

Social Studies Curriculum

Grade Level: 3rd Grade

Focus: Geography (Map Skills)

Time Frame: August/September/October

Illinois Learning Standards:

16E: Understand Illinois, United States and world environment history.

17A: Locate, describe and explain places, regions and features on the Earth.

Essential Question(s):

1. How does interpreting data from a variety of media sources increase understanding of communities around the world?

Understandings:

1. Students will understand different types of maps are created to provide specific information.
2. Students will understand continents and countries have geographic features such as oceans, rivers, mountains, etc.
3. Students will understand places can be located using cardinal and intermediate directions.
4. Students will understand geographic features influence communities.
5. Students will understand urban and rural areas have similarities and differences.

The Student Will Be Able To:

1. Interpret different types of maps.
2. Locate places around the world by interpreting cardinal and intermediate directions.
3. Interpret data from charts, tables, and graphs on maps.
4. Describe both unique and common geographic features of places around the world.
5. Explain similarities and differences between rural and urban communities.

Social Studies Curriculum

Grade Level: 3rd Grade

Focus: History/Government

Time Frame: October/November/December

Illinois State Standards:

14A: Understand and explain basic principals of the United States government.

14B: Understand the structure and functions of the political systems of Illinois, the Unites States and other nations.

14D: Understand the roles and influences of individuals and interest groups in the political systems of Illinois, the United States and other nations.

14E: Understand United States foreign policy as it relates to other nations and international issues.

16A: Apply the skills of historical analysis and interpretation.

16B: Understand the development of significant political events.

18A: Compare characteristics of culture as reflected in language, literature, the arts, traditions and institutions.

18B: Understand the roles and interactions of individuals and groups in society.

Essential Question:

1. How do different societies function to meet their needs and wants?

Understandings:

1. Students will understand continents and countries have geographic features such as oceans, rivers, mountains, etc.
2. Students will understand communities use human and natural resources in different ways.
3. Students will understand all countries and civilizations have culture.
4. Students will understand culture encompasses all that people do, create value and believe.

The Student Will Be Able To:

1. Describe the location, climate, and geographic features of a given society.
2. Explain the economic system and how people in various world communities meet their needs.
3. Show how resources (natural and human) helped in the development of various world communities.
4. Compare and contrast family structure, religion, school life, economic status, use of leisure time of various world communities.

Social Studies Curriculum

Grade Level: 3rd Grade

Focus: Citizenship and People of influence

Time Frame: January/February/March

Illinois Learning Standards:

16B: Understand the development of significant political events.

16C: Understand the development of economic systems.

18B: Understand the roles and interactions of individuals and groups in society

18C: Understand how systems form and develop over time

Essential Question:

1. How has life changed through history?
2. How can I demonstrate good citizenship?

Understandings:

1. Students will understand African Americans helped to change society's views.
2. Students will understand traditional arts and scientific contributions influences culture.
3. Students will understand individuals and groups of people can influence history and society.
4. Students will understand individual and groups interact differently depending on the situation.

The Student Will Be Able To:

1. Explain differences in urban and rural areas.
2. Describe traditional arts (literature, including folktales, dance, music, and art) as well as scientific contributions (inventions).
3. Identify and explain the contributions of key African Americans in United States society.
4. Identify and explain the contributions of key individuals and/or groups in the development of societies.
5. Describe the ways in which people and institutions meet the needs of society.
6. Describe the interactions of individuals and groups in various situations

Social Studies Curriculum

Grade Level: 3rd Grade

Focus: Global awareness (citizenship)

Time Frame: March/April/May/June

Illinois Learning Standards:

- 15C: Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by producers.
- 16B: Understand the development of significant political events.
- 16C: Understand the development of economic systems.
- 16D: Understand Illinois, United States and world society.
- 17C: Understand relationships between geographic factors and society.
- 18B: Understand the roles and interactions of individuals and groups in society.

Essential Questions:

1. How does global awareness help you understand your role as a citizen of your community, nation and world?
2. How do people function to meet their needs and wants?

Understandings:

1. Students will understand societies face problems.
2. Students will understand different cultures celebrate different holidays.
3. Students will understand societies use different symbols.
4. Students will understand groups of people can contribute and influence society.

The Student Will Be Able To:

1. Describe how individuals interact within groups.
2. Explain how diverse groups have contributed to social systems over time.
3. Explain current issues and problems that various societies face.
4. Identify various systems, etc. that are both unique and common to various world communities.
5. Compare and contrast traditional cultural celebrations and holidays.