

8th Grade Social Studies Scope & Sequence

Grading Period	Unit Title	Learning Targets
Throughout the School Year	<p>Process Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Communicates in written, oral, and visual forms. ● Applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired through established research methodologies from a variety of valid sources, including electronic technology. ● Uses problem-solving and decision-making skills, working independently and with others. 	
Colonial America	<p>Unit 1: Geography & Exploration</p> <p>Geography influences political, economic, social, and cultural development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I know the location and characteristics of major places and regions in the United States. ● I can define and give examples of the five themes of geography. ● I can identify the four major European countries that explored and settled in North America and where their land claims are located. ● I can identify and explain the political, economic, religious and social reasons for European exploration and colonization of North America.
	<p>Unit 2: Colonial America</p> <p>Individuals and nations explore and colonize in pursuit of political, social, and economic freedoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explain the significance of the following dates: 1607 and 1620 ● I can compare the religious, political, economic, and social reasons for the establishment of the 13 colonies. ● I can explain the reasons for the growth of representative government during the colonial period. ● I can analyze the importance of the Mayflower Compact, the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, and the Virginia House of Burgesses to the growth of representative government. ● I can analyze how physical characteristics of the environment influenced population distribution, settlement patterns, and economic activities in the 17th and 18th centuries.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can identify selected racial, ethnic, and religious groups that settled in the United States and explain their reasons for immigration.
<p>Revolutionary Era</p>	<p>Unit 3: Road to Revolution</p> <p>A desire for self-determination and/or political and economic change is at the core of most revolutions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explain the significance of the following date 1776. ● I can analyze the causes of the American Revolution. ● I can explain the roles played by significant individuals leading up to the American Revolution. ● I can identify major events and influences in drafting the Declaration of Independence. ● I can identify colonial grievances listed in the Declaration of Independence. ● I can define and give examples of unalienable rights. ● I can explain the role of significant individuals in the development of self-government. ● I can evaluate the contributions of the Founding Fathers as models of civic virtue.
	<p>Unit 4: American Revolution</p> <p>Citizens and leaders moved from working with the Royal government for change, to creating a new nation based on democratic principles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can analyze the reasons for and impact of selected examples of civil disobedience during the American Revolution. ● I can describe the importance of free press in the colonies. ● I can explain the significance of the following date 1783: ● I can explain issues surrounding major events of the American Revolution. ● I can support a point of view or issue surrounding the American Revolution. ● I can explain the roles played by significant individuals during the American Revolution. ● I can support a point of view or issue surrounding the American Revolution ● I can explain the roles played by significant individuals during the American Revolution.

<p>United States Constitution</p>	<p>Unit 5: Creating a Nation</p> <p>The U.S. Constitution is a living document that protects the rights of individuals by limiting the power of government.</p> <p>A democratic society is based on individual rights, limited government, and civic responsibilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explain the significance of the following date 1787. ● I can summarize the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation. ● I can analyze the issues of the Constitutional Convention of 1787. ● I can explain how the Northwest Ordinance established principles and procedures for orderly expansion of the U.S. ● I can analyze the arguments for and against ratification of the Constitution. ● I can analyze the arguments of the Federalists and Antifederalists. ● I can analyze how the U.S. Constitution reflects the following principles of government. ● I understand the (dynamic nature of) powers of the national and state powers in a federal system. ● I can summarize rights guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. ● I can identify examples of responsible citizenship. ● I can analyze the impact of the guarantees of religious freedom on the American way of life. ● I can identify the influence of ideas from historic documents on the U.S. system of government ● I can summarize the purposes for and process of amending the U.S. Constitution.
<p>The Early Republic</p>	<p>Unit 6: Early Republic</p> <p>Visionary leadership can produce a nation of stability and power.</p> <p>Influential individuals' beliefs and actions greatly influence how new governments work in terms of policy and practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe major domestic problems faced by the leaders of the new republic. ● Maintaining national security, building a military, creating a stable economic system, defining the authority of the central government, setting up an election process, setting up a court system. ● I can summarize arguments regarding protective tariffs, taxation, and the national banking system. ● I can explain the origin of American political parties. ● I can explain the causes, important events, and effects of the War of 1812. ● I can identify the foreign policies of presidents Washington through Monroe and explain the impact of Washington's Farewell Address and the Monroe Doctrine. ● I can identify areas that were acquired to form the U.S. ● I can explain the significance of the following date 1803. ● I can locate regions of importance in the U.S. - Louisiana Purchase

