



Course Syllabus

SY 2008-2009

COURSE TITLE: Kindergarten Social Science

DESCRIPTION: The focus of social science in kindergarten is an introduction of the five strands. History is the story of the past and describes other times and places. Geography is the location of people, places, and things in time and place. Students learn to use basic map and globe skills. Economics is using money to buy or to sell goods and services. The study of world culture is understanding and respecting other people. Civics is the study of citizenship, rules, and respect for one another. Loudoun County includes a study of state and national symbols (see unit 5 in Scott Foresman text).

MAIN TOPICS: Events of the past are recorded and passed on to future generations. Important people of the past are honored through commemorative holidays: Thanksgiving, Independence Day (Fourth of July), Presidents' Day, and Martin Luther King, Jr Day.

Stories of past events are often from legends and historical accounts:

Pocahontas
Betsy Ross

George Washington
Abraham Lincoln

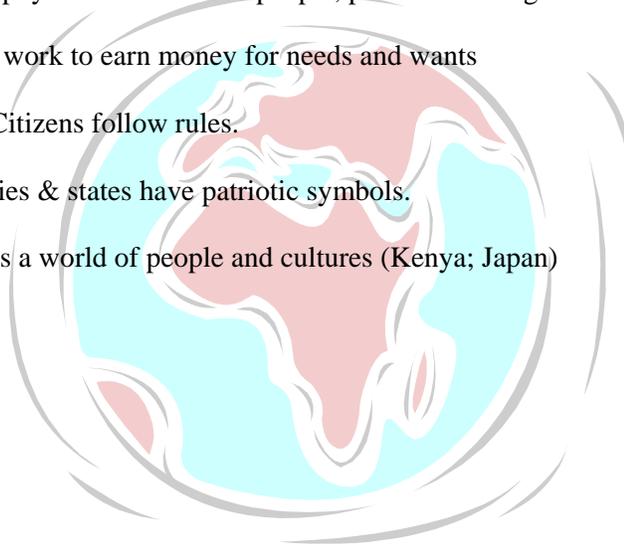
Geography is the location of people, places and things in time and space.

People work to earn money for needs and wants

Good Citizens follow rules.

Countries & states have patriotic symbols.

There is a world of people and cultures (Kenya; Japan)





Course Syllabus

SY 2008-2009

COURSE TITLE: Social Science – Grade 1

DESCRIPTION: The standards for first grade students include an introduction to the lives of American leaders and their contributions to the United States. Students will learn to recognize basic map symbols and to construct a simple map of a familiar area. The students will study the economic concepts of goods and services, buyers and sellers, and making economic choices. Students will learn to apply the traits of a good citizen and recognize that communities in Virginia include people who have diverse ethnic origins, customs, and traditions, who make contributions to their communities, and who are united as Americans by common principles.

MAIN TOPICS:

History

Famous people who have had an impact on history to include:

George Washington Abraham Lincoln

George Washington Carver

Benjamin Franklin

Major holidays and the events and/or lives of individuals associated with those holidays, including Presidents' Day (Washington, Lincoln), Columbus Day, and Independence Day.

Understanding of Geography -- Map skills

References to land, water, cities and roads

Finding cardinal directions

Identifying U.S. and Virginia on maps and globes by shape

Locating Washington, D.C. as the capital of the U.S. and Richmond as the capital of Virginia on a U.S. map

Constructing simple maps

Discerning how location and climate affect the way people live (food, shelter, clothing, transportation, and recreation)

Economics

Goods and services

Buying and selling of items

Saving for the future

Civics

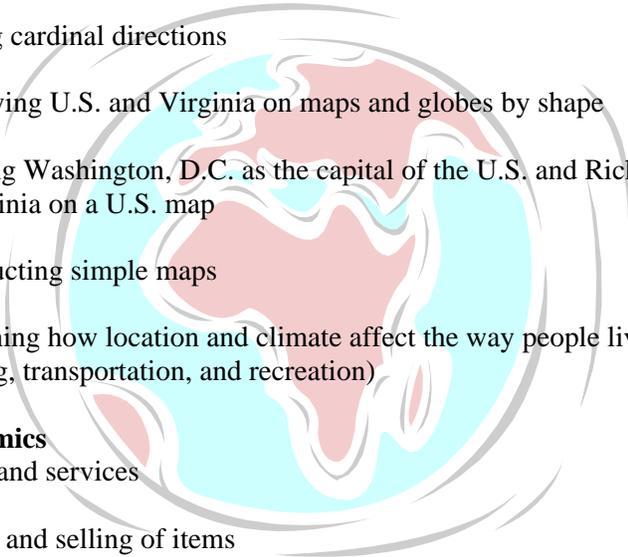
Traits of good citizenship

Patriotic symbols and places, including the American Flag, Bald Eagle, Washington Monument, and the Statue of Liberty.

Memorize and explain the Pledge of Allegiance

World Cultures

Emphasis on Alaska, Hawaii, Australia, and the Pacific region.





Course Syllabus

SY 2008-2009

COURSE TITLE: Social Science – Grade 2

DESCRIPTION: The standards for second grade students include an introduction to the heritage and contributions of the American Indians (first Americans). Students will continue to develop map skills and demonstrate an understanding of basic economic concepts. The students will identify selected American individuals who have worked to improve the lives of American citizens. The students will recognize that the U.S. is a land of people who have diverse ethnic origins, customs, and traditions, who make contributions to their communities, and who are united as Americans by common principles.

