Course Overview

Elementary School | K | Social Studies - *Last Updated on October 17, 2024*

DESCRIPTION

K-12 Content Area | Mission & Philosophy Statement

- Social studies prepares the nation's young people for college, careers, and civic life
- Inquiry is at the heart of social studies instruction which involves interdisciplinary applications, deep understandings, concepts and skills from the disciplines
- Young people require analytic, strategic, chronological and critical thinking skills and practices to prepare for participating in democratic decision-making
- Social studies instruction has direct and explicit connections to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts

Course Description

While exploring this unit, students will understand the importance of rules and why rules are followed. They will learn what it means to respect each other within our school community through cooperation, sharing and being fair. Students will learn that we have different feelings in order to understand more about themselves and others. Students will develop an understanding of conflict and cooperation.

Kindergarten students learn fundamental life skills and foster a positive school atmosphere. The curriculum prioritizes the following objectives: teaching effective listening skills and illustrating the consequences of breaking rules, and enabling students to discern between positive and negative behaviors. Moreover, students learn to value the safety of school premises and shared areas like playgrounds and buses. They develop empathy and cooperation by learning to assist others, understanding emotions, practicing fairness in sharing, and grasping the concept of community.

Economic literacy is introduced through exploring wants, needs, goods, and services, as well as the diverse roles within households and communities. Cultural appreciation is cultivated through exploring national symbols, cross-cultural holiday celebrations, and understanding how symbols, songs, and customs unite families and classmates. Geographical literacy is enhanced through map exploration, where students learn to identify features like water, land, and landforms, along with directional and positional concepts. Additionally, students gain insight into the resources essential for life and the various types of homes found globally. Through this holistic approach, kindergarten students develop a well-rounded understanding of themselves, their communities, and the world around them.

STANDARDS

Pennsylvania Learning Standards - Kindergarten - Social Studies Thinking

5.1.K.A 5.1.K.B 5.1.K.C 5.1.K.E 5.1.K.F 5.2.K.A 5.2.K.D 5.3.K.C 5.3.K.F

6.2.K.A 6.4.K.D 6.5.K.A 6.5.K.C 7.1.K.B 7.2.K.B 5.1 5.2 5.2.K.B 5.2.K.C

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5.3 5.3.K.B 5.4 5.4.K.A 5.4.K.B 6.1 6.1.K.A 6.1.K.B 6.1.K.C 6.1.K.D

6.2 6.2.K.C 6.2.K.D 6.3 6.3.K.D 6.4 6.4.K.A 6.5 7.1 7.1.K.A 7.2

7.2.K.A 7.3 7.3.K.A 7.4 7.4.K.A 8.1 8.1.K.A 8.1.K.B 8.1.K.C 8.2

8.2.K.A 8.2.K.B 8.2.K.D 8.3 8.3.K.A 8.3.K.B 8.3.K.C 8.4 8.4.K.A 8.4.K.C

8.4.K.D

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Specific objectives for this course are aligned to the Pennsylvania Core Standards for Geography, History, Civics and Government, and Economics as outlined in the state academic standards for Grade K Social Studies.

ASSESSMENT TYPES

The following assessment types will be used during the course:

- Formative Assessments
- Teacher observation
- Class discussions
- Demonstration of role playing, drawing, modeling

SUGGESTED METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Below is a list of suggested strategies for high-quality instruction in social studies:

- Instructional components outlined in the *Framework for Teaching* by Charlotte Danielson
- Discussions
- Kinesthetic learning (drawing, playing, building, role-playing)
- Game-based instruction
- Cooperative learning
- Guest speakers
- Field trips

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RESOURCES

District Approved Program Resources	District Approved Supplemental Resources	District Approved Technology Resources
	• *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes • *Miss Nelson is Missing* by James Marshall and Harry Allard • *That Was Helpfu*l song by Jack Hartmann • *Strega Nona* by Tomie de Paola • *Officer Buckle and Gloria* by Peggy Rathmann • *The Giant Turnip* adapted by Henriette Barkow • *Knuffle Bunny* by Mo Willems • *That's What a Friend Is!* by. P. K. Hallinan • *Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister • *We Share Everything* by Robert Munsch • *The Doorbell Rang* by Pat Hutchins • *Please is a Good Word to Say* by Barbara Joosse • *My Hands Are for Helping* by Linda Conrad • *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* by Carol McCloud • SWPBIS materials • PATHS materials	