

SOCIAL STUDIES

LENGTH OF TIME: 45 minutes, 2-3 times per 6 day cycle

GRADE LEVEL: 2

COURSE STANDARDS:

Students will:

1. Describe the economic concept of how people depend upon one another by tracing a food from harvest to consumer. Recognize essential parts of a map including compass rose with cardinal directions, key, and title. (PA Std. 7.1, 7.4)
2. Compare one's own family and traditions with that of one's ancestors and/or a family in another culture. (PA Std. 8.1)
3. Recognize the traditions of our nation including the flag, the presidency, major holidays, and the meaning of citizen. (PA Std. 5.1, 5.2, 5.3)
4. Learn about various careers. (PA Std. 7.4)

RELATED PA ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Civics and Government

- 5.1 Principles and Documents of Government
- 5.2 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship
- 5.3 How Government Works

Geography

- 7.1 Basic Geographic Literacy
- 7.4 The Interactions Between People and Places

History

- 8.1 Historical Analysis and Skills Development

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS:

Students will demonstrate achievement of the standards by:

1. Preparing cooperatively a map of the school and its grounds (playground, parking lot, etc.). Include a compass rose, key, and title. Orally, with a chart or diagram, tracing the path of a food from the consumer/ student back to its harvest. Identify money's role in each step. (Course Standard 1)
2. Making comparisons through a Venn diagram or a chart of one's own family and traditions and that of another found in the text or literature (trade book). (Course Standard 2)
3. Assembling a citizenship portfolio over the course of the year containing some of the following:
 - cooperatively established classroom rules and consequences
 - recognition of school rules (signed contract)
 - poster demonstrating the meaning and traditions of a major national holiday
 - objective test of key national symbols (including the flag and Statute of Liberty)

- and responsibilities of citizenship
 - biography of a famous American
 - United States map
 - individual oral recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance
 - research about a president
- (Course Standard 3)

4. After interacting or reading about a worker, identifying essential skills and how skills were attained for this career. Analyze own interests and skills. (Course Standard 4)

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This course will develop an appreciation of the many people in the student's life who make a difference, who supply their daily needs, and who help make the world a better place. Students will recognize both the commonalities and diversities that comprise their nation. This course will be interdisciplinary. Students will be assessed individually and in cooperative groups using traditional tests; projects - oral, written, and/or visual; and by self, peer, or teacher checklists.

TITLES OF UNITS:

1. Exploring Where We Are
2. Exploring A Community
3. Mapping a Community
4. Where Do We Live
5. Our Country
6. Exploring Our World

SAMPLE INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES:

1. Writing
2. Small/large group activities
3. Cooperative learning
4. Research including database
5. Audio visual presentations
6. Independent reading

MATERIALS:

1. Nystrom Grade 2 Kit, Exploring Where and Why
2. Teacher's guide for text and ancillary materials
3. Trade books

METHODS OF ASSISTANCE AND ENRICHMENT:

1. Cooperative learning groups
2. Specialist assistance -- IST, Title I reading
3. Opportunities for retesting
4. Community volunteers
5. Guest speakers/field trips
6. Integrated units

PORTFOLIO DEVELOPMENT:

Social studies portfolio pieces will be selected from classroom activities and cooperatively chosen by the student and the teacher.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

1. Nystrom unit assessments
2. Teacher observation

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES:

1. Concepts
 - demonstrate knowledge of basic concepts and principles of the course standards
2. Communication
 - respond orally and/or in writing to various topics
 - class discussions
 - produce, perform, or exhibit work
 - construct meaning from classroom presentations
3. Thinking/Problem Solving
 - compare and contrast various topics relating to social studies
 - observe customs and traditions of other cultures
4. Application of Knowledge
 - relate personal experiences to other cultures, and new knowledge
 - demonstrate connections between selected social studies topics
5. Interpersonal Skills
 - work cooperatively with others on projects and investigations
 - communicate effectively using new terms related to social studies