

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide



Unit 1 Title	
Connecting the Themes	
Unit Focus	
<p>This unit is designed to introduce students to the five themes that will feature prominently in kindergarten social studies. Activities will focus on culture; individuals, groups, and institutions; location; scarcity; and time, change, and continuity. At the conclusion of this unit students should demonstrate effective use of the enduring understandings, and apply the enduring understandings to their lives and to prior knowledge.</p>	Concepts Explored
	<p>This unit is designed to teach the themes used in the course. These themes will provide the scaffolding needed for the study of Social Studies for the school year. The standards listed with each activity in the balanced assessment plan are introduced in this unit, but will be taught in greater depth throughout the themes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Culture• Individuals, groups, and institutions• Location• Scarcity• Time,• Change• Continuity
How You Can Support Your Child	
<p>You can support your child by providing them quality text that that is directly correlated with the content in this unit. There are a host of print and digital resources that are available for your child to read, as well as reliable online interactive sites that will help your child understand the information.</p> <p>Print Resources (suggested text only others may be used)</p> <p><i>Culture</i> The Colors of Us by Karen Katz</p>	

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide

Individuals, Groups, Institutions

The Recess Queen by Alexis O’Neil

The Honest-to-Goodness Truth by Patricia McKissack

Location

Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney

Shop Talk by Juwanda Ford

Me on the Map by Joan Sweeney

Scarcity

Peter’s Chair by Ezra Jack Keats

A New Coat for Anna by Harriet Ziefert

Digital Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

Good Citizens – School Rules (e-Books) http://peachebooks.com/civic_understandings

Culture, Religion and Family – (website) <http://peachebooks.com/civicunderstandings>

Cultures, Holidays, Languages, Religion – (website) <http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com>

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide



Unit 2 Title

“Where In the World Are We?”

Unit Focus

In this unit, students will use the idea of location to study maps, globes, and basic physical geography, as well as the celebration of Columbus Day and Columbus’s voyages. Students will continue their study of chronological words, phrases, and concepts using the idea of time, change, and continuity.

Concepts Explored

- Identify the purpose of Labor Day
- Identify Pledge of Allegiance and Star Spangled Banner as important American symbols and explain their meaning
- Use words and phrases related to chronology and time to explain how things change
 - Morning, afternoon night
 - Today, tomorrow, yesterday
 - First, last, next
 - Day, week, month, year
- Understand what it means to be a good citizen by learning about rules
- Describe the different type of jobs people in our communities have and how they receive an income from this work.
- Describe how money works and why people must make choices

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Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide

Print Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

- Labor Day by Tamim Ansary (Informational)
- Labor Day by Connor Dayton (Informational)
- Labor Day by Mari Schuh (Informational)
- Mommy Works, Daddy Works by Marika Pedersen (Fiction)
- Jobs People Do by Christopher Maynard (Informational)
- Richard Scarry's What Do People Do All Day? by Richard Scarry (Informational)
- The Berenstain Bears on the Job by Stan Berenstain

Digital Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

- Labor Day Activities <https://www.teachervision.com/labor-day/teacher-resources/6639.html>
- History of Labor Day in America: <http://www.timeforkids.com/news/history-labor-day/12426>
- Enchanted Learning: <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/themes/communityhelpers.shtml>

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide



Unit 3 Title

“Where In the World Are We?”

Unit Focus

In this unit, students will use the idea of location to study maps, globes, and basic physical geography, as well as the celebration of Columbus Day and Columbus’s voyages. Students will continue their study of chronological words, phrases, and concepts using the idea of time, change, and continuity.

Concepts Explored

- Identify the purpose of Columbus Day
- Use words and phrases related to chronology and time to explain how things change
Now, long ago
Before, after
Past, present, future
- Explain that a map is a drawing of a place and a globe is a model of the Earth that has
- State the street address, city, county, state, nation, and continent in which he or she lives.

