

GRADE 2 - COMMUNITIES

OVERVIEW

The second grade curriculum incorporates a wide range of themes from the four overarching topics in Social Studies. These themes build on content introduced in Kindergarten and first grades. Students will develop a basic understanding of the local community, as well as that community's location in the world, by the end of second grade.

A secondary goal of the second grade curriculum is to integrate content from English and Language Arts. Items in this curriculum are purposefully written in a general manner to facilitate cross-curricular connections. Map skills and the identification of cultural attributes should be reiterated throughout the year.

Current events are an integral part of the curriculum in each grade level and should be reviewed and discussed on a regular basis, keeping in perspective the suitability of the topic for the grade level. Current events should incorporate themes from other content areas as well.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Geography

1. How do geographic tools help people study history?
2. How can people use geographic tools to learn more about specific places?
3. In what ways can people and the environment interact?
4. Why is it important to conserve resources?

History

5. What events are significant in a specific period of history?
6. What conflicts and compromises have taken place in United States and World History?
7. How have certain groups or individuals impacted history?
8. What symbols are important for Americans? Why are symbols important for expressing patriotism?

Civics, Government, and Society

9. What attributes make up culture?
10. How are other cultures alike and different?
11. Why are laws important?
12. How should people behave in various communities?
13. What does it mean to be a responsible citizen?
14. How can people be contributing members of various communities?

Economics

15. Why do people make certain economic choices?
16. Why is it important to save and spend money?
17. How does an economy work?
18. Why do countries trade with one another? How does trade relate to resources?

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM GUIDELINES
GRADE 2**

Topic I: Geography

Trimesters Covered						Pennsylvania Standards
1		2		3		Topic I
<p>A. Map Skills</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define basic map terms 2. Locate the parts of a map 3. Identify the perspective of a map 4. Utilize a map key and a compass rose to locate places on a map 5. Identify and define landforms 6. Locate and identify continents, oceans, Pennsylvania, and the United States <p>B. Human Systems</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify geographic characteristics of a specific location 2. Compare geographic characteristics between communities 3. Explain how lifestyles are related to geography <p>C. Environment and Society</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify local natural resources 2. Define conservation and recycling 3. Formulate solutions to conserve natural resources 4. Cite evidence of conservation, recycling, or preservation of natural resources in the local community 						<p><u>Geography</u> 7.1.2.A-B 7.2.2.A-B 7.3.2.A 7.4.2.A</p> <p><u>History</u> 8.1.2.C 8.4.2.D</p> <p><u>Economics</u> 6.4.2.C</p>

Topic II: History and Culture

Trimesters Covered						Pennsylvania Standards
1		2		3		Topic II
<p>A. Define history, customs, traditions, and culture</p> <p>B. United States History and Culture</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify major figures and explain specific contributions to United States history 2. Describe how specific events impacted the history of the United States 3. Compare life in the past to life in the present 4. Explain how the Catholic Church has been involved in specific events 5. Describe how specific traditions, customs, and/or holidays began in the United States and if they have changed over time 6. Identify major figures and/or groups involved in settling the local community, 						<p><u>Geography</u> 7.1.2.A-B 7.2.2.A-B 7.3.2.A 7.4.2.A</p> <p><u>History</u> 8.1.2.A-C 8.2.2.A-D</p>

<p>including the town, parish, and school</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Describe the historical development of the local community, including the town, parish, and school 8. Identify Native Americans as first settlers of the United States 9. Analyze colonial communities and lifestyles 10. Identify and describe common symbols in the United States <p>C. World History and Cultures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify major figures and/or groups in specific periods of World History 2. Locate communities in the world using geographic tools 3. Describe the holidays, customs, and/or traditions practiced in specific cultures 4. Compare holidays, customs, and/or traditions of specific cultures to the United States 	<p>8.3.2.A-D 8.4.2.A-D</p> <p><u>Civics</u> 5.1.2.E-F</p> <p><u>Economics</u> 6.3.2.D 6.4.2.C</p>					
Topic III: Economics						
Trimesters Covered						Pennsylvania Standards
1		2		3		Topic III
<p>A. Economic Choices</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define pertinent economic terms including but not limited to consumers, producers, supply, demand, goods, services, scarcity, money, and trade 2. Identify why people work 3. Describe how money is used 4. Identify wants and needs when making an economic decision 5. Defend the choice of one economic activity above another 6. Evaluate the importance of saving and spending money 7. Identify organizations that support an economy 8. Define taxes and describe how they are collected <p>B. World Economies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify products produced outside of the United States 2. Evaluate the reasons why countries trade with one another 3. Describe ways in which goods are shipped between countries 4. Explain that scarcity of resources encourages countries to trade 						<p><u>Geography</u> 7.3.2.A</p> <p><u>History</u> 8.3.2.D</p> <p><u>Civics</u> 5.4.2.B-C</p> <p><u>Economics</u> 6.1.2.A-D 6.2.2.A, C, D, F 6.3.2.A, C 6.4.2.A, C, D 6.5.2.A-H</p>

Topic IV: Citizenship						
Trimesters Covered						Pennsylvania Standards
1		2		3		Topic IV
<p>A. Community</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define community 2. Identify the elements of a successful community 3. Evaluate the need for rules in a community 4. Distinguish between types of communities 5. Identify and practice behaviors appropriate to different communities 6. Identify school leaders <p>B. Citizenship</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify traits of good citizenship 2. Explain why citizens follow laws 3. Identify some rights and responsibilities of citizens 4. Identify American patriotic symbols and holidays 5. Explain how honoring patriotic symbols is an expression of citizenship 6. Identify local and federal government leaders 7. Describe ways in which people read or access news 						<p><u>Geography</u> 7.3.2.A</p> <p><u>History</u> 8.4.2.A-C</p> <p><u>Civics</u> 5.1.2.A-E 5.2.2.A-D 5.3.2.A-F, J 5.4.2.A, D, E</p> <p><u>Economics</u> 6.3.2.C</p>