## Curriculum – Grade 8 Social Studies

### Grade 8 Social Studies

### History
- How immigrants contributed to the culture and the policies of the United States government
- The importance of diversity in the United States through exploration of citizen profiles
- The impact of Supreme court cases on citizenship
- How the conflicts between the US colonies and England led to revolution and the Constitution

### Geography
- Map skills to analyze the flow of immigrants from around the world
- How to use maps and charts to examine the pattern of immigration to the United States from 1900 to 2000

### Civics and Government
- How our founding fathers created a lasting government
- The structure of the three branches and levels of government
- How the different levels of the American legal system function
- U.S. Supreme Court Cases relevant to criminal defense and civil rights
- The differences between criminal and civil law

### Economics/Law
- The principle foundations of economic systems in the United States
- How the government and the economy work together
- How the United States criminal justice process works
- The impact of advertising on a society
- How the government protects consumer rights
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<tr>
<th>What your child will do</th>
<th>What you'll see (products)</th>
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| • Explore American society and its values  
  • Use primary and secondary sources to learn about our culture, values, and citizenship | • Student-created notes that use proper note-taking skills  
  • Visuals related to learned information |
| • Use maps and charts to identify origins of American immigrants  
  • Work individually and in groups to answer questions and problem solve | • Maps and graphics to analyze immigration  
  • Visuals related to learned information  
  • Student-created notes that use proper note-taking skills. |
| • Explore and compare the 3 branches of the government  
  • Participate in project-based learning experiences and/or simulations  
  • Use primary and secondary sources to understand the foundations of our government  
  • Analyze/interpret US Supreme Court cases relevant to criminal defense and civil rights | • Student-created notes that use proper note-taking skills  
  • Visuals related to learned information |
| • Participate in project-based learning and/or simulations  
  • Work individually and in groups to answer questions and problem solve  
  • Participate in a mock trial and research civil cases  
  • Analyze contracts and their importance to consumers | • Visuals related to exploration of personal budgets  
  • Student-created notes that use proper note-taking skills  
  • Civil case research project |
| How you can help                                      | • Share your family’s heritage with your child |
|                                                    | • Read and share literature about immigrants |
|                                                    | • Monitor your child’s grades and homework    |
|                                                    | • Encourage your child to read maps while traveling |
|                                                    | • Monitor your child’s homework and grades online |
|                                                    | • Encourage your child to read the newspaper and watch news as it relates to topics in class |
|                                                    | • Follow elections and share information with your child |
|                                                    | • Take your child along to the voting booth when you vote |
|                                                    | • Monitor your child’s homework and grades online |
|                                                    | • Help your child to make a budget for their spending |
|                                                    | • Share your budget experiences |
|                                                    | • Monitor your child’s homework and grades online |