



Social Studies Curriculum – Second Grade

Capital's social studies curriculum is aligned with state and national standards and addresses concepts in civics, economics, geography, and history. Students use tools such as maps, globes, timelines, charts and other geo-graphics to learn about various times and places in our world. Studying both primary and secondary resources such as artifacts, diaries, photographs, and newspaper accounts enables students to research topics, understand a variety of cultures and peoples, and analyze the causes and effects of events from the past to the present.

This year, your child will be focusing on the units listed below. The essential questions listed for each unit provide an overview of the main concepts that will be addressed in these units.

Unit: *Governing the People*

1. How can citizens be responsible in their community?
2. How does the government help people?
3. Why do we need leaders?
4. How does our country's government work?
5. What are the jobs of our community and state governments?

Unit: *A World of Many People: People Now and Long Ago*

1. How can we use artifacts and documents to compare and contrast life in different places and times?
2. What is culture?
3. Why is the United States a country of many cultures?
4. How are families alike and different?
5. How do customs and traditions reflect culture?

Unit: *Living in Our Country*

1. What geographic tools help us to understand and describe the physical and human-made features of communities and regions in our country and the world?
2. Why does climate and landform differ around the world?
3. How do the characteristics of places and regions affect the lives of the people who live there?

Unit: *Using Our Resources*

1. How do individuals, families, and communities make choices between available resources?
2. How does barter, money, and other media facilitate the exchange of resources, goods, and services?
3. How does the exchange of resources, goods and services create connections between people in different places?

For more information about your child's Social Studies curriculum, please contact your child's teacher or call the Curriculum Office at 672-1951.