

**4th Grade ASCEND LA and Social Studies
PISD Curriculum: Year at a Glance**

| <i>SS Title/ Guiding Questions</i> Big Ideas/ Enduring Understandings | Connections Narrative Integration Possibilities | <i>ELA Title/ Guiding Questions</i> Big Ideas/ Enduring Understandings |
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| Unit 1 | | |
| <p>Texas Roots</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Land of Texas: <i>How can I use map skills to further my understanding of Texas? How does the geography impact Texas throughout history?</i> • The Diversity of Texas: <i>What customs and ethnic groups are influential to Texas? How have these customs and ethnic groups made an impact on Texas' development? How do the settlement patterns, economics and industry impact Texas' development?</i> • The People of Texas: <i>Which Native Americans, explorers and missionaries have influenced early Texas? How have their impacts changed the course of life in Texas?</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Character analysis of prominent historical figures correlated to the time period of study. • Writing persuasive messages (ads, commercials, etc) correlated to an event during the time period of study. • Debates using historical topics correlated to Texas Roots studies. • Research projects correlated to the time period of study. • Socratic dialogue about political philosophies of the time period of study. | <p>Fundamentals of Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpersonal Skills: <i>How do I communicate with others about myself? How can I use communication skills to learn about others? How do I show that I understand another person's message?</i> • Making Inferences and Drawing Conclusions: <i>How can I understand the characters' thoughts and actions? How does the author help me understand the story? How does reading like an author help my writing?</i> • Characters: <i>How can I transfer what I notice about plot and characters from my reading to my writing? How does an author use changes in a character to convey a message? How does the author provide clues in the text to support the reader's understanding?</i> • Persuasion: <i>How does an author communicate personal feelings about a topic? How does knowing an author's perspective impact my understanding as I read? How can I convince another person to support my ideas?</i> • Imagery: <i>How do mental images increase a reader's understanding? How do authors use similes and metaphors effectively? How do authors help readers visualize characters? What are some different structures used to show dialogue?</i> • Main Ideas and Details: <i>How do you determine which details best support the main idea? How does a reader concisely summarize information? How do I support my ideas with evidence from the text?</i> • Greek and Latin Stems/ Roots: <i>How can stems/ roots be used to determine a word's meaning? How can etymology help my understanding of the English language?</i> • Research skills: <i>What is my purpose for research? How do I locate a variety of credible sources? How do I differentiate between my own ideas and the ideas of others? What tools can I use to organize my thoughts</i> |

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| | | <p><i>and information? How do I determine if my research questions were answered? How can I communicate my new understanding to others?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication skills: <i>How do I apply grammar and spelling fundamentals to communicate orally and in writing? How do I communicate to an audience through expository and narrative writing? How do authors communicate a plot aligned with a specific genre?</i> • Debate and Philosophy: <i>What roles and formats are used in a formal debate? How can I use a variety of evidence to support my argument effectively? How can I effectively communicate my ideas and/ or argument? How can I use scholarly dialogue to broaden my ideas or arguments?</i> |
| Unit 2 | | |
| <p><i>Influences in Texas</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wars Influencing Texas: <i>What was Texas' role in the American Revolution? How was Texas affected by Mexico's War for Independence? What was the Texas Revolution and how did it impact its citizens? How was Texas affected by the Mexican War and what was Texas' role in that war?</i> • People Influencing Texas: <i>Who were the significant empresarios and how did they shape the formation of Texas? What were the prominent colonies and what was life like within those colonies? Who were the founders of the Texas Republic and what were their roles in creating the Texas Republic?</i> • Other Events Influencing Texas: <i>What was the significance of the annexation by the US? How was the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo used and who were the important people involved?</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading autobiographies and memoirs to analyze text and author's voice. • Genre study of historical fiction that is correlated to the time period of study. • Structure and content analysis of historical documents correlated to the time period of study. • Debates using historical topics correlated to Influences in Texas studies. • Research projects correlated to the time period of study. • Socratic dialogue about political philosophies of the time period of study. | <p><i>Structure of Communication</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informational Text: <i>How is informational text the same and/ or different from fiction and personal narratives? How do text features help a reader's understanding? How does an author's perspective influence the way factual information is presented?</i> • Organization: <i>Why is the sequence and ideas important? How do I describe an explicit cause and effect relationship versus an implicit cause and effect relationship? How can a message be strengthened by changing the presentation?</i> • Genre Applications: <i>How does an author's message determine the genre that is chosen? How does the plot development depend on a genre's structure? How can I use my knowledge of genre to communicate my understanding in my reading and writing?</i> • Interpersonal Skills • Making Inferences and Drawing Conclusions • Characters • Persuasion • Imagery • Main Ideas and Details • Research skills |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication Skills • Greek and Latin Stems/ Roots • Debate and Philosophy |
| Unit 3 | | |
| <p><i>Texas Growth and Change</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What were the effects of the Civil War on Texas?</i> • <i>Industry and Development in Texas: How was Texas impacted by cattle, railroads, oil, transportation and highway systems and the space program?</i> • <i>What roles did Texas serve in the World Wars?</i> • <i>What were the effects of the Civil Rights movement on Texas?</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature Circles: Nonfiction, Autobiographies, Biographies • Analysis of poetry written during and in reference to the time period of study. • Debates using historical topics correlated to Texas Growth and Change studies. • Research projects correlated to the time period of study. • Socratic dialogue about political philosophies of the time period of study. | <p><i>Effective Communication</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poetry: <i>What is the difference between poetry and prose? How does the structure of a poem create an image or convey a meaning? How does word choice create an image?</i> • Interpersonal Skills • Making Inferences and Drawing Conclusions • Characters • Persuasion • Imagery • Main Ideas and Details • Research skills • Communication Skills • Greek and Latin Stems/ Roots • Debate and Philosophy |
| Unit 4 | | |
| <p><i>Modern Texas</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local and State Government: What positions are needed in the local and state government? How is power and decision making distributed among the branches of government? What policies are addressed by which area of the state or local government?</i> • <i>How does Texas impact the national government?</i> • <i>What are the Texas citizenship requirements and rights? How can those rights be exercised?</i> • <i>Current State of Affairs: What current events are impacting Texas today? How does Texas' economy compare to the national economy? What is impacting the state's economy? How does current population impact the state? How is Texas addressing conservation in the state? What cultures are influencing modern Texas and how?</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing prompts/ topics using local and state current events. • Analysis of types of writing correlated to the time period of study. • Debates using historical topics correlated to Modern Texas studies and/ or current events. • Research projects correlated to the time period of study. • Socratic dialogue about political philosophies of the time period of study. | <p><i>Types of Communication</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring Types of Writing: Imaginative, Persuasive, Personal and Reflective; <i>Which type of writing will most effectively convey my idea or message? How do authors use various writing styles to illuminate their voice?</i> • Interpersonal Skills • Making Inferences and Drawing Conclusions • Characters • Persuasion • Imagery • Main Ideas and Details • Research skills • Communication Skills • Greek and Latin Stems/ Roots • Debate and Philosophy |