



Westgate Community School

5th Grade Social Studies Overview 2017-2018

In this document, you will find an overview of all the units that will be covered in 5th grade social studies. All the units and their content has been taken from the Colorado model content standards for 5th grade social studies. First, you will find a general time line for the units for the year. You will then find a brief bulleted description of the unit. If you have any questions regarding the outlined curriculum, please contact Ellyse Colson at Ellyse.colson@westgateschool.org.

Social Studies Year-long Outlook:

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Unit: North American Geography	Unit: Citizenship and Government Unit: Economics	Unit: Pre-Colonized America Unit: The Revolutionary War and Its Causes	Unit: End of Revolutionary War- Inception of the United States

Unit: North America Geography

- Use different types of maps to answer questions about regions of the United States
- Use different geographic tools to locate and describe different locations and regions
- Suggest reasons for their location

Unit: Citizenship and Government

- Individual rights
- Criteria and process for becoming a citizen
- Principles of American democracy
- Importance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights to American democracy
- Three branches of government- origin, structure, and functions
- Checks and balances
- Relationship between local, state, and national government

Unit: Economics

- Market interactions
- Allocation of resources
- Capitalist market economy



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- Identify governmental activities that affect financial institutions and the economy- local, state, and national level
- Products and services of financial institutions- checking accounts, savings accounts, investments, loans
- Compare financial institutions- products and services

Unit: Pre-Colonized America

- Geography of North America
- Causes and consequences of movement
- Explain cultural interactions- The Columbian Exchange, interactions between Europeans and native Americans, and the developing relationship between Europeans and enslaved Africans
- Identify important individuals and groups of people
- Explore the political, social, and economic institutions in the colonies
- Explain reasons for the settlement of the American Colonies
- Create timelines of historical eras
- Individuals, groups, ideas, and themes in North America from 1491 up to the founding of the United States of America
- Analyze cartoons, artifacts, artwork, charts, and graphs
- European explorers and reasons for exploration, discovery, and migration
- Explain physical and political features that influenced this time frame

Unit: The Revolutionary War and Its Causes

- Identify different ways of dating historical sources to understand context
- Explore important political, social, economic, and military developments leading up to the Revolutionary War
- Revolutionary War
- Examine significant historical documents- stamp act
- Explore the physical and political features that influenced this era
- Analyze how cooperation and conflict contribute to political, economic, and social divisions in the United States

Unit: End of Revolutionary War- Inception of the United States

- Last act of the Revolutionary War to the inception of independence
- Examine significant historical documents- Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution



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- Identify groups and individuals who illustrate civic ideas in the founding of the United States- freedom, rules of law, equality, civility, cooperation, respect, responsibility, and civic participation