

GRADE 4 SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies Practices

Social studies practices consist of the following skills, abilities, and habits of mind.

- **Concept Understanding:** Demonstration of understanding and the ability to apply concepts and processes.
- **Source Analysis:** Interpretation and analysis of primary and secondary sources.
- **Data Analysis:** Interpretation and analysis of quantitative data.
- **Chronological Reasoning:** Identification and analysis of causes, effects, and periodization in history.
- **Comparison:** Identification and analysis of similarities and differences between time periods, locations, events, etc.

Content

In fourth grade, students focus on the four essential social studies disciplines and apply them to the study of Utah. Students learn about significant events in Utah history, the physical geography of Utah, and how it affects human life, including economic development. Fourth graders will also deepen their understanding of civics as they learn more about rights and responsibilities in Utah and how governments in Utah are organized. Inquiry into current events will help students make connections between the past and the present.

The social studies practices are developed and assessed through study of the content as outlined below.

Utah's Geography

- Utah's location and landforms
- Climate, vegetation, and resources
- Effects of Utah's physical geography: earthquake, drought, air quality

Utah before 1847

- Prehistoric Native American societies
- Historic tribes and bands: Goshute, Navajo, Paiute, Shoshone, Ute
- Explorers and frontiersmen

The territorial period: 1847-1896

- Pioneer migrations
- Early agriculture and mining
- Expansion of settlement
- Interactions with Native Americans
- Polygamy and female suffrage
- Changes in transportation and communication

First century of statehood: 1896-1999

- Utah Constitution and government
- Utah symbols and their history
- Economic growth and change
- Events outside the state and effects on Utah

Utah Today

- Native American Reservations in Utah
- Sustainability and Utah's natural resource industries
- International immigration to Utah
- Cultural institutions: the Utah Symphony, Ballet West, the Shakespearean Festival, Tabernacle Choir

