



# **SOCIAL STUDIES**

## **Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE)**

**Kindergarten – Grade 5**

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## **Kindergarten**

### **Foundations of America**

In kindergarten, students begin to understand the foundations of the social studies strands: history, geography, government, and economics. Students begin their introduction to United States history through the study of important American holidays and symbols. Basic concepts of geography are presented. Civics provides students with an introduction to rules and character traits of good citizens. Basic economic concepts are also introduced.

### **Historical Understandings**

**SSKH1 Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated.**

- a. Christmas
- b. Columbus Day
- c. Independence Day
- d. Juneteenth National Independence Day
- e. Labor Day
- f. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- g. Memorial Day
- h. New Year's Day
- i. Presidents Day (George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and the current president)
- j. Thanksgiving Day
- k. Veterans Day

**SSKH2 Identify the following American symbols:**

- a. The national and state flags (United States and Georgia flags)
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Star Spangled Banner (identify as the national anthem)
- d. The bald eagle
- e. The Statue of Liberty
- f. Lincoln Memorial (identify image and associate with Abraham Lincoln and Presidents Day)
- g. Washington Monument (identify image and associate with George Washington and Presidents Day)
- h. White House (identify image and associate with Presidents Day and the current president)

## **Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence**

**SSKH3 Correctly use words and phrases related to chronology and time. (Note: These elements should be integrated into discussions about historical events and figures.)**

- a. Now, long ago
- b. Before, after
- c. Today, tomorrow, yesterday
- d. First, last, next
- e. Day, week, month, year
- f. Past, present, future

### **Geographic Understandings**

**SSKG1 Describe the diversity of American culture by explaining the customs and celebrations of various families and communities.**

**SSKG2 Explain that a map is a drawing of a place and a globe is a model of Earth.**

- a. Differentiate land and water features on simple maps and globes.
- b. Explain that maps and globes show a view from above.
- c. Explain that maps and globes show features in a smaller size.

**SSKG3 State the street address, city, state, and country in which the student lives.**

### **Government/Civic Understandings**

**SSKCG1 Demonstrate an understanding of good citizenship.**

- a. Explain how rules are made and why.
- b. Explain why rules should be followed.

**SSKCG2 Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens such as honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, and self-control.**

### **Economic Understandings**

**SSKE1 Describe the work that people do such as: police officer, fire fighter, soldier, mail carrier, farmer, doctor, teacher, etc.**

**SSKE2 Explain that people earn income by working.**

## **Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence**

**SSKE3 Explain how money is used to purchase goods and services.**

- a. Distinguish goods from services.
- b. Identify that U.S. coins and dollar bills (paper money) are used as currency.

**SSKE4 Explain that people must make choices because they cannot have everything they want.**

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3. use a letter/number grid system to determine location			I	M	A	A	A	A	A	A
4. compare and contrast the categories of natural, cultural, and political features found on maps			I	M	A	A	A	A	A	A
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8. draw conclusions and make generalizations based on information from maps				I	M	A	A	A	A	A
9. use latitude and longitude to determine location				I	D	D	D	M	A	A
10. compare maps of the same place at different points in time and from different perspectives to determine changes, identify trends, and generalize about human activities					I	M	A	A	A	A
11. compare maps with data sets (charts, tables, graphs) and /or readings to draw conclusions and make generalizations					I	M	A	A	A	A
12. use geographic technology and software to determine changes, identify trends, and generalize about human activities										I

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15. determine adequacy and/or relevancy of information					I	M	A	A	A	A
16. check for consistency of information					I	M	A	A	A	A
17. interpret political cartoons					I	D	D	D	M	A

## **First Grade**

### **Our American Heritage**

In the first grade, students continue their introduction to United States history through the study of selected historical figures. In the history strand, students study the important contributions each historical person made. In the geography strand, students learn about where these historical people lived and explore important basic geographic concepts. The civics strand provides a study of the positive character traits exhibited by these important historical figures. The economics strand continues the introduction of basic economic concepts.

#### **Historical Understandings**

**SS1H1 Read about and describe the life of historical figures in American history.**

- a. Identify the contributions made by these figures: Benjamin Franklin (inventor/author/statesman), Thomas Jefferson (Declaration of Independence), Meriwether Lewis and William Clark with Sacagawea (exploration), Theodore Roosevelt (National Parks and the environment), George Washington Carver (science), and Ruby Bridges (civil rights).
- b. Describe how everyday life of these historical figures is similar to and different from everyday life in the present (for example: food, clothing, homes, transportation, communication, recreation, etc.).