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can identify provisions and effects of congressional compromises, including the role of Henry Clay. ● I can analyze the War of 1812 as a cause of economic changes in the nation. ● I can identify the origin of judicial review. ● I can summarize the issues, decisions, and significance of landmark Supreme Court cases, including Marbury v. Madison, McCulloch v. Maryland Gibbons v. Ogden. ● I can analyze the leadership qualities of elected and appointed leaders of the U.S. such as George Washington and John Marshall, George Washington's Precedents, John Marshall's Precedents.
<p>Westward Expansion</p>	<p>Unit 7: Age of Jackson & Westward Expansion</p> <p>Improvements in science and technology lead to positive and negative consequences for a nation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can identify major eras and events in U.S. History and explain Age of Jackson and Westward Expansion. ● I can summarize arguments regarding protective tariffs, taxation, and the banking system. ● I can explain the origin and development of American political parties. ● I can explain the impact of the election of Andrew Jackson, including expanded suffrage. ● I can analyze the reasons for removal and resettlement of Cherokee Indians during the Jacksonian era, including the Indian Removal Act, Worcester v. Georgia, and the Trail of Tears. ● I can explain the principles and procedures for orderly expansion of the United States. ● I can explain the political, economic and social roots of Manifest Destiny ● I can explain the causes and effects of the U.S.-Mexican War and their impact on the United States. ● I can identify and locate important regions and areas that were acquired to form the United States, including the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. ● I can analyze the impact of slavery on different sections of the United States ● I can identify the provisions and compare the effects of congressional conflicts and compromises prior to the Civil War, including the role of John Quincy Adams, John C. Calhoun, Henry Clay. ● I can analyze the impact of transportation systems on the growth of the United States. ● I can explain the constitutional issues arising over the issue of state's rights, including the Nullification Crisis.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can analyze examples of congressional and presidential responses to Judicial Review. ● I can analyze how physical characteristics of the environment influenced population distribution, settlement patterns, and economic activities during the 19th century. ● I can identify selected racial, ethnic, and religious groups that settled in the United States and explain their reasons for immigration. ● I can identify major eras and events in U.S. History and explain Industrial Revolution and Age of Reform. ● I can understand the origins and development of the free enterprise system in the United States and describe its characteristics and benefits during the 19th century. ● I can analyze the effects of technological innovations such as the steamboat, the cotton gin, interchangeable parts. ● I can analyze the impact of transportation systems on the growth development, and urbanization of the United States. ● I can analyze the impact of transportation and communication systems on the growth development, and urbanization of the United States. ● I can explain how technological innovations brought about economic growth, such as how the factory system contributed to rapid industrialization and the transcontinental railroad led to the opening of the West.
	<p>Unit 8: Industrialization & Reform</p> <p>Expansion strengthens and divides nations while influencing the political and economic decisions of the country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe the positive and negative consequences of human modification of the physical environment of the U.S. ● I can compare the effects of scientific discoveries and technological innovations that have influenced daily life. ● I can identify economic differences among different regions of the United States. ● I can explain the reason for the development of the plantation system and the spread of slavery ● I can identify selected racial, ethnic, and religious groups that settled in the United States and explain their reasons for immigration. ● I can explain the relationship between urbanization and conflicts resulting from differences in religion, social class, and political benefits. ● I can identify the political/social/economic contributions of women.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can evaluate the impact of reform movements, including Labor Reform, Temperance, Education, care of the disabled, prison reform. ● I can describe the historical development of the abolition and women’s movement. ● I can describe developments in art, music, and literature that are unique to American culture, such as: Hudson River School, James Audubon, Transcendentalism, Romanticism. ● I can analyze reasons for and the impact of selected examples of civil disobedience, such as Thoreau’s refusal to pay a tax.
<p>Civil War & Reconstruction</p>	<p>Unit 9: Civil War</p> <p>Political and military leaders greatly influence and impact the events and outcome of war.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can identify major eras and events in U.S. history: Civil War. ● I can explain the significance of the following dates: 1861-1865. ● I can explain the causes of the Civil War, including sectionalism and slavery. ● I can identify the provisions and compare the effects of congressional conflicts and compromises prior to the Civil War, including the roles of Clay and Webster. ● I can describe the historical development of the abolitionist movement. ● I can explain the origin and development of American political parties. ● I can identify different points of view of political parties on important historical issues. ● I can explain constitutional issues arising over states’ rights, including the Civil War. ● I can evaluate the impact of Supreme Court decisions, including Dred Scott v Sanford on life in the U.S. ● I can analyze Lincoln’s ideas about liberty, equality, union, and government as contained in his first and second inaugural addresses and the Gettysburg Address and contrast them with the ideas contained in Jefferson Davis’s inaugural address. ● I can explain the roles played by significant individuals during the Civil War, including Jefferson Davis, Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, and Abraham Lincoln, and heroes such as congressional Medal of Honor recipients William Carney and Philip Bazaar. ● I can describe the contributions of military leaders of the U.S., such as Stonewall Jackson. ● I can explain significant events of the Civil War, including firing on Fort Sumter; the battles of Antietam, Gettysburg, and Vicksburg; the announcement

		<p>of the Emancipation Proclamation; Lee’s surrender at Appomattox Court House, and the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can analyze the leadership qualities of elected and appointed leaders of the United States, such as Abraham Lincoln. ● I can describe the impact of 19th century amendments: 13th Amendment. ● I can compare the effects of scientific discoveries and technological innovations that have influenced daily life during the Civil War. ● I can describe developments in music that are unique to American culture, such as”“Battle Hymn of the Republic”.
	<p>Unit 10: Reconstruction</p> <p>Violence often results when compromise fails.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can identify major eras and events in U.S. history: Reconstruction. ● I can identify different points of view on important historical issues: amnesty, Lincoln’s Ten Percent Plan, Johnson’s Reconstruction Plan. ● I can evaluate the legislative reform programs of the Radical Reconstruction Congress and Reconstruction state governments. ● I can explain the problems during Reconstruction and evaluate their impact on different groups: Economic problems, Political problems, Social problems. ● I can identify the effects of legislative acts such as the Homestead Act, the Dawes Act, and the Morrill Act ● I can explain how technological innovations brought about economic growth, such as how the Transcontinental Railroad led to the opening of the West. ● I can describe the impact of 19th-century amendments, including the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments.