

4th Grade Social Studies
2011-2012

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Course Description

The fourth grade Social Studies program is an integrated discipline, which seeks to help children understand the geographic, historic, and the civic literacy of our world, focusing on the regions of the United States. Knowledge of locations and their characteristics will lead to greater understanding of their environment. Extension activities will be integrated with math, science, and language arts through America Day Study and Migratory Birds of the United States. The focus of the United States Regions allows the student to explore the geography of the land, people of the region, historical events of the region, and each current, unique culture.

Benchmarks

Applies active reading skills to acquire new concepts and content

Organizes and records information using graphic organizers

Uses tools of geography (maps, graphs, tables, diagrams) to locate, gather, and process info.

Identifies and explains cause and effect relationships

Analyzes information by comparing similarities and differences

Preparation for Class/ Course Materials

Regions of the United States: Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, New England, Southeast, Southwest, Pacific, West books: Raintree

Our Country's History: Nystrom

Map & Globe Skills: Nystrom

The Nystrom Junior Geographer Atlas

The Mind That's Mine - Mel Levine

Daily Oral Geography - Evan-Moor Corporation

Methods of Instruction

A variety of classroom activities; field trips; individual and cooperative group work projects; and discussions.

Assessments

Continuous assessment through teacher observation and student self-evaluation. Performance is measured through the use of written tests/quizzes, labeling maps, class projects, student/teacher rubrics, in-class activities and homework assignments. Students will be held accountable for becoming familiar with a variety of information sources.

Projected Course Schedule

The Social Studies course meets 40 minutes five days a week.