the Terrible. He codified laws and diminished the power of boyars, or high-ranking aristocrats, in an effort to centralize the government. Despite his nickname, Ivan the Terrible is remembered as one of Russia's greatest leaders as he both unified and expanded the Russian state.

Module 11: The High Middle Ages

Topic 1 Content: The Rise of Russia as a Nation-State

Feudalism

THE RISE OF RUSSIA AS A NATION-STATE

Feudalism

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4



England and France
Peasants moved upward
Serfdom faded

Russia
Tsar enforced
Serfdom remained until 1861
(Image depicts a peasant leaving his landlord)

While many nation-states of Europe in the late Middle Ages were moving away from feudalism, this was not the case in Russia. Specifically, educational and economic opportunities expanded in places like England and France, causing the peasantry to become increasingly upwardly mobile, and serfdom to fade away. However, in Russia, feudalism was enforced by the tsar on a national level, and serfdom remained a factor in society until 1861.