#### **Geographic Understandings**

**SS1G1 Describe how each historic figure in SS1H1a was influenced by his or her time and place.**

- a. American colonies (Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson)
- b. American frontier (Lewis & Clark and Sacagawea)
- c. National Parks (Theodore Roosevelt)
- d. Southern U.S. (George Washington Carver and Ruby Bridges)

**SS1G2 Identify and locate the student's city, county, state, nation (country), and continent on a simple map or a globe.**

**SS1G3 Locate major topographical features of the earth's surface.**

- a. Locate all of the continents: North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Antarctica, and Australia.
- b. Locate the major oceans: Arctic, Atlantic, Pacific, Southern, and Indian.
- c. Identify and describe landforms (mountains, deserts, valleys, and coasts).



## **Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence**

### **Government/Civic Understandings**

**SS1CG1 Describe how the historical figures in SS1H1a display positive character traits such as: fairness, respect for others, respect for the environment, courage, equality, tolerance, perseverance, and commitment.**

**SS1CG2 Explore the concept of patriotism through the words in the songs *America (My Country 'Tis of Thee)* and *America the Beautiful* (for example: brotherhood, liberty, freedom, pride, etc.).**

### **Economic Understandings**

**SS1E1 Identify goods that people make and services that people provide for each other.**

**SS1E2 Explain that scarcity is when unlimited wants are greater than limited resources.**

**SS1E3 Describe how people are both producers and consumers.**

**SS1E4 Explain that people earn income by working and that they must make choices about how much to save and spend.**

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## **Second Grade**

### **Georgia, My State**

In second grade, the various social studies strands become interwoven with the historical strand. The history strand focuses on important historical figures in Georgia and the Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee cultures in Georgia. The geography strand emphasizes the geography of Georgia and relates to the historical study. In addition to the positive character traits of the individuals and groups in the historical strand, the basic concept of government is also introduced. Basic economics concepts continue to be introduced.

#### **Historical Understandings**

**SS2H1 Describe the lives and contributions of historical figures in Georgia history.**

- a. James Oglethorpe, Tomochichi, and Mary Musgrove (founding of Georgia)
- b. Sequoyah (development of a Cherokee alphabet)
- c. Jackie Robinson (sportsmanship and civil rights)
- d. Martin Luther King, Jr. (civil rights)
- e. Juliette Gordon Low (Girl Scouts and leadership)
- f. Jimmy Carter (leadership and human rights)

**SS2H2 Describe the Georgia Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee cultures of the past in terms of tools, clothing, homes, ways of making a living, and accomplishments.**

- a. Compare and contrast the Georgia Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee cultures of the past to those of Georgians today.

#### **Geographic Understandings**

**SS2G1 Locate and compare major topographical features of Georgia and describe how these features define Georgia's surface.**

- a. Locate and compare the geographic regions of Georgia: Blue Ridge, Piedmont, Coastal Plain, Ridge and Valley, and Appalachian Plateau.
- b. Locate on a physical map the major rivers: Savannah, Flint, and Chattahoochee.

## **Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence**

**SS2G2 Describe the cultural and geographic systems associated with the historical figures in SS2H1 and Georgia’s Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee in SS2H2.**

- a. Identify specific locations significant to the life and times of each historic figure, and the Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee, on a political or physical map.
- b. Describe how each historic figure and the Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee adapted to and were influenced by their environments.
- c. Describe how the region in which these historic figures lived affected their lives and compare these regions to the region in which students live.
- d. Describe the regions in Georgia where the Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee lived and how the people used their local resources.

### **Government/Civic Understandings**

**SS2CG1 Define the concept of government and the need for rules and laws.**

**SS2CG2 Identify the following elected officials of the executive branch and where they work:**

- a. President (leader of our nation) and Washington, D.C. – White House
- b. Governor (leader of our state) and Atlanta, GA – State Capitol Building
- c. Mayor (leader of a city) and city hall

**SS2CG3 Give examples of how the historical figures in SS2H1 demonstrate positive citizenship traits such as: honesty, dependability, trustworthiness, honor, civility, good sportsmanship, patience, and compassion.**

### **Economic Understandings**

**SS2E1 Explain that because of scarcity, people must make choices that result in opportunity costs.**

**SS2E2 Identify some ways in which goods and services are allocated (such as: price, majority rule, contests, force, sharing, lottery, authority, first-come-first-served, and personal characteristics).**

**SS2E3 Explain that people usually use money to obtain the goods and services they want and explain how money makes trade easier than barter.**

**SS2E4 Describe the costs and benefits of personal saving and spending choices.**

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## **Third Grade**

### **United States History**

#### **Year 1: American Indian Cultures through Colonization**

In third grade, students begin a three-year study of United States history in which all four strands (history, geography, civics/government, and economics) are integrated. Students learn about American Indian cultures and the exploration and colonization of North America. The geography strand emphasizes the influence of geography on early U.S. history. In the civics/government strand, students learn about the elements of our representative democracy and their rights and responsibilities as good citizens. Students will extend and apply their understanding of basic economic concepts.

