

Welcome to EMS Elementary Social Studies!

Throughout the year, your kindergarten student will explore important ideas about their community, state, nation, and world through stories, discussions, maps, primary sources, and classroom activities. Below you will find information on our units and how to support learning outside of the classroom.

General Ways to Reinforce Learning outside the Classroom		
What Will My Child Learn?	Conversation Starters	Learning Support Ideas
• Key people, places, and events related to the unit • Important citizenship traits and responsibilities • Geography and map skills • How people live, work, and interact in communities • Connections between the past and present	Ask your child: • What is one new thing you learned today? • Why is this topic important? • What maps, pictures, or sources did you use? • How does this connect to our community today? • What would you like to learn more about?	• Read books related to the topic. • Discuss local, state, national, or world events. • Explore maps together. • Visit community landmarks, museums, or historical sites when possible. • Encourage your child to share what they learned in their own words.

The elementary social studies curriculum is condensed into recurring themes. Below you will find the themes and topics your students will study along with home support that will help reinforce learning.

Unit of Study: My School and Community		
What Will My Child Learn?	Conversation Starters	Learning Support Ideas
Students will: • Identify roles of family members, teachers, and community helpers. • Learn the purpose of rules. • Practice working and cooperating with others. • Explore places in the school and community.	• What rules help us stay safe? • Who will help us at school? • What jobs do community helpers have?	• Talk about family responsibilities. • Identify community helpers during errands. • Discuss why rules are important.

Unit of Study: Celebrations and Traditions		
What Will My Child Learn?	Conversation Starters	Learning Support Ideas
Students will: • Explore family and cultural traditions. • Learn about holidays/celebrations. • Learn other student's traditions	• What traditions are important to our family? • What celebrations do you enjoy?	• Share family photos and stories. • Talk about family celebrations and customs.

Unit of Study: Then and Now		
What Will My Child Learn?	Conversation Starters	Learning Support Ideas
Students will: • Compare life in the past and present. • Identify examples of change over time. • Explore historical figures through stories.	• How were things different when parents were children? • What has changed over time?	• Look at old family photographs. • Share stories about childhood experiences.

