

# Course Syllabus

## Social Studies, Grade K

Jefferson County Schools Curriculum, Final  
Jefferson County Schools

In Social Studies, the goal is for all students to develop a deep, rich network of understandings related to the world around them. The objectives and competencies included in this curriculum deal with history, geography, economics, and civics from a diverse, global perspective. Students engage in projects that require them to apply Social Studies skills in real-world contexts.

In Kindergarten, students first begin to learn and work together; therefore, citizenship skills should focus on following rules and respecting others. Students should learn core concepts of historical sequence, geography, and economic goods and services. The use of maps and globes is included in the introduction of geography skills. The study of our national heritage begins with learning about symbols, patriotic holidays, and historical people. Students should also have opportunities to discover similarities and differences among people of various cultures.

### Culture

- The learner will be able to understand the diversity of cultures by recognizing personal attributes common to all people, identify how people are different, recognize how people learn to do skills and customs from their culture, and recognize that all cultures have family units where decisions are made.
- The learner will be able to understand that some differences in people are the result of their culture, identify differences in food, clothes, homes, games and families in different cultures, differences in transportation, compare family traditions and customs among cultures, and recognize customs of the local community.
- The learner will be able to recognize contributions of different cultures around the world and explain the value of family traditions and customs.

### Economics

The Economics unit includes core concepts, such as supply and demand, goods and services, income, and employment, as well as United States and world economies.

- The learner will be able to understand the concept of exchanging money for goods or services.
- The learner will be able to identify jobs in the home, school, and community, recognize the significance of jobs, explain why people have jobs, and recognize how different communities have different jobs.
- The learner will be able to identify basic human needs, understand the difference between needs and wants, how these needs are met, and how shelter is created according to culture and environment.

### Geography

The Geography unit includes United States and world geography, map and globe skills, Earth characteristics, and geographic tools and concepts.

- The learner will be able to observe his/her surroundings.
- The learner will be able to recognize the physical characteristics of places, such as mountains, plains, hills, oceans, and islands, recognize how these landforms and bodies of water influence where and how people live, and describe immediate surroundings.
- The learner will be able to identify /describe seasons and understand how seasons/weather affects daily life, and describe human characteristics of place such as types of houses and ways of earning a living.
- The learner will be able to use maps and globes and explain what they represent, use directions such as left, right, up, down, far, near, and locate places in the community on a map.
- The learner will be able to identify land and water on a map and understand how they influence where people live.

### Governance and Civics

- The learner will be able to identify figures of authority in his/her home, school, and community and understand how they make and enforce rules.

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- The learner will be able to understand that a person is a citizen of the country in which he/she was born, the need for rules (protect citizens and environment) and that rules (laws) are followed by people, the school, the community and the country.
- The learner will be able to understand the concept of cooperation.
- The learner will be able to understand various types of families and realize that family structure can change.
- The learner will be able to understand that the head of the government is the President of the United States.
- The learner will be able to identify the United States and Tennessee Flag.
- The learner will be able to understand the reasons for various patriotic holidays.
- The learner will be able to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- The learner will be able to understand safety common to this grade level including signs and signals.
- The learner will be able to understand that voting is a kind of group decision making and understand the consequences of decisions.
- The learner will be able to recognize the impact of group and individual decisions by describing how individuals meet their needs and wants, how individuals choose jobs that impact their lives, how people learn in families, schools, communities, how learning and physical development affect behavior, and the consequences of an individual's actions.

### History

- The learner will be able to recall family stories and celebrations to develop a personal history , recognize that each family has a family tree, and illustrate a family history to demonstrate that every family has a heritage.
- The learner will be able to understand calendar time, including days, weeks and/or months.

### Individuals, Groups, and Interactions

- The learner will be able to recognize that individuals have a space, understand that cooperation is necessary when working in large and small groups, how to work independently and cooperatively, and describe a group as made up of people who work, play, or learn together and share common interests.