FIFTH GRADE

United States Studies: Beginnings to the Industrial Revolution

Fifth-grade content standards focus on the United States from the prehistoric period to the Industrial Revolution. Instruction addresses the strands of economics, geography, history, and civics and government from the earliest times through the formation and growth of the nation to the latter part of the nineteenth century with an emphasis on the development of the American Republic. Students also become familiar with major events in the periods of the American Revolution, the Westward Expansion, the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

Students at the fifth-grade level are becoming more aware of both their immediate and global environments. Due to the emotional and social development of fifth-grade students, this is the optimal time to assist in their understanding of history by involving them in discussions that include differing viewpoints and opinions of others. As students begin to explore multiple ideas and perceptions, they become more respectful of others' viewpoints and actions.

Fifth-grade students benefit from a positive classroom environment that provides learning activities designed to optimize growth and achievement, including lessons that integrate a variety of appropriate and effective instructional strategies from hands-on activities to inquiry-based learning. By developing and monitoring goals for their own learning and behavior, fifth graders are able to gain a greater sense of responsibility for their own actions, including how these actions may affect fellow classmates.

Students will:

E	G	H	CG
	✓	✓	

1. Locate on a map physical features that impacted the exploration and settlement of the Americas, including ocean currents, prevailing winds, large forests, major rivers, and significant mountain ranges.
    - Locating on a map states and capitals east of the Mississippi River
    - Identifying natural harbors in North America
        Examples: Mobile, Boston, New York, New Orleans, Savannah

E	G	H	CG
	✓	✓	

2. Identify causes and effects of early migration and settlement of North America.

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

3. Distinguish differences among major American Indian cultures in North America according to geographic region, natural resources, community organization, economy, and belief systems.
    - Locating on a map American Indian nations according to geographic region

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

4. Determine the economic and cultural impact of European exploration during the Age of Discovery upon European society and American Indians.
   - Identifying significant early European patrons, explorers, and their countries of origin, including early settlements in the New World
     Examples: patrons—King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella
     explorers—Christopher Columbus
     early settlements—St. Augustine, Quebec, Jamestown
   - Tracing the development and impact of the Columbian Exchange

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

5. Explain the early colonization of North America and reasons for settlement in the Northern, Middle, and Southern colonies, including geographic features, landforms, and differences in climate among the colonies.
   - Recognizing how colonial development was influenced by the desire for religious freedom
     Example: development in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and Maryland colonies
   - Identifying influential leaders in colonial society
   - Describing emerging colonial government
     Examples: Mayflower Compact, representative government, town meetings, rule of law

E	G	H	CG
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6. Describe colonial economic life and labor systems in the Americas.
   - Recognizing centers of slave trade in the Western Hemisphere and the establishment of the Triangular Trade Route

E	G	H	CG
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7. Determine causes and events leading to the American Revolution, including the French and Indian War, the Stamp Act, the Intolerable Acts, the Boston Massacre, and the Boston Tea Party.

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

8. Identify major events of the American Revolution, including the battles of Lexington and Concord, Bunker Hill, Saratoga, and Yorktown.
   - Describing principles contained in the Declaration of Independence
   - Explaining contributions of Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams, Paul Revere, Patrick Henry, Thomas Paine, George Washington, Haym Solomon, and supporters from other countries to the American Revolution
   - Explaining contributions of ordinary citizens, including African Americans and women, to the American Revolution
   - Describing efforts to mobilize support for the American Revolution by the Minutemen, Committees of Correspondence, First Continental Congress, Sons of Liberty, boycotts, and the Second Continental Congress

- Locating on a map major battle sites of the American Revolution, including the battles of Lexington and Concord, Bunker Hill, Saratoga, and Yorktown
- Recognizing reasons for colonial victory in the American Revolution
- Explaining the effect of the Treaty of Paris of 1783 on the development of the United States

E	G	H	CG
		✓	✓

9. Explain how inadequacies of the Articles of Confederation led to the creation and eventual ratification of the Constitution of the United States.

- Describing major ideas, concepts, and limitations of the Constitution of the United States, including duties and powers of the three branches of government
- Identifying factions in favor of and opposed to ratification of the Constitution of the United States
  Example: Federalist and Anti-Federalist factions
- Identifying main principles in the Bill of Rights
- Analyzing the election of George Washington as President of the United States for its impact on the role of president in a republic

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

10. Describe political, social, and economic events between 1803 and 1860 that led to the expansion of the territory of the United States, including the War of 1812, the Indian Removal Act, the Texas-Mexican War, the Mexican-American War, and the Gold Rush of 1849.

- Analyzing the role of the Louisiana Purchase and explorations of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark for their impact on Westward Expansion
- Explaining the purpose of the Monroe Doctrine
- Identifying Alabama's role in the expansion movement in the United States, including the Battle of Horseshoe Bend and the Trail of Tears
- Identifying the impact of technological developments on United States' expansion
  Examples: steamboat, steam locomotive, telegraph, barbed wire

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

11. Identify causes of the Civil War, including states' rights and the issue of slavery.

- Describing the importance of the Missouri Compromise, Nat Turner's insurrection, the Compromise of 1850, the Dred Scott decision, John Brown's rebellion, and the election of 1860
- Recognizing key Northern and Southern personalities, including Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson, William Tecumseh Sherman, and Joseph Wheeler
- Describing social, economic, and political conditions that affected citizens during the Civil War
- Identifying Alabama's role in the Civil War
  Examples: Montgomery as the first capital of the Confederacy, Winston County's opposition to Alabama's secession

- Locating on a map sites important to the Civil War
  Examples: Mason-Dixon Line, Fort Sumter, Appomattox, Gettysburg, Confederate states, Union states
- Explaining events that led to the conclusion of the Civil War

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

12. Summarize successes and failures of the Reconstruction Era.

- Evaluating the extension of citizenship rights to African Americans included in the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States
- Analyzing the impact of Reconstruction for its effect on education and social institutions in the United States
  Examples: Horace Mann and education reform, Freedmen's Bureau, establishment of segregated schools, African-American churches
- Explaining the black codes and the Jim Crow laws
- Describing post-Civil War land distribution, including tenant farming and sharecropping

E	G	H	CG
✓	✓	✓	✓

13. Describe social and economic influences on United States' expansion prior to World War I.

- Explaining how the development of transcontinental railroads helped the United States achieve its Manifest Destiny
- Locating on a map states, capitals, and important geographic features west of the Mississippi River
- Explaining how the United States acquired Alaska and Hawaii
- Identifying major groups and individuals involved with the Westward Expansion, including farmers, ranchers, Jewish merchants, Mormons, and Hispanics
- Analyzing the impact of closing the frontier on American Indians' way of life
- Explaining how the Spanish-American War led to the emergence of the United States as a world power