

Social Studies - 5th Grade

Course Overview:

Social Studies in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade is focused around a theme for each grade. In fifth grade the theme is *Regions and People of the Western Hemisphere*. In grade five, students study the Western Hemisphere (North and South America), its geographic features, early history, cultural development and economic change. Students learn about the early inhabitants of the Americas and the impact of European exploration and colonization. The geographic focus includes the study of contemporary regional characteristics, the movement of people, products and ideas, and cultural diversity. Students develop their understanding of the relationship between markets and available resources.

Textbook:

Various authentic literature and informational texts

Assessments:

Formative and Summative Assessments

Standards/Learning Goals:

Ohio's Learning Standards in Social Studies consist of four strands: History, Geography, Government, and Economics. The content statements listed below state what students should learn and understand in each discipline.

History

Historical Thinking

- Events can be arranged in order of occurrence using the conventions of B.C. and A.D. or B.C.E. and C.E

Early Civilizations

- Early Indian civilizations (Maya, Inca, Aztec, Mississippian) existed in the Western Hemisphere prior to the arrival of Europeans. These civilizations had developed unique governments, social structures, religions, technologies, and agricultural practices.

Heritage

- European exploration and colonization during the 1400s-1600s had lasting effects which can be used to understand the Western Hemisphere today

Geography

Spatial Thinking

- Geographic tools can be used to gather, process and report information about people, places and environments. Cartographers decide which information to include in maps
- Latitude and longitude can be used to make observations about location and generalizations about climate

Places and Regions

- Regions can be determined using data related to various criteria including landform, climate, population, and cultural and economic characteristics.

Human Systems

- The variety of physical environments within the Western Hemisphere influences human activities. Likewise, human activities modify the physical environments
- American Indians developed unique cultures with many different ways of life. American Indian tribes and nations can be classified into cultural groups based on geographic and cultural similarities
- Political, environmental, social and economic factors cause people, products and ideas to move from place to place in the Western Hemisphere and results in diversity.
- The Western Hemisphere is culturally diverse (e.g., language, food, religion, art, music) due to the influences and interactions of a variety of world cultures.

Government

Civic Participation and Skills

- Individuals can better understand public issues by gathering, interpreting and checking information for accuracy from multiple sources. Data can be displayed graphically to effectively and efficiently communicate information.

Roles and Systems of Government

- Democracies, dictatorships and monarchies are categories for understanding the relationship between those in power or authority and citizens

Economics

Economic Decision Making and Skills

- Information displayed in circle graphs can be used to show relative proportions of segments of data to an entire body of data.
- The choices made by individuals and governments have both present and future consequences.

Scarcity

- The availability of productive resources (i.e., entrepreneurship, human resources, capital goods and natural resources) promotes specialization that could lead to trade.

Production and Consumption

- The availability of productive resources and the division of labor can have a positive or negative impact on productive capacity.

Markets

- Regions and countries become interdependent when they specialize in what they produce best and then trade with other regions to increase the amount and variety of goods and services available.

Financial Literacy

- Workers can improve their ability to earn income by gaining new knowledge, skills and experiences.