

Course Syllabus

Social Studies, Grade 1

Social Studies Preview, Final
Guardian Angels School

In Social Studies, the goal is for all students to develop a deep, rich network of understandings related to the world around them. The objectives and competencies included in this curriculum deal with history, geography, economics, and civics from a diverse, global perspective. Students engage in projects that require them to apply Social Studies skills in real-world contexts.

First graders continue to build on the social studies skills and core concepts introduced in kindergarten. Studies of civics expand to include an introduction to democracy, as well as responsibilities of positions of authority and leadership. Geography skills strongly focus on locating places on a map and globe, understanding compass directions, and constructing maps. Students learn economic ideas on money, resources, goods and services, and consumption. Students should also be encouraged to broaden their historical perspective through comparisons of family, transportation, and communication.

Civics and Government

The Civics and Government unit combines United States democratic principles, structure and historical documents with governmental systems found throughout the world.

- The learner will be able to recognize the duties of a position of authority.
- The learner will be able to identify examples of direct democracy.
- The learner will be able to identify examples of representative democracy.
- The learner will be able to identify examples of good citizens throughout history.
- The learner will be able to recognize the duties of a position of leadership.
- The learner will be able to identify the current President of the United States.
- The learner will be able to understand that voting is part of the election process.

Cultural Perspective

The Cultural Perspective unit includes communities, diversity, fine arts, humanities, folklore, holidays, media, and religious and social issues.

- The learner will be able to compare and contrast different types of families.
- The learner will be able to associate a holiday with its celebration ritual.

Economics

The Economics unit includes core concepts, such as supply and demand, goods and services, income, and employment, as well as United States and world economies.

- The learner will be able to simulate the exchange of money for goods or services.
- The learner will be able to explain how people are both consumers and producers of goods and services.
- The learner will be able to associate a final product (e.g., carton of milk) with its original source (e.g. cow on a dairy farm).
- The learner will be able to understand the concept of saving money for a future use.
- The learner will be able to compare and contrast the different types of resources: human, natural, and capital.
- The learner will be able to match a job description with its job title.

Geography

The Geography unit includes United States and world geography, map and globe skills, Earth characteristics, and geographic tools and concepts.

- The learner will be able to use north, south, east, and west as a means for identifying location.
- The learner will be able to read a compass rose.

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- The learner will be able to identify the United States on a world map.
- The learner will be able to identify locations on a globe.
- The learner will be able to identify continents on a globe.
- The learner will be able to locate the four oceans on a globe.
- The learner will be able to locate the four oceans on a map.
- The learner will be able to use a map legend.
- The learner will be able to construct a map of a familiar location, including cardinal directions, scale, and legend.
- The learner will be able to describe how environment affects human life.

Historical Perspective

The Historical Perspective unit includes data interpretation, awareness and analysis skills, and the concepts of time, change, and continuity.

- The learner will be able to understand calendar time, including days, weeks and/or months.
- The learner will be able to understand vocabulary related to time, such as "long ago" or "tomorrow".
- The learner will be able to construct a timeline.

Technological Developments

The Technological Developments unit includes historical achievements in the areas of communication, math, science, transportation, and technological inventions.

- The learner will be able to compare and contrast modes of transportation.
- The learner will be able to identify various types of communication.

- The learner will be able to understand past and present methods of communication.

United States History

The United States History unit includes events and issues pertaining to the founding, development, and expansion of our nation from its inception to present day.

- The learner will be able to know his/her state motto.
- The learner will be able to identify historical figures.
- The learner will be able to identify major American symbols.
- The learner will be able to understand the significance of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- The learner will be able to identify the original American Flag.
- The learner will be able to identify patriotic symbols.