#### **Historical Understandings**

##### **SS3H1 Describe early American Indian cultures and their development in North America.**

- a. Locate the regions where American Indians settled in North America: Arctic, Northwest Southwest, Plains, Northeast, and Southeast.
- b. Compare and contrast how American Indians in each region used their environment to obtain food, clothing, and shelter.
- c. Discuss how American Indians continue to contribute to American life (e.g., arts, literature).

##### **SS3H2 Describe European exploration in North America.**

- a. Describe the reasons for and obstacles to the exploration of North America.
- b. Describe the accomplishments of: John Cabot (England), Vasco Núñez de Balboa (Spain), Hernando de Soto (Spain), Christopher Columbus (Spain), Henry Hudson (The Netherlands), and Jacques Cartier (France).
- c. Describe examples of cooperation and conflict between European explorers and American Indians.

##### **SS3H3 Explain the factors that shaped British Colonial America.**

- a. Identify key reasons why the New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Southern colonies were founded (religious freedom and profit).
- b. Compare and contrast colonial life in the New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Southern colonies (education, economy, and religion).
- c. Describe colonial life in America from the perspectives of various people: large landowners, farmers, artisans, women, children, indentured servants, slaves, and American Indians.



## **Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence**

### **Geographic Understandings**

#### **SS3G1 Locate major topographical features on a physical map of the United States.**

- a. Locate major rivers of the United States of America: Mississippi, Ohio, Rio Grande, Colorado, Hudson, and St. Lawrence.
- b. Locate major mountain ranges of the United States of America: Appalachian, Rocky.

#### **SS3G2 Locate and describe the equator, prime meridian, and lines of latitude and longitude on a globe.**

#### **SS3G3 Describe how physical systems affect human systems.**

- a. Explain why American Indian groups occupied the areas they did (SS3H1a), with emphasis on why some developed permanent villages and others did not.
- b. Describe how the early explorers (SS3H2a) adapted, or failed to adapt, to the various physical environments in which they traveled.
- c. Explain how the physical geography of the New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Southern colonies helped determine economic activities.

### **Government/Civic Understandings**

#### **SS3CG1 Describe the elements of representative democracy/republic in the United States.**

- a. Describe the three branches of national government: executive (president), legislative (Congress), and judicial (Supreme Court of the United States).
- b. Describe the three branches of state government: executive (governor), legislative (Georgia General Assembly), and judicial (Supreme Court of Georgia).
- c. State the main responsibility of each branch: executive (enforcing laws), legislative (making laws), judicial (determining if laws are fair).

#### **SS3CG2 Explain the importance of Americans sharing certain central democratic beliefs and principles, both personal and civic.**

- a. Explain the necessity of respecting the rights of others and promoting the common good.
- b. Explain the necessity of obeying reasonable laws/rules voluntarily, and explain why it is important for citizens in a democratic society to participate in public (civic) life (staying informed, voting, volunteering, and communicating with public officials).

## **Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence**

### **Economic Understandings**

**SS3E1 Define and give examples of the four types of productive resources.**

- a. Natural (land)
- b. Human (labor)
- c. Capital (capital goods)
- d. Entrepreneurship (risk-taking and combining natural, human, and capital resources in an attempt to make a profit)

**SS3E2 Explain that governments provide certain types of goods and services in a market economy (schools, libraries, roads, police/fire protection, and military) and pay for these through taxes.**

**SS3E3 Give examples of interdependence and trade and explain the benefits of voluntary exchange.**

- a. Describe the interdependence of consumers and producers.
- b. Describe how goods and services are allocated by price in the marketplace.
- c. Explain that some goods are made locally, some elsewhere in the country, and some in other countries.
- d. Explain that most countries create their own currency for use as money.

