

GRADE K - SELF AND RELATIONSHIPS

OVERVIEW

The Kindergarten curriculum focuses on students understanding their new role in school and in the world. Students develop their understanding of the school and local community by studying its geography, history, civics, and economics.

A secondary goal of the Kindergarten curriculum is to integrate content from English and Language Arts. Some items in the Kindergarten standards are purposefully written in a general manner to facilitate cross-curricular instruction. Map skills should be reiterated in a relevant manner throughout the school year.

Current events are an integral part of the curriculum 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 reflect themes from other content areas as well.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Geography

1. How are geographic tools used to learn about places?
2. What can geographic tools tell people about places?
3. What are the geographic features of a community?
4. How does geography affect daily life?

History

5. How is time organized? Why is it important to understand time?
6. Why is sequence important when talking about history?
7. What are important symbols of Pennsylvania and of the United States?
8. How are certain holidays celebrated? Why are holidays important?

Civics, Government, and Society

9. Why are rules important for school and society?
10. How is proper behavior shown?
11. How can people show respect to others?
12. What are the responsibilities of being part of a group?
13. How can problems be solved in the classroom and at home?
14. How can leaders in the community and at school help people?
15. Why is good behavior in the classroom necessary?
16. How are community leaders related to government?

Economics

17. What does a family need to live? How do families get what they need to live?
18. How do people form an economy?
19. What factors influence economic decisions?
20. How are local businesses identified?

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM GUIDELINES
GRADE K**

Topic I: Geography

Trimesters Covered						Pennsylvania Standards
1		2		3		Topic I
<p>A. Map Skills</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify a map and a globe 2. Identify Pennsylvania and the United States 3. Differentiate between land and water areas on maps 4. Identify basic geographic features in pictures and on maps 5. Demonstrate awareness of the local community <p>B. Human Systems</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the geographic features of a location 2. Use simple maps to describe the geography of a location 3. Identify the seasons and weather in the community 4. Explain how geography impacts lifestyle <p>C. Communities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the local community on a map 2. Differentiate between communities within a particular region 						<p><u>Geography</u> 7.1.K.A-B 7.2.K.A-B 7.3.K.A 7.4.K.A</p> <p><u>History</u> 8.2.K.B</p> <p><u>Civics</u> 5.4.K.A-B</p> <p><u>Economics</u> 6.3.K.D</p>

Topic II: History, Culture, and Citizenship

Trimesters Covered						Pennsylvania Standards
1		2		3		Topic II
<p>A. History</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify parts of a calendar and use a calendar correctly 2. Sequence events using correct vocabulary 3. Differentiate between school days, work days, and holidays 4. Identify important national and religious holidays 5. Identify important American historical figures <p>B. Culture</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe how holidays are celebrated, including religious holidays 2. Explain why holidays are important to cultures 3. Identify holidays, traditions, and/or customs from other cultures 4. Explain the importance of religion in the school community 						<p><u>Geography</u> 7.2.K.A</p> <p><u>History</u> 8.1.K.A-B 8.2.K.A, B, D 8.3.K.A-C 8.4.K.A, C, D</p> <p><u>Civics</u> 5.1.K.A-C, E, F</p>

<p>5. Describe the characteristics of homes and of the community</p> <p>C. Citizenship</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define rules, responsibilities, and respect 2. Identify features of local government, including the fire station and police station 3. Describe the function of community helpers 4. Describe the importance of certain national symbols 5. Recite the Pledge of Allegiance and identify its significance 6. Explain the importance of rules, especially classroom and school rules 7. Demonstrate responsible classroom behavior 8. Identify school officials and describe how officials interact with students 9. Identify problems and hypothesize responsible solutions 10. Explain the importance of working as a group 	<p>5.2.K.A-D 5.3.K.B, C, F 5.4.K.A-B</p> <p><u>Economics</u> 6.4.K.A 6.5.K.A</p>					
<p>Topic III: Economics</p>						
<p>Trimesters Covered</p>						<p>Pennsylvania Standards</p>
1		2		3		Topic III
<p>A. Define basic economic terms, including needs, wants, and scarcity</p> <p>B. Economic Systems</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify currency and describe how currency is used 2. Explain how specialized jobs create an economy 3. Identify products produced in the local or regional community 4. Identify local businesses 5. Identify volunteers and explain why volunteers are important <p>C. Economic Choices</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify factors that influence economic decisions 2. Identify personal needs and wants 3. Explain how people provide for their needs and wants 4. Describe how scarcity affects economic choices 5. Identify family needs and wants 6. Identify an economic choice based on family interest 						<p><u>Geography</u> 7.1.K.B 7.2.K.A</p> <p><u>History</u> 8.2.K.A</p> <p><u>Civics</u> 5.4.K.A-B</p> <p><u>Economics</u> 6.1.K.A-D 6.2.K.A, C, D 6.3.K.D 6.4.K.A, D 6.5.K.A, C</p>