

Kindergarten

Introduction to History and Social Science: Focus on the Community

The standards for kindergarten students focus on the local community and include an introduction to basic history and social science skills. During the course of their first year in school, students should learn about their community, including basic concepts related to history, patriotism, national symbols, good citizenship, geographic location, economics, and the importance of following rules and respecting the rights and property of other people.

Skills

- K.1 The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by
- a) viewing artifacts and primary and secondary sources to develop an understanding of history;
 - b) using basic map skills to support an understanding of the community;
 - c) gathering and classifying information, sequencing events, and separating fact from fiction to improve understanding of the community;
 - d) asking appropriate questions to solve a problem;
 - e) comparing and contrasting people, places, or events;
 - f) recognizing direct cause-and-effect relationships;
 - g) making connections between past and present;
 - h) using a decision-making model to make informed decisions;
 - i) practicing good citizenship skills while collaborating, compromising, and participating in classroom activities; and
 - j) developing fluency in content vocabulary and comprehension of oral, written, and visual sources.

History

- K.2 The student will recognize that history describes events and people from other times and places by
- a) identifying examples of historical events, stories, and legends that describe the development of the local community; and
 - b) identifying people who helped establish and lead the local community over time.
- K.3 The student will sequence events in the past and present and begin to recognize that things change over time.

Geography

- K.4 The student will describe the relative location of people, places, and things by using positional words, with emphasis on near/far, above/below, left/right, and behind/in front.
- K.5 The student will use simple maps and globes to
- a) develop an awareness that a map is a drawing of a place to show where things are located and that a globe is a round model of Earth;

- b) describe places referenced in historical events, stories, and real-life situations;
- c) locate land and water features;
- d) identify basic map symbols in a map legend; and
- e) identify places and objects of a familiar area.

K.6 The student will develop an awareness that maps and globes

- a) show a view from above;
- b) show things in smaller size; and
- c) show the position of objects.

K.7 The student will describe how the location, climate, and physical surroundings of a community affect the way people live, including their food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and recreation.

Economics

K.8 The student will match simple descriptions of work that people do with the names of those jobs.

K.9 The student will

- a) recognize that people make choices because they cannot have everything they want; and
- b) explain that people work to earn money to buy the things they want.

Civics

K.10 The student will demonstrate that being a good citizen involves

- a) taking turns and sharing;
- b) taking responsibility for certain classroom chores;
- c) taking care of personal belongings and respecting what belongs to others;
- d) following rules and understanding the consequence of breaking rules;
- e) practicing honesty, self-control, and kindness to others;
- f) participating in decision making in the classroom; and
- g) participating successfully in group settings.

K.11 The student will develop an understanding of how communities express patriotism through events and symbols by

- a) recognizing the American flag;
- b) recognizing the Pledge of Allegiance;
- c) knowing that the president is the leader of the United States; and
- d) recognizing the holidays and the people associated with the holidays Thanksgiving Day; Martin Luther King, Jr., Day; George Washington Day (Presidents' Day); and Independence Day (Fourth of July).