



Westgate Community School

8th Grade Social Studies Overview 2017-2018

In this document, you will find an overview of all the units that will be covered in 8th grade social studies. All the units and their content has been taken from the Colorado model content standards for 8th 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 Overview:

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Unit: Colonies to the Constitution	Unit: Sea to Shining Sea- American History from the American Revolution to the lead up of the Civil War	Unit: Civil War	Unit: Economics- Globalization Unit: Economics- Credit and Debt

Unit: Colonies to the Constitution

- causes of the American Revolution
- The Declaration of Independence
- the War Years
- The Treaty of Paris
- The Constitution
- the Bill of Rights
- follow the road map from Taxation without Representation to the Declaration of Independence
- events shaped what was included in our Constitution and Bill of Rights
- compare and contrast the history and economies of the Virginia and New England Colonies
- economies development shaped the North and the South and led to the Civil War
- role the institution of slavery played in the development of the United States of America
- how our nation dealt with it in the Declaration and Constitution

Unit: Sea to Shining Sea- American History from the American Revolution to the lead up of the Civil War

- piecing together the acquisitions, annexations and cessions that form what is now the lower 48 states
- completing a map in conjunction with learning about the history of how each section came to be part of the United States



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- Exploring this time period by using technology
- The Louisiana Purchase
- The Acquisition of Florida
- Indian Removal
- Independence of Texas
- Oregon Country and the Oregon Trail
- New Settlers in California and The Growth of Technology
- The Industrial Revolution
- The War of 1812
- The War with Mexico
- The Oregon Trail
- Indian Removal.

Unit: Civil War

- Slavery
- Underground Railroad
- Causes of the Civil War
- Declaration of Independence
- Lincoln's Speeches
- Battles
- Emancipation
- Effects of Civil War

Unit: Economics- Globalization

- International differences in resources
- productivity and prices that provide a basis for international trade
- Factors that lead to a nation having a comparative and absolute advantage in trade
- Effects of domestic policies on international trade
- Why nations often restrict trade by using quotas, tariffs, and non-tariff barriers

Unit: Economics- Credit and Debt

- Differentiate between purposes and reasons for debt
- Benefits and costs of credit and debt
- Compare sources of credit
- Components of a credit history