**SS3E4 Explain the concept of opportunity cost as it relates to making a saving or spending choice.**

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9. use latitude and longitude to determine location				I	D	D	D	M	A	A
10. compare maps of the same place at different points in time and from different perspectives to determine changes, identify trends, and generalize about human activities					I	M	A	A	A	A
11. compare maps with data sets (charts, tables, graphs) and /or readings to draw conclusions and make generalizations					I	M	A	A	A	A
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17. interpret political cartoons					I	D	D	D	M	A

## **Fourth Grade**

### **United States History**

#### **Year 2: Revolution to Reconstruction**

In fourth grade, students continue with year two of a three year study of United States history in which all four strands (history, geography, civics/government, and economics) are integrated. Students begin the year learning about the French and Indian War and end with the Reconstruction period. The geography strand emphasizes the influence of geography on U.S. history during these same time periods. In the civics/government strand, students learn about concepts and rights contained within our founding documents. The economic strand uses material from the history strand to deepen understanding of economic concepts.

#### **Historical Understandings**

##### **SS4H1 Explain the causes, events, and results of the American Revolution.**

- a. Trace the events that shaped the revolutionary movement in America: French and Indian War, 1765 Stamp Act, the slogan “no taxation without representation,” the activities of the Sons of Liberty, the activities of the Daughters of Liberty, Boston Massacre, and the Boston Tea Party.
- b. Describe the influence of key individuals and groups during the American Revolution: King George III, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Benedict Arnold, Patrick Henry, John Adams, Paul Revere, and Black regiments.
- c. Describe the major events of the American Revolution and explain the factors leading to American victory and British defeat; include the Battles of Lexington and Concord, Saratoga, and Yorktown.
- d. Explain the writing of the Declaration of Independence; include who wrote it, how it was written, why it was necessary, and how it was a response to tyranny and the abuse of power.

##### **SS4H2 Analyze the challenges faced by the framers of the Constitution.**

- a. Identify the major leaders of the Constitutional Convention (James Madison, George Washington, and Benjamin Franklin).
- b. Evaluate the major issues debated at the Constitutional Convention: the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation, the rights of states to govern themselves (federal system), the Great Compromise, and slavery (Three-Fifths Compromise).

## Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence

### **SS4H3 Explain westward expansion in America.**

- a. Describe the causes and events of the War of 1812; include the burning of the Capitol and the White House and the writing of “The Star Spangled Banner.”
- b. Describe the impact of westward expansion on American Indians; include the Trail of Tears, Battle of Little Bighorn and the forced relocation of American Indians to reservations.
- c. Describe territorial expansion with emphasis on the Louisiana Purchase, the Lewis and Clark expedition, and the acquisitions of Texas (the Alamo and independence), Oregon (Oregon Trail), and California (Gold Rush and the development of mining towns).

### **SS4H4 Examine the main ideas of the abolitionist and suffrage movements.**

- a. Discuss contributions of and challenges faced by Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Tubman.

### **SS4H5 Explain the causes, major events, and consequences of the Civil War.**

- a. Identify *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* and John Brown’s raid on Harper’s Ferry and explain how each of these events was related to the Civil War.
- b. Discuss how the issues of states’ rights and slavery increased tensions between the North and South.
- c. Identify major battles, campaigns, and events: Fort Sumter, Gettysburg, the Atlanta Campaign, Sherman’s March to the Sea, and Appomattox Court House.
- d. Describe the roles of Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant, Jefferson Davis, Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson, and William T. Sherman.
- e. Describe the effects of war on the North and South.

### **SS4H6 Analyze the effects of Reconstruction on American life.**

- a. Describe the purpose of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments.
- b. Explain the work of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (Freedmen’s Bureau).
- c. Explain how slavery was replaced by sharecropping and how freed African Americans or Blacks were prevented from exercising their newly won rights.
- d. Describe the effects of Jim Crow laws and practices.

## **Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence**

### **Geographic Understandings**

#### **SS4G1 Locate important physical and man-made features in the United States.**

- a. Locate major physical features of the United States: the Atlantic Coastal Plain, the Great Plains, the Continental Divide, the Gulf of Mexico, the Mississippi River, and the Great Lakes.
- b. Locate major man-made features of the United States: New York City, NY; Boston, MA; Philadelphia, PA; Washington, D.C.; Gettysburg, PA; and the Erie Canal.

#### **SS4G2 Describe how physical systems affect human systems.**

- a. Explain how each force (American and British) attempted to use the physical geography of each battle site (Lexington and Concord, Saratoga, and Yorktown) to its benefit.
- b. Describe physical barriers that hindered and physical gateways that benefited territorial expansion from 1801 to 1861.

