Welcome to EMS Elementary Social Studies!

Throughout the first grade year, your 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**
• Learn how families and communities change over time. • Explore customs and traditions. • Identify characteristics of good citizenship. • Learn about important historical figures. • Use maps and geographic tools.	• What tradition is important to our family? • What makes someone a good citizen? • Which historical figure did you learn about? • How do maps help us?	• 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: Citizenship and Community		
What Will My Child Learn?	**Conversation Starters**	**Learning Support Ideas**
Students will: • Identify characteristics of good citizens. • Learn about rules and laws. • Explore civic responsibility.	• What makes someone a good citizen? • How can we help our community?	• Model responsible citizenship. • Discuss ways to help others.
Unit of Study: Families and Traditions		
What Will My Child Learn?	**Conversation Starters**	**Learning Support Ideas**
Students will: • Explore family history. • Examine traditions and customs. • Understand cultural diversity.	• What traditions are important in our family? • How are families alike and different?	• Share family stories. • Create a simple family timeline.
Unit of Study: Geography Around Us		
What Will My Child Learn?	**Conversation Starters**	**Learning Support Ideas**
Students will: • Use maps and globes. • Identify landforms and bodies of water. • Describe locations using geographic terms.	• What does a map help us do? • What landforms have you learned about?	• Use a map when traveling. • Locate Texas and the United States on a map.