

Lower School History Course Descriptions

Kindergarten

The program promotes increased awareness of self, family, and the school community. Recognizing that community begins in the classroom, children actively learn the meaning of respect, honesty, cooperation, responsibility, and empathy. The students learn mapping skills through identifying landmarks found around the world. Through hands-on lessons the students also learn about the difference between city, state and, the world beyond.

First Grade

In social studies in first grade, students learn about charts, maps, and globes to explore the earth's geographic features. Students develop an awareness of others as they come to understand their role within the family unit, the community, and our country. We also study goods and services, Native Americans, presidents, Canada, and important figures in American history.

Second Grade

In social studies, instruction focuses on the study of where we live, our country long ago and our country today, as well as the understanding of maps and the elements of cardinal directions, map keys, symbols, and scales.

Third Grade

The third grade social studies curriculum is composed of units of study that emphasize knowledge of content material and allow students to experience the work ethic of completing projects, working in teams, and solving problems creatively. These units include geography, building communities, identifying different communities, immigration, discrimination, ethnicities, public services, and our global community.

Fourth Grade

Students in fourth grade Social Studies will acquire knowledge in reference to each of the regions of the United States of America. As students travel through the regions, they will participate in activities implementing the skills of economists, geographers, historians, and political scientists. In addition to discovering the importance of the roles of a social scientist to each region, students will engage in lessons to enhance their use of map skills. Students will be able to read a variety of maps, including political, physical, climate, and road maps, and be able to extract important information from maps. Students will apply their knowledge of the regions into activities that implement Language Arts skills.

Fifth Grade

The study of American history continues with early colonization, the Revolutionary War, the establishment of the U.S. government, westward expansion, and changes through the 20th Century. Students are required to prepare projects and written reports using reference materials, and engage in discussions and debates about the topics learned.