FOURTH GRADE

Alabama Studies

Fourth-grade students apply geographic concepts obtained in Grade 3 to a study of their own state and relate geography to history, economics, and politics in Alabama. They examine ways economic and political institutions respond to the needs of Alabamians. Students gain knowledge of economic principles and technological advancements as well as knowledge of past events and present-day practices in the state. They learn specific characteristics regarding the land and its people and analyze diverse groups that contributed to the development of Alabama, beginning with early American Indians in Alabama and continuing to the present.

Fourth-graders' enthusiasm for classifying and organizing information may be used for obtaining knowledge about geographic regions in Alabama. Students investigate Alabama's role in the Civil War, civil rights efforts, and the structure of state and local governments. They compare similarities between contemporary issues and their historical origins and draw parallels among historical events in Alabama, other states, and the world.

Students will:

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

1. Compare historical and current economic, political, and geographic information about Alabama on thematic maps, including weather and climate, physical-relief, waterway, transportation, political, economic development, land-use, and population maps.
    - Describing types of migrations as they affect the environment, agriculture, economic development, and population changes in Alabama

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

2. Relate reasons for European exploration and settlement in Alabama to the impact of European explorers on trade, health, and land expansion in Alabama.
    - Locating on maps European settlements in early Alabama, including Fort Condé, Fort Toulouse, and Fort Mims
    - Tracing on maps and globes, the routes of early explorers of the New World, including Juan Ponce de León, Hernando de Soto, and Vasco Núñez de Balboa
    - Explaining reasons for conflicts between Europeans and American Indians in Alabama from 1519 to 1840, including differing beliefs regarding land ownership, religion, and culture

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

3. Explain the social, political, and economic impact of the War of 1812, including battles and significant leaders of the Creek War, on Alabama.

   Examples: social—adoption of European culture by American Indians, opening of Alabama land for settlement
   political—forced relocation of American Indians, labeling of Andrew Jackson as a hero and propelling him toward Presidency
   economic—acquisition of tribal land in Alabama by the United States

   - Explaining the impact of the Trail of Tears on Alabama American Indians' lives, rights, and territories

E	G	H	CG
	✓	✓	

4. Relate the relationship of the five geographic regions of Alabama to the movement of Alabama settlers during the early nineteenth century.
   - Identifying natural resources of Alabama during the early nineteenth century
   - Describing human environments of Alabama as they relate to settlement during the early nineteenth century, including housing, roads, and place names

E	G	H	CG
	✓	✓	✓

5. Describe Alabama's entry into statehood and establishment of its three branches of government and the constitutions.
   - Explaining political and geographic reasons for changes in location of Alabama's state capital
   - Recognizing roles of prominent political leaders during early statehood in Alabama, including William Wyatt Bibb, Thomas Bibb, Israel Pickens, William Rufus King, and John W. Walker

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

6. Describe cultural, economic, and political aspects of the lifestyles of early nineteenth-century farmers, plantation owners, slaves, and townspeople.

   Examples: cultural—housing, education, religion, recreation
   economic—transportation, means of support
   political—inequity of legal codes

   - Describing major areas of agricultural production in Alabama, including the Black Belt and fertile river valleys

E	G	H	CG
✓		✓	✓

7. Explain reasons for Alabama's secession from the Union, including sectionalism, slavery, states' rights, and economic disagreements.
   - Identifying Alabama's role in the organization of the Confederacy, including hosting the secession convention and the inauguration ceremony for leaders
   - Recognizing Montgomery as the first capital of the Confederacy
   - Interpreting the Articles of the Confederation and the Gettysburg Address

E	G	H	CG
✓		✓	

8. Explain Alabama's economic and military role during the Civil War.

Examples: economic—production of iron products, munitions, textiles, and ships
military—provision of military supplies through the Port of Mobile, provision of an armament center at Selma

- Recognizing military leaders from Alabama during the Civil War
- Comparing roles of women on the home front and the battlefront during and after the Civil War
- Explaining economic conditions as a result of the Civil War, including the collapse of the economic structure, destruction of the transportation infrastructure, and high casualty rates

E	G	H	CG
✓		✓	✓

9. Analyze political and economic issues facing Alabama during Reconstruction for their impact on various social groups.

Examples: political—military rule, presence of Freedmen's Bureau, Alabama's readmittance to the Union
economic—sharecropping, tenant farming, scarcity of goods and money

- Interpreting the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States
- Identifying African Americans who had an impact on Alabama during Reconstruction in Alabama
- Identifying major political parties in Alabama during Reconstruction

E	G	H	CG
✓		✓	✓

10. Analyze social and educational changes during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries for their impact on Alabama.

Examples: social—implementation of the *Plessey versus Ferguson* "separate but not equal" court decision, birth of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
educational—establishment of normal schools and land-grant colleges such as Huntsville Normal School (Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical [A&M] University), Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama (Auburn University), Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute (Tuskegee University), Lincoln Normal School (Alabama State University)

- Explaining the development and changing role of industry, trade, and agriculture in Alabama during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, including the rise of Populism
- Explaining the Jim Crow laws
- Identifying Alabamians who made contributions in the fields of science, education, the arts, politics, and business during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	

11. Describe the impact of World War I on Alabamians, including the migration of African Americans from Alabama to the North and West, utilization of Alabama's military installations and training facilities, and increased production of goods for the war effort.
    - Recognizing Alabama participants in World War I, including Alabama's 167th Regiment of the Rainbow Division
    - Identifying World War I technologies, including airplanes, machine guns, and chemical warfare

E	G	H	CG
✓		✓	

12. Explain the impact the 1920s and Great Depression had on different socioeconomic groups in Alabama.

    Examples: 1920s—increase in availability of electricity, employment opportunities, wages, products, consumption of goods and services; overproduction of goods; stock market crash

    Great Depression—overcropping of land, unemployment, poverty, establishment of new federal programs

    - Explaining how supply and demand impacted economies of Alabama and the United States during the 1920s and the Great Depression

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	

13. Describe the economic and social impact of World War II on Alabamians, including entry of women into the workforce, increase in job opportunities, rationing, utilization of Alabama's military installations, military recruitment, the draft, and a rise in racial consciousness.
    - Recognizing Alabama participants in World War II, including the Tuskegee Airmen and women in the military
    - Justifying the strategic placement of military bases in Alabama, including Redstone Arsenal, Fort Rucker, Fort McClellan, and Craig Air Force Base

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

14. Analyze the modern Civil Rights Movement to determine the social, political, and economic impact on Alabama.
    - Recognizing important persons of the modern Civil Rights Movement, including Martin Luther King, Jr.; George C. Wallace; Rosa Parks; Fred Shuttlesworth; John Lewis; Malcolm X; Thurgood Marshall; Hugo Black; and Ralph David Abernathy
    - Describing events of the modern Civil Rights Movement, including the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing in Birmingham, the Freedom Riders bus bombing, and the Selma-to-Montgomery March
    - Explaining benefits of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and *Brown versus Board of Education* Supreme Court case of 1954
    - Using vocabulary associated with the modern Civil Rights Movement, including *discrimination*, *prejudice*, *segregation*, *integration*, *suffrage*, and *rights*

E	G	H	CG
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15. Identify major world events that influenced Alabama since 1950, including the Korean Conflict, the Cold War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, and the War on Terrorism.

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	

16. Determine the impact of population growth on cities, major road systems, demographics, natural resources, and the natural environment of Alabama during the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries.

- Describing how technological advancements brought change to Alabamians, including the telephone; refrigerator; automobile; television; and wireless, Internet, and space technologies
- Relating Alabama's economy to the influence of foreign-based industry, including the automobile industry