

Kindergarten

Social Studies Curriculum

Unit 1: Myself and Others

Enduring Understandings:

- Each person is unique and has special talents.
- Families may be similar and different and have similar and different responsibilities.
- A sense of community focuses on respect and caring.

Essential Questions:

- What makes me special and unique?
- How can we fit in with people around us?

NYS Social Studies Framework:

- K.1: Children's sense of self is shaped by experiences that are unique to them and their families, and by common experiences shared by a community or nation.
- K.2: Children, families, and communities exhibit cultural similarities and differences.
- K.3: Symbols and traditions help develop a shared culture and identity within the United States.

Vocabulary:

talent, unique, family, birthday, community, tradition, responsible, role, helper, respect, empathy, holidays

Knowledge and Skills:

Students will demonstrate increasing awareness and competence in the following areas:

- Unit vocabulary
- Ask questions
- Draw and label
- Identify when their birthday is
- Recognize their individual talents
- Participate in a discussion
- Describe an event in his/her life
- Recognize forms of evidence used to make meaning
- Identify opinions expressed by others
- Retell an important life event in sequential order
- Understand the concept of time measurements, including days and weeks
- Identify events of the past, present, and future in his/her life
- Identify similarities and differences between home and school
- Identify similarities and differences between him/her and others
- Identify a pattern
- Show respect in issues involving difference and conflict
- Identify the members of their school community
- Work cooperatively
- Listen to others
- Attend to a story
- Follow multi-step directions

Unit 2: How Can I Be a Good Citizen?

Enduring Understandings:

- Good citizens have many responsibilities throughout life.
- Good school and community citizens make good choices that affect themselves and others.
- Good citizens respect their flag and understand its importance.

Essential Questions:

- How can I be a good citizen?

NYS Social Studies Framework:

- K.3. Symbols and traditions help develop a shared culture and identity within the United States.
- K.4. Children and adults have rights and responsibilities at home, at school, in the classroom, and in the community.
- K.5. Rules affect children and adults, and people make and change rules for many reasons.

Vocabulary:

consequence, country, flag, freedom, pledge, responsibility, rules, symbol, holiday, culture, customs

Knowledge and Skills:

Students will demonstrate increasing awareness and competence in the following areas:

- Unit vocabulary
- Recognize forms of evidence used to make meaning
- Identify opinions expressed by others
- Identify causes and effects, using an example from his/her family life
- Demonstrate respect for the rights of others
- Participate in activities that focus on a classroom or school issue or problem
- Identify the role of the individual in classroom participation
- Show respect in issues involving difference and conflict
- Identify situations in which social actions are required
- Identify and follow rules in the classroom and school
- Draw and label
- Judge appropriate responses to scenarios and videos
- Make predictions
- Draw a conclusion
- Ask questions
- Draw and label
- Identify a pattern
- Work cooperatively
- Listen to others
- Attend to a story
- Follow multi-step directions
- Participate in a discussion

Unit 3: Understanding Economics & Geography

Enduring Understandings:

- All people have needs and wants that are met by goods and services.
- All human beings have to deal with scarcity.
- People need to work together to fulfill the needs and wants of many.
- People need to respect their environment while satisfying their needs and wants.

Essential Questions:

- How do economics and geography affect my life?

NYS Social Studies Framework:

- K.6. Maps and globes are representations of Earth's surface that are used to locate and better understand places and regions.
- K.8. The past, present and future describe points in time and help us examine and understand events.
- K.7: People and communities are affected by and adapt to their physical environment.
- K.9. People have economic needs and wants. Goods and services can satisfy people's wants. Scarcity is the condition of not being able to have all of the goods and services that a person wants or needs.

Vocabulary:

community, computer, cooperation, custodian, cycle, income, job, library media specialist, needs, nurse, principal, question, recycle, savings, teamwork, thermometer, tools, wants, work

Knowledge and Skills:

Students will demonstrate increasing awareness and competence in the following areas:

- Unit vocabulary
- Ask questions
- Recognize forms of evidence used to make meaning
- Identify the author or creator of a book or map
- Ask geographic questions about where places are located and why they are located there
- Identify examples of scarcity and choices made due to scarcity
- Identify examples of goods and services
- Distinguish between a need and a want
- Identify a tool
- Draw a curriculum related image and label it appropriately
- Understand how teamwork and cooperation is related to fulfilling needs and wants
- Draw and label
- Identify a pattern
- Work cooperatively
- Listen to others
- Attend to a story
- Follow multi-step directions
- Participate in a discussion