



Marietta City Schools
District Unit Planner

Grade 3 Social Studies

Theme	<i>Unit 3 Citizenship and Democratic Beliefs</i>	Unit duration (Days)	<i>10-20 Days</i>
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GA DoE Standards

SS3CG1 Describe the elements of representative democracy/republic in the United States.

- Describe the three branches of national government: executive (president), legislative (Congress), and judicial (Supreme Court of the United States).
- Describe the three branches of state government: executive (governor), legislative (Georgia General Assembly), and judicial (Supreme Court of Georgia).
- State the main responsibility of each branch: executive (enforcing laws), legislative (making laws), judicial (determining if laws are fair).

S3CG2 Explain the importance of Americans sharing certain central democratic beliefs and principles, both personal and civic.

- Explain the necessity of respecting the rights of others and promoting the common good.
- Explain the necessity of obeying reasonable laws/rules voluntarily, and explain why it is important for citizens in a democratic society to participate in public (civic) life (staying informed, voting, volunteering, and communicating with public officials).

Information Processing Skills:

- compare similarities and differences
- identify issues and/or problems and alternative solutions
- distinguish between fact and opinion
- identify main idea, detail, sequence of events, and cause and effect in a social studies context
- identify and use primary and secondary sources
- interpret timelines, charts, and tables
- identify social studies reference resources to use for a specific purpose
- construct charts and tables
- analyze artifacts

11. draw conclusions and make generalizations
12. analyze graphs and diagrams

Themes and Enduring Understandings:

Individuals, Groups and Institutions: The student will understand that what people, groups, and institutions say and do can help or harm others whether they mean to or not.

Beliefs and Ideals: The student will understand that people's ideas and feelings influence their decisions.

Essential Questions

Factual—

What does "common good" mean?
 What does democracy mean?
 What is a representative democracy?
 How are leaders chosen?
 How is our government organized?
 What are the branches' responsibilities?

Inferential—

How do citizens participate in our government?
 Why do we have three branches?
 How do we become active citizens?
 How do the three branches of government at the state level compare and contrast with the federal government?

Critical Thinking—

Why is it necessary to respect the rights of others?
 Why should we share common beliefs and principals?
 Why is our government set up this way?

Tier II Words- High Frequency Multiple Meaning

Rights
 Responsibilities

Tier III Words- Subject/ Content Related Words

Democracy: Direct and Representative
 Shared democratic beliefs and principles: respecting rights, the common good, obeying laws, active citizenship, majority rule

Institutions Majority National, Federal Courts Honesty, Compassion, Respect, Responsibility and Courage	Participation in civic life: voting, volunteering Majority Rule Branches of Government: Executive (president, governor) , Legislative (Congress, GA General Assembly). Judicial (US and GA Supreme Courts), Responsibilities: executive (enforce laws) legislative (make laws) judicial (fair laws)
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Assessments

Summative Assessment(s):

Citizenship Blueprint and Key

Grades 3- 5 Assessments may be administered via the AMP App in Schoology. Teachers should reach out to their Academic Coach or the district Social Studies Coordinator to upload assessments to their Schoology Course.

Standards: All GSE for the unit.

* Teachers can access the Test Blueprint and Key via the grade level Schoology Group.

Theme Based Writing Task:

[American Government Basics](#)

Students will synthesize their learning and understandings of the GSE for the unit and create an infographic displaying the basic foundations of the American representative democracy and the roles of citizens in the government.

Standards: All GSE for the unit.

Teacher Resources These resources are intended to support teachers with background information and planning for instruction

[Parent Information Letter](#)- **edit for school specific information**

[K-5 Map Collection](#): Maps are provided for all content and skills to support teaching and learning with integration of historic, political, and physical maps.

[Teacher Notes](#) guide teachers in understanding the content for the unit.

Additional unit information may be found at [GA DoE Inspire](#)

The following Knowledge-Based Unit(s) contains instructional read alouds designed to build knowledge around concepts associated with this planner. Highlighted lessons provide direct text-based support for the expectations of the associated SS or Sci standards and could be used to deepen student understanding/application of those standards. The remaining lessons build similar knowledge but do not directly relate to the content standards.

[15 Day Plan: 3rd Rights and Roles in American Democracy](#)

Objective or Content	Learning Experiences	Differentiation Considerations
S3CG2 Explain the importance of Americans sharing certain central democratic beliefs and principles, both personal and civic. a. Explain the necessity of respecting the rights of others and promoting the common good.	Individuals for the Common Good Work in triads to explore actions for the common good	Provide examples of illustrations with captions. Allow students additional time to work in small groups. Preview new vocabulary.
S3CG2 Explain the importance of Americans sharing certain central democratic beliefs and principles, both personal and civic. a. Explain the necessity of respecting the rights of others and promoting the common good. b. Explain the necessity of obeying reasonable laws/rules voluntarily, and explain why it is important for citizens in a democratic society to participate in public (civic) life (staying informed, voting, volunteering, and communicating with public officials).	How to Get Along in Class Understand the necessity for a positive learning environment	Deliberate grouping of students to provide small group instruction. Provide question documents or preview questions with students.
S3CG2 Explain the importance of Americans sharing certain central democratic beliefs and principles, both personal and civic. a. Explain the necessity of respecting the rights of others and promoting the common good. b. Explain the necessity of obeying reasonable laws/rules voluntarily, and explain why it is important for citizens in a democratic society to participate in public (civic) life (staying informed, voting, volunteering, and communicating with public officials).	The Five Themes of Citizenship Exploration of the characteristics of productive citizens	Intentional grouping. Provide examples of individuals following the characteristics. Complete the activity in a small group. Large group discussion and examples

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<p>SS3CG1 Describe the elements of representative democracy/republic in the United States.</p> <p>b. Describe the three branches of state government: executive (governor), legislative (Georgia General Assembly), and judicial (Supreme Court of Georgia).</p>	<p>State Government Predict and investigate the structure of state government</p>	<p>Provide additional practice.</p> <p>Work in teams or partners.</p> <p>Guide students through the compare and contrast</p>
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c. State the main responsibility of each branch: executive (enforcing laws), legislative (making laws), judicial (determining if laws are fair).		
Recommended High Quality Complex Texts		
<p><i>Carl the Complainer</i> By Michelle Knudsen</p> <p><i>We the Kids</i> by David Catrow</p> <p><i>Duck for President</i> By Doreen Cronin</p> <p><i>Election Day</i> by Patricia Murphy</p> <p><i>How the U.S. Government Works</i> by Syl Sobel</p> <p><i>If I Were President</i> by Catherine Stier</p> <p>Discovery Education Videos:</p> <p>History Kids: the Three Branches (20 minute video- break into segments if using)</p> <p>Our Government</p> <p>History Kids: State Government (20 minute video- break into segments if using)</p>		