



The social studies standards in the elementary years begin with individuals and families and move from there to explorations of neighborhoods, communities, the state of Colorado, and the United States. In each grade, students investigate historical events, examine geographic features and resources, consider economic decision-making processes, and define civic roles and responsibilities.

#### Expectations for 1st Grade Students:

- **History:** Use words related to time, sequence and change; identify diverse perspectives and traditions of families, including their own, from many cultures that have shaped the United States; ask questions and discuss ideas about patterns and chronological order of events from the past.
- **Geography:** Use maps and globes to represent the earth; understand the nature of a community and its relationship to the environment; identify how communities differ in both physical and cultural characteristics.
- **Economics:** Discuss financial (money) responsibility; provide examples of the types of job choices available to people in their family and community. **Personal Financial Literacy:** Plan how to spend, share, and save money.
- **Civics:** Identify and explain the meaning of holidays, symbols, and notable people and places representative of our diverse society.

#### Throughout 1st Grade You May Find Students:

- Using vocabulary related to time, sequence and change, calendars, and the past; describing significant life events; discussing family and cultural traditions (holidays, celebrations) and comparing those with the traditions and cultures of others; exploring the meaning behind American symbols.
- Using maps, globes and other geographic vocabulary (direction, distance, land, water); talking about directions (north, south, east, west) to describe how to get to a given location; reciting their personal address and explaining how to find places on a map.
- Discussing short-term money goals (saving to buy something special) and providing examples of how to raise and save money to meet a goal; providing examples of community businesses and what they make and provide.
- Demonstrating the ability to be a leader and team member; explaining some examples of family and school jobs (responsibilities); demonstrating what it means to be a responsible member of a community; discussing the characteristics of responsible leaders.