### **Government/Civic Understandings**

#### **SS4CG1 Describe the meaning of:**

- a. Natural rights as found in the Declaration of Independence (the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness)
- b. “We the People” from the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution as a reflection of consent of the governed or popular sovereignty
- c. The federal system of government in the U.S. (federal powers, state powers, and shared powers)
- d. Representative democracy/republic

#### **SS4CG2 Explain the importance of freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.**

#### **SS4CG3 Describe the structure of government and the Bill of Rights.**

- a. Describe how the three branches of government interact with each other (checks and balances and separation of powers), and how they relate to local, state, and federal government.
- b. Identify and explain the rights in the Bill of Rights, describe how the Bill of Rights places limits on the powers of government, and explain the reasons for its inclusion in the Constitution in 1791.

## Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence

### **Economic Understandings**

**SS4E1 Use the basic economic concepts of trade, opportunity cost, specialization, voluntary exchange, productivity, and price incentives to illustrate historical events.**

- a. Describe opportunity cost and its relationship to decision-making across time (e.g., decisions to settle in the west).
- b. Explain how price incentives affect people's behavior and choices: decisions about what crops (e.g., cotton, and tobacco) to grow and products (e.g., textiles) to produce.
- c. Describe how specialization improves standards of living (e.g., differences in the economies in the North and South).
- d. Explain how voluntary exchange helps both buyers and sellers (e.g., Gold Rush mining towns).
- e. Describe how trade promotes economic activity (e.g., trade between the U.S. and Europe).
- f. Give examples of technological advancements and their impact on business productivity during the development of the United States (e.g., cotton gin, steamboat, steam locomotive, and telegraph).

**SS4E2 Identify the elements of a personal budget (income, expenditures, and saving) and explain why personal spending and saving decisions are important.**



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4. compare and contrast the categories of natural, cultural, and political features found on maps			I	M	A	A	A	A	A	A
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17. interpret political cartoons					I	D	D	D	M	A

## **Fifth Grade**

### **United States History**

#### **Year 3: Industrialization to the Digital Age**

In fifth grade, students are in the final year of a three year study of United States history in which all four strands (history, geography, civics/government, and economics) are integrated. Students begin the year learning about the growth of 19<sup>th</sup> century industry and innovation in the United States, and culminate the study with the events and impact of September 11, 2001. The geography strand emphasizes the influence of geography on U.S. history during these same time periods. In the civics/government strand, students learn about the rights of citizens contained within the Constitution, and how changes have been made over time to the Constitution to protect the rights of citizens. In the economic strand, students explore the ways consumers and producers have interacted in the American economy.

#### **Historical Understandings**

##### **SS5H1 Describe how life changed in America at the turn of the century.**

- a. Describe the role of the cattle trails in the late 19th century; include the Black Cowboys of Texas, the Great Western Cattle Trail, and the Chisholm Trail.
- b. Describe the impact on American life of the Wright brothers (flight), George Washington Carver (science), Alexander Graham Bell (communication), and Thomas Edison (electricity).
- c. Explain how William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt expanded America's role in the world; include the Spanish-American War and the building of the Panama Canal.
- d. Describe the reasons people immigrated to the United States, from where they emigrated, and where they settled.

##### **SS5H2 Describe U.S. involvement in World War I and post-World War I America.**

- a. Explain how German attacks on U.S. shipping during the war in Europe (1914-1917) ultimately led the U.S. to join the fight against Germany; include the sinking of the Lusitania and concerns over safety of U.S. ships, U.S. contributions to the war, and the impact of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.
- b. Describe the cultural developments and individual contributions in the 1920s of the Jazz Age (Louis Armstrong), the Harlem Renaissance (Langston Hughes), baseball (Babe Ruth), the automobile (Henry Ford), and transatlantic flight (Charles Lindbergh).

## Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence

### **SS5H3 Explain how the Great Depression and New Deal affected the lives of millions of Americans.**

- a. Discuss the Stock Market Crash of 1929, Herbert Hoover, Franklin Roosevelt, the Dust Bowl, and soup kitchens.
- b. Analyze the main features of the New Deal; include the significance of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Works Progress Administration, and the Tennessee Valley Authority.
- c. Discuss important cultural elements of the 1930s; include Duke Ellington, Margaret Mitchell, and Jesse Owens.

