

WALLENPAUPACK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Hawley, Pennsylvania

PLANNED COURSE CURRICULUM GUIDE

Course Details		Instructional Time	
Course / Grade:	4 th Grade Social Studies	Type of Offering:	☐ X Required ☐ Elective
Department:	Social Studies	Length of Course:	☐ Marking Period (1/4 year) ☐ Semester (1/2 year) ☐ X Year (1 full year)
Course # / Code:			

	Date of Completion: February 16, 2023	
	Date Adopted: February 16, 2023	

Date of Revision:	NA
Revision Author(s):	Ussia/LaCoe

Course Description – *a narrative of the entire course. Highlight major concepts addressed and the benefit for student completion.*

The 4th Grade Social Studies course content and contexts are embedded within the 4th Grade English Language Arts Units. The Social Studies content and contexts for this course include US States and US Westward Expansion.

Course Rationale – *highlight the purpose of this course and what makes it relevant.*

As students progress in their Social Studies experiences, they focus on learning about the world around them from smaller and more local contexts all the way through contexts requiring global awareness. To this point in their Social Studies development 4th grade students have Social Studies experiences in mapping their homes, schools, neighborhoods, states, countries, and eventually the world (1st grade), jobs in their communities (2nd grade), traditional tales and world cultures and geography (3rd grade), and now US States and US Westward Expansion in 4th grade.

Unit	Standard	Essential Questions	Enduring Understandings	Vocabulary	Materials/ Resources	Assessment
Unit 1- Westward Expansion	5.1 Principles and Documents of Government (5.1.4b,c,f) 5.3 How Government Works 5.3.4d, 4f, 4g,	What Caused Westward Expansion? What were the effects of Westward Expansion?	The study of people, places, and environments enables us to understand the relationship between human populations and the physical world. Studying the past makes it possible for us to understand the human story across time.	Refer to Civil Rights Era Vocabulary Card for social studies specific vocabulary under the categories of: Major Cases, Legislation and Organizations.	ARC US States Research Lab, Student Lab Notebook, and Research Library Core text: “Into the West: Causes and Effects of Westward Expansion”	Constructed responses (multiple) Narrative piece which is set in historical time period and reflects true and accurate themes, events, and social issues.

	6.1 Scarcity and Choice 6.1.4.a,b,c,d 6.2 Markets and Economic Systems 6.2.4a, b, c, d 6.3 Functions of Government 6.3.4a, b 7.1 Basic Geographic Literacy 7.1.4b 7.2 Physical Characteristics of Places and Regions 7.2.4.a, b 7.3 Human Characteristics of Places and Regions 7.3.4.a 8.1 Historical Analysis and Skills Development 8.1.4.a, b, c 8.3 United States History 8.3.4.a		Knowledge and understanding of the past enable us to analyze the causes and consequences of events and developments, and to place these in the context of the institutions, values, and beliefs of the periods in which they took place. Source: National Council for the Social Studies: Themes of Social Studies			
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Unit	Standard	Essential Questions	Enduring Understandings	Vocabulary	Materials/ Resources	Assessment
Unit 2- U.S. States	Principles and Documents of Government: PA 5,1.4 A, B, C,D, E	How is geography important to your state? How have the physical features impacted the political features?	Through experience, observation, and reflection, students will identify elements of culture as well as similarities and differences among cultural groups across time and place.	Refer to US States Vocabulary Card for social studies specific vocabulary under the categories of: Geography, First Nations, History, Contributions, Government, Economy and Current Issues.	ARC US States Research Lab, Student Lab Notebook, and Research Library Core texts: "My Government: State Government" and "My United States: Pennsylvania"	Constructed responses (multiple) Develop a debate to include stating a claim, listing evidence and reasoning to support the claim, identify potential counterclaims
	Scarcity and Choice: PA 6, 1.4 A, B	Which Native American nations lived in what would eventually become your state? Where are these Nations today?	Studying the past makes it possible for us to understand the human story across time.			
	Markets and Economic Systems: PA 6, 2.4 A, E					
	Economic Interdependence: PA 6, 4.4 C, D, G	What are the most important milestones in the history of your state? Why do you think so?	The study of people, places, and environments enables us to understand the relationship between human populations and the physical world.			
	Basic Geographic Literacy: PA 7, 1.4 A, B	How have different ethnic groups and cultures contributed to your state? Who are the three most influential people from your state? Why do you think so?	It is important that students know how institutions are formed, what controls and influences them, how they control and influence individuals and culture, and how institutions can be maintained or changed.			
	B2					
	Pennsylvania History: PA 8, 2.4 A, A1	Who is responsible for running your state? Compare and contrast the roles of federal, state, and local government.	The development of civic competence requires an understanding of the foundations of political thought, and the			
	Pennsylvania History: PA 8, 2.4 B1, B2					
	Pennsylvania History: PA 8, 2.4 C, D2	What goods or services does your state specialize in producing? How is				

		your state important to the national and global economy? What are the most urgent social, economic, political, or environmental issues facing your state? Why do you think so?	historical development of various structures of power, authority, and governance. It also requires knowledge of the evolving functions of these structures in contemporary U.S. society, as well as in other parts of the world. An understanding of civic ideals and practices is critical to full participation in society and is an essential component of education for citizenship, which is the central purpose of social studies. Students will gather and analyze data, as well as use critical thinking skills to determine how best to deal with scarcity of resources.			
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