



Social Studies Curriculum Grade 5

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 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: Principles of Democracy (Civics Standards 2: 4-5a, 3: 4-5 a/b, 4:4-5a)

- *Essential Question:*
 - How are U.S. citizens' rights guaranteed and why is it important to be an informed citizen?

Unit: Ecosystems (Geography Standard 2: 4-5a)

- *Essential Question:*
 - How does human society alter and affect the physical environment?

Unit: The Civil War (History Standards 2: 4-5a, 3: 4-5a)

- *Essential Question:*
 - What are the lasting effects of the Civil War on the United States?

Unit: Age of Immigration and Industrialization (Geography Standard 3: 4-5a; Economics Standard 1: 4-5b)

- *Essential Question:*
 - How did immigration and industrialization change America?
 - How often does the past predict the future? What is the evidence for my conclusion?

Unit: Economic Choices (Economics Standards: 1: 4-5a/b, 2: 4-5a, 4: 4-5a)

- *Essential Question:*
 - How do personal, community, national and international economic choices affect one another?