### **SS5H4 Explain America's involvement in World War II.**

- a. Describe German aggression in Europe and Japanese aggression in Asia.
- b. Describe major events in the war in both Europe and the Pacific; include Pearl Harbor, Iwo Jima, D-Day, VE and VJ Days, and the Holocaust.
- c. Discuss President Truman's decision to drop the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- d. Identify Roosevelt, Stalin, Churchill, Hirohito, Truman, Mussolini, and Hitler.
- e. Describe the effects of rationing and the changing role of women and African Americans or Blacks; include "Rosie the Riveter" and the Tuskegee Airmen.
- f. Explain the role of Eleanor Roosevelt and the U.S. in the formation of the United Nations.

### **SS5H5 Discuss the origins and consequences of the Cold War.**

- a. Explain the origin and meaning of the term "Iron Curtain."
- b. Explain how the United States sought to stop the spread of communism through the Berlin airlift, the Korean War, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
- c. Identify Joseph McCarthy and Nikita Khrushchev.
- d. Discuss the importance of the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War.

### **SS5H6 Describe the importance of key people, events, and developments between 1950-1975.**

- a. Analyze the effects of Jim Crow laws and practices.
- b. Explain the key events and people of the Civil Rights movement: *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), Montgomery Bus Boycott, the March on Washington, Civil Rights Act, Voting Rights Act, and civil rights activities of Thurgood Marshall, Lyndon B. Johnson, Cesar Chavez, Rosa Parks, and Martin Luther King, Jr.
- c. Describe the impact on American society of the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, and Martin Luther King, Jr.
- d. Discuss the significance of the technologies of television and space exploration.

## **Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence**

### **SS5H7 Trace important developments in America from 1975 to 2001.**

- a. Describe the collapse of the Soviet Union, including the role of Ronald Reagan.
- b. Describe the events of September 11, 2001, and analyze their impact on American life.
- c. Explain the impact of the personal computer and the Internet on American life.

## **Geographic Understandings**

### **SS5G1 Locate important places in the United States.**

- a. Locate important man-made places; include the Chisholm Trail; Pittsburgh, PA; Kitty Hawk, NC; Pearl Harbor, HI; Montgomery, AL.; and Chicago, IL.

### **SS5G2 Explain the reasons for the spatial patterns of economic activities.**

- a. Locate primary agricultural and industrial locations between the end of the Civil War and 1900 and explain how factors such as population, transportation, and resources have influenced these areas (e.g., Pittsburgh's rapid growth in the late nineteenth century).
- b. Locate primary agricultural and industrial locations since the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and explain how factors such as population, transportation, and resources have influenced these areas (e.g., Chicago's rapid growth at the turn of the century).

## **Government/Civic Understandings**

### **SS5CG1 Explain how a citizen's rights are protected under the U.S. Constitution.**

- a. Explain the responsibilities of a citizen.
- b. Explain the concept of due process of law and describe how the U.S. Constitution protects a citizen's rights by due process.

### **SS5CG2 Explain the process by which amendments to the U.S. Constitution are made.**

- a. Explain the amendment process outlined in the Constitution.
- b. Describe the purpose for the amendment process.

### **SS5CG3 Explain how amendments to the U. S. Constitution have maintained a representative democracy/republic.**

- a. Explain how voting rights are protected by the 15th, 19th, 23rd, 24th, and 26th amendments.

## Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence

### **Economic Understandings**

#### **SS5E1 Use the basic economic concepts of trade, opportunity cost, specialization, productivity, and price incentives to illustrate historical events.**

- a. Describe opportunity costs and their relationship to decision-making across time (e.g., decisions by individuals in response to rationing during WWII).
- b. Explain how price incentives affect people's behavior and choices (e.g., decisions to participate in cattle trails because of increased beef prices).
- c. Describe how specialization can improve standards of living and productivity (e.g., how Henry Ford's use of the assembly line reduced the price of automobiles).
- d. Describe how trade and voluntary exchange promotes economic activity (e.g., how the Panama Canal increases trade among countries).

#### **SS5E2 Describe the functions of four major sectors in the U. S. economy.**

- a. Describe the household function in providing resources and consuming goods and services.
- b. Describe the private business function in producing goods and services.
- c. Describe the bank function in providing checking accounts, savings accounts, and loans.
- d. Describe the government function in taxation and providing certain public goods and public services.

#### **SS5E3 Describe how consumers and producers interact in the U. S. economy.**

- a. Describe how competition, markets, and prices influence consumer behavior.
- b. Describe how people earn income by selling their labor to businesses.
- c. Describe how entrepreneurs take risks to develop new goods and services to start a business.

#### **SS5E4 Identify the elements of a personal budget (income, expenditures, and saving) and explain why personal spending and saving decisions are important.**

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