

## **The Five Core Concepts of the Philosophes**

- 1. Reason – Enlightened thinkers believed truth could be discovered through reason or logical thinking.**
- 2. Nature – The philosophes believed that what was natural was also good and reasonable.**
- 3. Happiness – The philosophes rejected the medieval notion that people should find joy in the hereafter and urged people to seek well-being on earth.**
- 4. Progress – The philosophes stressed that society and humankind could improve.**
- 5. Liberty – The philosophes called for the liberties that the English people had won in their Glorious Revolution and Bill of Rights.**