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Print Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

- Christopher Columbus by Stephen Krensky
- Young Christopher Columbus by Eric Carpenter
- My First Biography: Christopher Columbus by Marion Bamer
- A Picture Book of Christopher Columbus by David Adler

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide

- Columbus Day by Connor Dayton

Digital Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

- Columbus Day Activities (website) <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/columbus>
- Interactive Map Games for Primary level Students: http://www.primarygames.com/social_studies.php
- Economics for Kids: <http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/subjects/economics.htm>
- Life Long Ago & Today:
<http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=life+long+ago&FORM=VIRE5#view=detail&mid=DB7609930F01E718D718DB7609930F01E718D718>
- Personal Finance: <http://www.brainpopjr.com/socialstudies/economics/>

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide



Unit 4 Title

“Celebrating Our Differences”

Unit Focus

In this unit, students will use the theme of culture to study two American holidays: Veteran’s Day and Thanksgiving. Students will also discuss their local celebrations and customs. Using the idea of scarcity, students will continue to learn about work, jobs, and why we cannot have everything we want. These two themes come together to help students celebrate their differences while exploring their similarities.

Concepts Explored

- Identify the purpose of Veteran’s Day and Thanksgiving
- Describe the diversity in American culture and communities by explaining family celebrations and customs
- The student will describe the work that people do
- Explain how money is used to purchase goods and services.
- Describe the different type of jobs people in our communities have and how they receive an income from this work.
- Describe how money works and why people must make choices

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Print Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

- Giving Thanks: A Native American Morning Message by Jake Swap
- The Pilgrims’ First Thanksgiving by Ann McGovern

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide

- Feeling Thankful by Shelley Rotner
- How To Draw Thanksgiving Things by Rob Court
- Perfect Thanksgiving by Elleen Spinelli
- Thank You, Thanksgiving by David Milgrim
- The Wall by Eve Bunting
- Veterans Day by Jacqueline Cotton
- Veterans Day by Connor Dayton
- Saluting Grandpa: Celebrating Veterans And Honor Flight by Gary Metivier

Digital Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

- Veteran's Day Activities– <http://www.fantasticfunandlearning.com/teaching-kids-about-veterans-day-resources-and-ideas.html>
- More Veteran Day ideas: <http://www.examiner.com/article/veteran-s-day-for-kids-free-veterans-day-printables-games-activities-and-crafts-for-children>
- Veteran's Day <https://sites.google.com/site/peachebookslinks/home>
- Thanksgiving Day Activities: <http://www.examiner.com/article/veteran-s-day-for-kids-free-veterans-day-printables-games-activities-and-crafts-for-children>
- The Pilgrims: [http://www.hubbardscupboard.org/the pilgrims first thanksgivi.html](http://www.hubbardscupboard.org/the_pilgrims_first_thanksgivi.html)

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide

Unit 5 Title

"Being a Good American"

Unit Focus

During the course of this unit, students will use the theme of individuals, groups, and institutions to study famous historical figures, the holidays recognizing those figures, and the monuments built in honor of those figures. Students will also discuss the basis for rules and laws in society, as well as positive character traits needed within society using the idea of individuals, groups, and institutions. The theme of scarcity will help students put their knowledge of community helpers together with the good choice-making necessary for our country to be a positive and productive place.

Concepts Explored

- Identify the purpose of national holidays: Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Presidents Day (George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and the current President)
- Identify and explain important American symbols like Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, and the White House
- Demonstrate what it means to be a good citizen by understanding how rules are made and why rules should be followed.
- Describe the work that people do and explain how people earn income.
- Explain how money is used to purchase goods and services and people must learn to make choice because they cannot have everything that they want.

