

GRADE 3 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.
- **Comparison:** Identification and analysis of similarities and differences between time periods, locations, events, etc.

Content

In third grade, students are introduced to the United States Constitution. They also learn about culture and community, focusing on their own local Utah community's heritage as well as learning about the history, geography, governmental and economic structures, and cultures of other communities. They study the interrelationships between physical geography and cultural development. They also begin to learn about representative government and their personal civic responsibility in the classroom, community, and country.

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

The US Constitution

- There are different kinds of governments; the United States is a constitutional republic.
- “We the people,” the first words of the Constitution, are vital to understanding our government.
- The Constitution establishes our government and provides stability.
- The First Amendment protects specific rights for Americans.

Our Community

- Our community can be seen on maps; it has unique geographical features
- Food, music, art, and architecture contribute to our local culture.
- Our community has changed over time.

Government and Citizenship

- People have civic roles in our community.
- Leaders are elected to help our community function.
- Our government collects and uses taxes.
- There are many ways to be a good citizen.

Communities Around the World

- Communities in other parts of the world are geographically different and similar to ours.
- Culture and society communities around the world are different.
- Communities around the world have modified their environments.

