



Unit 1 Louisiana Today

Grade 3 Social Studies

Unit Description:

Students understand the meaning of *culture* and how it defines a place. They identify and define the many characteristics of *culture*, each of which represents the people who live there. They explore the place known as Louisiana in the context of the world and country. They also examine examples of cultural elements that define Louisiana and make it a unique place.

Social Studies Standards:

- 3.1.4** Compare and contrast state and national historical symbols.
- 3.1.5** Categorize landmarks as state and national.
- 3.1.6** Compare and contrast the influence of cultural groups in Louisiana.
- 3.2.4** Identify cultural elements that have contributed to the state's heritage.
- 3.3.1** Describe characteristics and uses of various types of maps.
- 3.3.2** Identify the hemispheres in which Louisiana is located.
- 3.3.3** Locate various communities and cities in Louisiana using cardinal and intermediate directions.
- 3.3.4** Locate and label major geographic features of Louisiana on a map.
- 3.3.5** Differentiate between a town, parish, state, and country in which the student lives using a political map.
- 3.3.6** Construct an outline map of Louisiana from memory.
- 3.3.7** Locate specific places on a map using a simple grid system.
- 3.4.1** Compare and contrast the physical features of various regions of Louisiana.
- 3.4.6** Distinguish between urban, suburban, and rural communities in Louisiana.

- 3.4.7** Describe the importance of natural resources in Louisiana using maps.
- 3.7.1** Identify various ways that people earn income and how earning income contributes to the economic well-being of their community and state.
- 3.8.2** Investigate ways in which people are producers and consumers and explain why they depend on one another.
- 3.9.1** Explain the concepts of specialization and interdependence in the production of goods and services.

**Enduring Understandings-
Compelling Question:**

- **What makes Louisiana unique?**

**Essential Questions-
Supporting Questions:**

- How does location define a place?
- How does Louisiana’s environment provide for the needs of its people?
- What is culture?
- What does it mean to be unique?
- How do Louisiana’s cultural characteristics make it unique?
- How are different types of communities similar and different?
- How do we see elements of culture in a place?