

Grade 4

Adopted 2019

Social Studies Practices

- 1. Students will understand the principles of government, the benefits of democratic systems, and their responsibilities as citizens. P.1**
 - A. demonstrate an understanding of the virtues that citizens should use when interacting with each other and the virtues that guide official government institutions. P.1.A
 - B. demonstrate an understanding of the important institutions of their society and the principles that these institutions are intended to reflect. P.1.B
 - C. demonstrate understanding of the processes and rules by which groups of people make decisions, govern themselves, and address public problems. P.1.C

- 2. Students will determine the kinds of sources that will be helpful in answering essential, compelling, and supporting questions addressing authentic civic issues. P.2**
 - A. demonstrate the capability for developing essential, compelling, and supporting questions that address authentic civic issues. P.2.A
 - B. demonstrate the ability to investigate problems taking into consideration multiple points of view represented in arguments, structure of an explanation, and other sources. P.2.B

- 3. Students will utilize interdisciplinary tools and master the basic concepts of the social studies in order to acquire and apply content understanding in all related fields of study. P.3**
 - A. develop skills and practices which demonstrate an understanding that historical inquiry is based on the analysis and evaluation of evidence and its credibility. P.3.A
 - B. demonstrate an understanding of geographic concepts and develop mastery of geographic tools and ways of thinking in order to become geographically informed. P.3.B
 - C. analyze the principles of economic systems and develop an understanding of the benefits of a market system in local, national, and global settings. P.3.C

4. Students will engage in critical, active reading of grade-level appropriate primary and secondary sources related to key social studies concepts, including frequent analysis and interpretation of informational sources. P.4

- A. comprehend, evaluate, and synthesize textual sources to acquire and refine knowledge in the social studies. P.4.A
- B. apply critical reading and thinking skills to interpret, evaluate, and respond to a variety of complex texts from historical, ethnic, and global perspectives. P.4.B

5. Students will apply effective communication skills by developing a variety of evidence-based written products designed for multiple purposes and tasks, in order to demonstrate their understandings of social studies concepts, ideas, and content. P.5

- A. summarize and paraphrase, integrate evidence, and cite sources to create written products, research projects, and presentations for multiple purposes related to social studies content. P.5.A
- B. engage in authentic inquiry to acquire, refine, and share knowledge through written presentations related to social studies. P.5.B

**Content Standards
(PreK-8)**

1. The student will describe the features of self-government and the role of citizens of the United States. 4.1

- 1. Describe the concepts of democracy and representative government, including the rule of law, equality, the common good, and individual rights. 4.1.1
 - A. Explain the concept of civic responsibilities, including respect for the law, the necessity for compromise, civic participation, and public service. 4.1.1.A
 - B. Understand the necessity of respect for diversity of the individual and diversity of groups comprising American society. 4.1.1.B
- 2. Compare powers exercised by the local, state, and national levels of governments, recognizing tribal sovereignty as a tribal nation's inherent right to self-govern. 4.1.2
- 3. Summarize the role of citizens as responsible stewards of natural resources and the environment. 4.1.3
 - A. Describe the benefits of participation in recycling and anti-littering activities. 4.1.3.A
 - B. Identify present-day examples to conserve natural resources and the development of alternative, sustainable energy sources. 4.1.3.B

2. The student will examine the physical geography and environments of the United States. 4.2

1. Use maps and other geographic representations (such as globes and graphs), tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective. 4.2.1
 - A. Use and describe various elements of maps, including keys/legends, scale, cardinal, and intermediate directions. 4.2.1.A
 - B. Interpret aerial photographs, satellite images and thematic maps to locate and identify physical and human features of the United States and North America. 4.2.1.B
 - C. Use latitude and longitude to identify the location of physical and human features of the United States. 4.2.1.C
2. Identify major physical features in the United States and analyze how physical processes shape places. 4.2.2
 - A. Identify and describe the physical characteristics of places, including the major landforms, bodies of water, vegetation and climates in the United States. 4.2.2.A
 - B. Describe the location and characteristics of the major ecosystems in the United States. 4.2.2.B
3. Explain how people create regions using common geographic characteristics. 4.2.3
 - A. Identify and describe the major physical, cultural, and economic regions of the United States, comparing one's own region to the other regions. 4.2.3.A
 - B. Explain how and why regions change over time by comparing regions in the past with life in the same regions in the present. 4.2.3.B
4. Describe how physical processes of the Earth's surface impact humans and their environment. 4.2.4
 - A. Identify and describe the different climates in the United States using maps, globes, and graphs. 4.2.4.A
 - B. Explain how climate and natural processes including floods, wind, and storms impact how we live. 4.2.4.B
5. Identify and locate on a political map the fifty states and the United States capitol. 4.2.5

3. The student will analyze the human characteristics of the United States and how geography impacts historic events. 4.3

1. Identify and describe early settlement patterns of regions in the United States. 4.3.1
 - A. Draw conclusions from maps to show how climate, vegetation, natural resources, and historic events affect the location and growth of settlements. 4.3.1.A
 - B. Identify major American Indian groups and their ways of life in each region, including economic activities, customs, and viewpoints on land usage and ownership. 4.3.1.B
 - C. Summarize the reasons for key expeditions of North America by Spain, France, and England and their impact on the development of each region. 4.3.1.C
 - D. Identify push and pull factors of human migration. 4.3.1.D
 - E. Evaluate the impact of the Columbian Exchange on American Indian groups, African slaves and European settlers, including agriculture, trade, culture, military alliances, control of territory, and the sudden and significant decline of indigenous peoples. 4.3.1.E
2. Examine the characteristics of culture, including the distribution and complexity of the regions of the United States. 4.3.2
 - A. Identify the characteristics of culture (language, customs, beliefs, food, clothing, shelter) and compare the cultural characteristics of different regions of the United States. 4.3.2.A
 - B. Explain how the characteristics of culture affect the ways in which people live. 4.3.2.B

4. The student will identify basic economic activities of the United States. 4.4

1. Analyze how humans adapt to and modify their environments in order to survive and grow. 4.4.1
 - A. Explain how humans depend upon the physical environment for food, shelter, and economic activities. 4.4.1.A
 - B. Distinguish between renewable and nonrenewable resources. 4.4.1.B
 - C. Explain how physical environments can provide both opportunities and limitations for human activity. 4.4.1.C
2. Describe the patterns and networks of economic interdependence among regions of the United States. 4.4.2
 - A. Identify and locate on a map the major cities of the United States, including their relative location to natural resources and transportation routes. 4.4.2.A
 - B. Identify the major economic activities of each region of the United States by comparing how people satisfy their basic needs through the production of goods and services. 4.4.2.B
 - C. Describe the relative location of natural resources, such as fossil fuels, minerals and soils, and their relationship to each region's major economic activities, including agriculture, manufacturing, transportation, energy, and services. 4.4.2.C
3. Explain how economic activities can threaten the physical environment. 4.4.3
 - A. Identify ways in which humans can change ecosystems, such as clearing forests, draining wetlands, and diverting waterways, by examining present-day issues related to the use of resources. 4.4.3.A
 - B. Identify examples of changes in land use in local communities and how the physical environment can be stressed by human activities. 4.4.3.B