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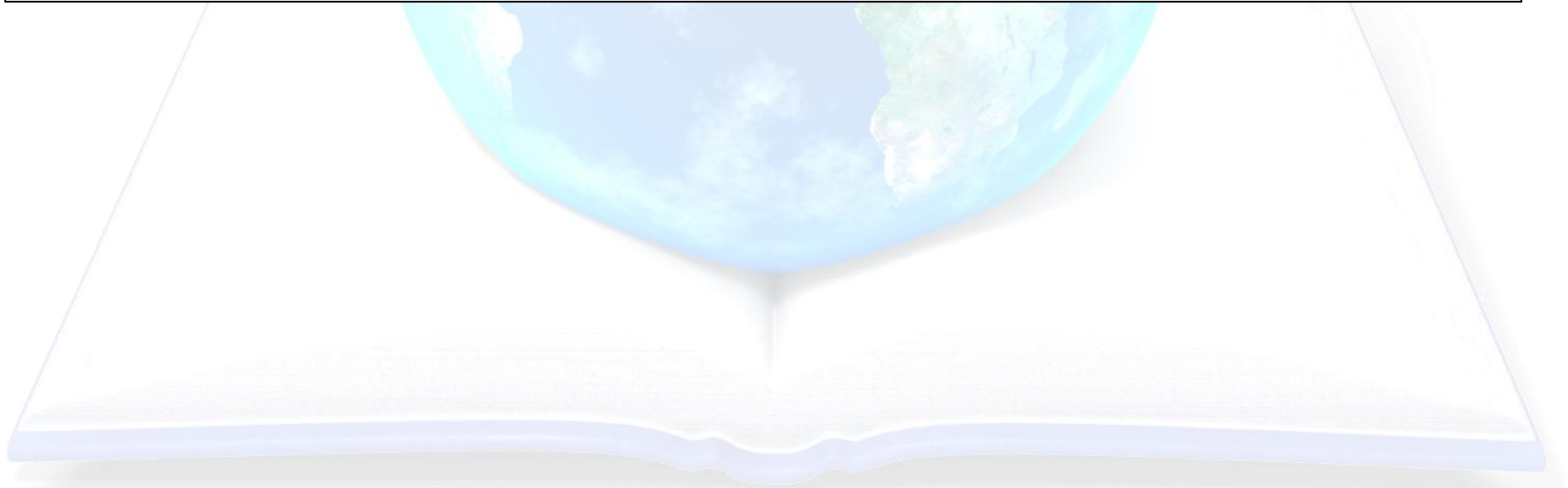
Print Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide

- Memorial Day by Connor Dayton
- F is For Flag by Pam Ryan
- Red, White, Blue, and Uncle Who? by Teresa Bateman
- Happy Fourth of July, Jenny Sweeney by Leslie Kimmelman
- The Bald Eagle: An American Symbol by Allison Eldridge
- The Star-Spangled Banner by Melinda Lilly

Digital Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

- Star Spangled Banner <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/games/songs/patriotic/anthemmid.htm>
- American Symbols-Library of Congress http://www.americaslibrary.gov/ip/celebrate/ip_celebrate_fourth_1.html
- Symbols of America (e-book) <http://www.authorstream.com/Presentation/Peachebooks-47276-PEN-2921a-Symbols-America-education-history-books-2921-symbol-ppt-powerpoint/>



Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide



Unit 6 Title

You're a Grand Old Flag and Other US Symbols

Unit Focus

In this unit, students will focus on the theme of culture. They will discuss symbols of the United States, as well as major patriotic holidays. Within this unit, students will also develop their understanding of citizenship and character traits traditionally valued in the United States

Concepts Explored

- Identify the purpose of Memorial Day, Flag Day, and Independence Day
- Identify important American symbols and explain their meaning:
The national and state flags (United States and Georgia flags)
 - The bald eagle
 - The Statue of Liberty
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Star Spangled Banner

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Print Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

- The Bald Eagle: Endangered No More by Mac Priebe
- You're a Grand Old Flag by George Cohan
- Emma's Poem: The Voice of the Statue Liberty
- Flag Day by Kelly Bennett

Kindergarten Social Studies Parent Guide

- The Liberty Bell by Lloyd Douglas
- The Star-Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key
- Memorial Day Surprise by Theresa Golding
- Happy Fourth of July, Jenny Sweeney by Leslie Kimmelman

Digital Resources (suggested text only others may be used)

- Discovery Education <http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/>
 - The Bald Eagle (2:51)
 - Statue of Liberty (2:31)
- Flag Day Activities: <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/flagday/>
- Fourth of July Celebrations: http://www.americaslibrary.gov/ip/celebrate/jp_celebrate_fourth_1.html