

Social Studies

Grade 3

PURPOSE

I. STUDENT OUTCOMES

A. Geography (6.7, 6.8, 6.9)

Students will:

1. Use tools for learning about the world including direction words, maps, graphs, globes, calendars and charts.
2. Use simple maps to identify the location of places within the local community and the nearby communities.
3. Begin to use maps to identify the major physical characteristics on the earth, including the United States, continents (land) and oceans.
4. Begin to show an understanding of the spatial concepts of location, distance and direction.

B. History (6.3, 6.4, 6.5)

Students will:

1. Compare and contrast similarities and differences in daily life over time.
2. Identify social institutions such as family, religion, and government that meet the groups' needs.
3. Apply the concepts of cause, effect, and consequences to historical events.
4. Identify and explain how events and changes occurred in significant historical periods.
5. Identify common elements found in different cultures.
6. Describe the customs of people from different geographic, cultural, and ethnic background.

C. Economics

Students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of work that people perform in our economic system.
2. Begin to demonstrate understanding of the role of money in everyday life.
3. Begin to understand the concept of supply and demand (6.6).

D. Civics (6.1)

Students will:

1. Recognize symbols of American principles and beliefs, such as the flag and the blindfolded Statue of Justice.
2. Identify and discuss their roles and responsibilities as members of a group.
3. Recognize and identify examples of the rights and responsibilities of citizens within a community and a nation.
4. Give examples of the impact of government policy on their lives.
5. Identify key documents: The Pledge of Allegiance, The Constitution, The Declaration of Independence.

E. Workplace Readiness/Study Skills

Students will:

1. Begin to identify and describe work that people perform in our economic system.
2. Recognize and define a problem.
3. Select appropriate tools for specific purposes.
4. Begin to set goals for completing assignments, activities and projects.
5. Work cooperatively with others to accomplish a task.
6. Evaluate own actions and accomplishments.
7. Use time efficiently and effectively.

II. CONTENT

A. Geographical Features and Natural Resources

1. Understand that geographers divide the study of geography into five basic themes.
2. Describe the five themes of geography.
3. Students will expand their ability to use and read maps and globes.
4. Explain what is meant by natural resources.
5. Students will begin to describe geographical features of a community, state and nation.

B. Looking Back to the Past

1. Recognize the contributions of Native Americans to our American heritage.
2. Understand how the early settlers built and survived in a new world community.
3. Understand the contributions of the west coast settlements to the building of our nation.

C. The Building of a Government

1. Students will understand how people work together to make laws as part of our history and in the present.
2. Recognize the contributions of famous American figures including George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Ben Franklin, and John Adams.
3. Recognize and describe important symbols and documents of our government.
4. Understand how Washington, D.C. became our nation's capital.
5. Compare our capital with the capital of another nation.
6. Discuss how people work together in a community and a nation

D. Communities on the Move

1. Begin to develop an understanding of immigration and how it has helped the country to change.
2. Understand how technology, communication and transportation have changed the nation.
3. Compare communication, technology and transportation with a historical point of view (then and now).

III. ACTIVITIES AND MATERIALS

A. Text: Communities, Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw-Hill, 2001.

B. Teacher Resources

1. Teacher Edition
2. Teacher Resource Kit and materials
3. *Our Toms River* Teacher Resource
4. Media Materials
5. "Centennial of Graduating Excellence" Booklet, Published by Toms River Regional Schools
6. People, Spaces & Places series (selected titles) Rand-McNally

C. Computer Technology Applications and Websites

IV. EVALUATION

- A. Students will be prepared and ready to work.
- B. Students will prepare work neatly.
- C. Student will follow instructions.
- D. Students will hand in completed class and home assignments at the proper time.
- E. Students will study for and complete quizzes, tests and projects successfully.
- F. Students will be expected to participate in class.
- G. The final grade represents the teacher's professional judgement of student performance. All of the above are included in the evaluative process.

REVISED: August 1992
August 1994
August 1996
July 1998
September 2001
August 2002