MAIN TOPICS:

History

China and Egypt and how they have influenced the present in the areas of architecture, invention, the calendar, and written language.

American Indian tribes and nations with emphasis on the Powhatan, the Sioux, and the Pueblo.

Famous Americans, including:

Susan B. Anthony
Abraham Lincoln
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Helen Keller

Jackie Robinson
George Washington

Famous early colony persons including:

King James
Captain John Rolfe
Captain John Smith

Pocahontas
Chief Powhatan
Powhatan Indians

Geography

- The regions of the Powhatan, Sioux, and the Pueblo Indians
- China and Egypt and their climates
- Major rivers (James, Mississippi, Rio Grande)
- Major mountain ranges (Appalachian and Rockies)
- Great Lakes in the U.S.
- Construction of simple maps with legend and compass rose

Economics

- Natural, capital, and human resources
- Bartering versus the use of money for acquiring goods and services
- Scarcity and how it affects the making of choices

Civics

- Respecting the property of others
- Classroom voting on issues
- Self-responsibility and honesty
- Changes in community life

Flag respect and memorization of the Pledge of Allegiance

Identification of former leaders (including Famous Americans listed above)

World Cultures - Emphasis on Canada and Mexico



Course Syllabus

SY 2008-2009

COURSE TITLE: Social Science – Grade 3

DESCRIPTION: The focus of social science in the third grade is history through the study of ancient civilizations (Greece, Rome, and Mali) and the early discoveries of the English, French and Spanish explorers. History in grade 3 will focus on the study of early civilization and how early contributions and advancements led to our present civilization. Geography and the Earth's physical environments--how human activities help shape the Earth's surface, human settlements and structures, and how human activities are influenced by the Earth's physical features and processes--will also be studied.

MAIN TOPICS:

History

Ancient Civilizations:

Greece Rome Mali

Explorers to North America:

Christopher Columbus Jacques Cartier Christopher Newport
Ponce de Leon

Famous Americans:

George Washington Thomas Jefferson Abraham Lincoln
Rosa Parks Thurgood Marshall Martin Luther King

Review

1. Ancient Civilizations of American Indians, China, and Egypt.
2. The first permanent English settlement in America--Jamestown

Geography

Map study includes location of ancient civilizations, European nations, and areas of exploration.

Physical features of the globe and continents

A study of how people in Greece, Rome, and West Africa (Mali), interacted with the land and their environment. Include trade routes.

Interpretation of geographic tools such as maps, globes, and grids.

Economics

Producers use of goods and services

Interdependence and specialization

Economic choice versus opportunity costs

Civics

Necessity of government in classroom, school, and community

What is a republican form of government?

Diversity in ethnic backgrounds united by law and respect for individual rights

Concept of E Pluribus Unum, "Out of many, one."

World Cultures -- Emphasis on Mali and West Africa, Greece, Rome and Italy

ASSESSMENT

At the end of 3rd grade, the SOL assessment is given for all social science content covered in grades K-3.



Course Syllabus

SY 2008-2009

COURSE TITLE: Social Science – Grade 4

DESCRIPTION: The focus of social science in the fourth grade is a study of Loudoun County and the State of Virginia. The **history** of Loudoun County and Virginia are intertwined. Loudoun County and Virginia played major roles in the foundation and development of the United States. **Geography** is crucial to understanding how the citizens of Loudoun and the Commonwealth of Virginia settled, interacted with their environment, with one another, and developed as a people. **Economic** development is a crucial factor to the livelihood of the citizens of Loudoun and the Commonwealth. The early Virginia Colony was an economic endeavor. **Civics** is the study of the form of government of our county and commonwealth and the rights and responsibilities of our citizens. **World Cultures** are woven into the rich tapestry of our people. Loudoun County and the Shenandoah Valley have strong German and Scottish influence. Williamsburg is built on English culture. Slaves, mainly from the continent of Africa, were forced to labor in the fields of Americans, yet their culture forms the basis of some of America's most original cultural contributions to the world.

MAIN TOPICS:

- The land and its first inhabitants
- Colonization and conflict: The year 1607 through the American Revolution
- Political growth and western expansion: The year 1781 to the mid-1800's
- The year 1900 to the present
- The geography of Virginia
- Virginia's government
- Different Cultures and their Effects on Virginia:
 - American Indian
 - English & Scottish
 - German
 - West African
- The geography of Virginia and Loudoun County
- The economics of Virginia and Loudoun County

*An SOL Test for Virginia Studies is given at the end of this course.



Course Syllabus

SY 2008-2009

COURSE TITLE: Social Science – Grade 5

DESCRIPTION: The fifth grade social science curriculum is focused on the *regions* of the United States of America from the perspective of human geography. The economic, geographical, and cultural rationales behind the separation of the country into regions will be studied, and the particular characteristics of six US regions will be defined and compared. Students will investigate the features of each region from the perspective of 6 themes: history, economics, culture, technology, transportation, and geography. They will be encouraged to characterize cause-effect relationships between themes and regions. The course is built upon a solid familiarity with facts pertaining to the six regions in the realms of geography, economic resources, and human culture, so the study of these will focus the foundational units in the curriculum.

MAIN TOPICS: Five Themes of Geography

Tools of Geography

Physical Geography Terms

Land and Water Features of the US

States and Capitals

Physical Features of Specific Regions

Settlement Patterns

Natural Resources

Economic Dynamics of Regions

Regional Products

Urban Centers

National Symbols

