First Grade
Our American Heritage

In the first grade, students continue their introduction to United States history through the study of selected historical figures. In the history strand, students study the important contributions each historical person made. In the geography strand, students learn about where these historical people lived and explore important basic geographic concepts. The civics strand provides a study of the positive character traits exhibited by these important historical figures. The economics strand continues the introduction of basic economic concepts.

Historical Understandings

SS1H1 Read about and describe the life of historical figures in American history.

a. Identify the contributions made by these figures: Benjamin Franklin (inventor/author/ statesman), Thomas Jefferson (Declaration of Independence), Meriwether Lewis and William Clark with Sacagawea (exploration), Theodore Roosevelt (National Parks and the environment), George Washington Carver (science), and Ruby Bridges (civil rights).
b. Describe how everyday life of these historical figures is similar to and different from everyday life in the present (for example: food, clothing, homes, transportation, communication, recreation, etc.).

Geographic Understandings

SS1G1 Describe how each historic figure in SS1H1a was influenced by his or her time and place.

a. American colonies (Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson)
b. American frontier (Lewis & Clark and Sacagawea)
c. National Parks (Theodore Roosevelt)
d. Southern U.S. (George Washington Carver and Ruby Bridges)

SS1G2 Identify and locate the student's city, county, state, nation (country), and continent on a simple map or a globe.

SS1G3 Locate major topographical features of the earth's surface.

a. Locate all of the continents: North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Antarctica, and Australia.
b. Locate the major oceans: Arctic, Atlantic, Pacific, Southern, and Indian.
c. Identify and describe landforms (mountains, deserts, valleys, and coasts).

Government/Civic Understandings

SS1CG1 Describe how the historical figures in SS1H1a display positive character traits such as: fairness, respect for others, respect for the environment, courage, equality, tolerance, perseverance, and commitment.

SS1CG2 Explore the concept of patriotism through the words in the songs *America (My Country 'Tis of Thee*) and *America the Beautiful* (for example: brotherhood, liberty, freedom, pride, etc.).

Economic Understandings

SS1E1 Identify goods that people make and services that people provide for each other.

SS1E2 Explain that scarcity is when unlimited wants are greater than limited resources.

SS1E3 Describe how people are both producers and consumers.

SS1E4 Explain that people earn income by working and that they must make choices about how much to save and spend.

Map and Globe Skills

GOAL: The student will use maps to retrieve social studies information.
I: indicates when a skill is introduced in the standards and elements as part of the content
D: indicates grade levels where the teacher must develop that skill using the appropriate content
M: indicates grade level by which student should achieve mastery, the ability to use the skill in all situations
A: indicates grade levels where students will continue to apply and improve mastered skills

Map and Globe Skills	**K**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9-12**
1. use a compass rose to identify cardinal directions	I	M	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
2. use intermediate directions		I	M	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
3. use a letter/number grid system to determine location			I	M	A	A	A	A	A	A
4. compare and contrast the categories of natural, cultural, and political features found on maps			I	M	A	A	A	A	A	A
5. use graphic scales to determine distances on a map					I	M	A	A	A	A
6. use map key/legend to acquire information from historical, physical, political, resource, product, and economic maps			I	D	M	A	A	A	A	A
7. use a map to explain impact of geography on historical and current events		I	D	D	M	A	A	A	A	A
8. draw conclusions and make generalizations based on information from maps				I	M	A	A	A	A	A
9. use latitude and longitude to determine location				I	D	D	D	M	A	A
10. compare maps of the same place at different points in time and from different perspectives to determine changes, identify trends, and generalize about human activities					I	M	A	A	A	A
11. compare maps with data sets (charts, tables, graphs) and /or readings to draw conclusions and make generalizations					I	M	A	A	A	A
12. use geographic technology and software to determine changes, identify trends, and generalize about human activities										I

Information Processing Skills

GOAL: The student will be able to locate, analyze, and synthesize information related to social studies topics and apply this information to solve problems/make decisions.

I: indicates when a skill is introduced in the standards and elements as part of the content
D: indicates grade levels where the teacher must develop that skill using the appropriate content
M: indicates grade level by which student should achieve mastery, the ability to use the skill in all situations
A: indicates grade levels where students will continue to apply and improve mastered skills

Information Processing Skills	**K**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9-12**
1. compare similarities and differences	I	D	M	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
2. organize items chronologically	I	D	D	M	A	A	A	A	A	A
3. identify issues and/or problems and alternative solutions	I	D	D	D	D	M	A	A	A	A
4. distinguish between fact and opinion		I	D	M	A	A	A	A	A	A
5. identify main idea, detail, sequence of events, and cause and effect in a social studies context		I	D	D	M	A	A	A	A	A
6. identify and use primary and secondary sources		I	D	D	M	A	A	A	A	A
7. interpret timelines, charts, and tables		I	D	D	M	A	A	A	A	A
8. identify social studies reference resources to use for a specific purpose			I	M	A	A	A	A	A	A
9. construct charts and tables			I	M	A	A	A	A	A	A
10. analyze artifacts			I	D	D	M	A	A	A	A
11 draw conclusions and make generalizations				I	M	A	A	A	A	A
12. analyze graphs and diagrams				I	D	M	A	A	A	A
13. translate dates into centuries, eras, or ages				I	D	M	A	A	A	A
14. formulate appropriate research questions					I	M	A	A	A	A
15. determine adequacy and/or relevancy of information					I	M	A	A	A	A
16. check for consistency of information					I	M	A	A	A	A
17. interpret political cartoons					I	D	D	D	M	A