



SOCIAL STUDIES
Elementary School: Grade 5

Essential Course Information

- Course Revision
- Full Year

Course Overview

This course is designed to allow 5th grade students to investigate the evolution of America by developing investigative skills when analyzing the geography and landscape of North America. Further, students will analyze America's growth from the period of Early Americas to the Exploration of North America and finally the settlement, expansion and growth of America. Students will discover and discuss how these events shape and impact modern day America.

Unit	Estimated Class Time	Overview
Unit 1 <u>Thinking Like a Geographer</u>	6 weeks	In this unit, students will understand and analyze how physical and human geography can inform responsible interactions within the environment.
Unit 2 <u>Thinking Like a Historian</u>	6 weeks	In this unit, students will use their knowledge and historical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate historical sources so they can apply the lessons of the past (patterns of history) to better understand other historical/current events and issues.
Unit 3 <u>Native American Civilizations</u>	7 weeks	In this unit, students will use their knowledge to investigate interactions of civilizations, cultures, and peoples with greater perspective and empathy. They will also discuss how physical and human geography can inform responsible interactions with the environment. Finally, they will share and analyze how concepts as well as systems of economics and innovations led to the growth of productivity both domestically and in a future global economy.
Unit 4 <u>The Age of Exploration</u>	7 weeks	In this unit, students will analyze the interactions among various societies during the Age of Exploration, so that in the long run they will be able to critique the resulting cultural transformations that took place and implications for future generations. Further, they will analyze and discuss the reasons for exploration and how past events have affected current history.
Unit 5 <u>The Settlement of America</u>	7 weeks	In this unit, students will evaluate the founding principles of Colonial America (e.g., pursuit of religious freedom, the goal of economic success, and creating a better life through self-government.) and determine whether these principals were truly practiced during the colonial period, as well as, during present day society. Further, students will analyze and discuss how the the settlement of early American colonies impacted black, indigenous and people of color and how it affects the United States today.
Unit 6 <u>The Colonies</u>	7 weeks	In this unit, students will examine the political, social, and economic impact of colonization on American society so that in the long term, they understand how recurring patterns in history can inform judgments about current events and other issues and how physical and human geography can inform responsible interactions with the environment. Further, students will analyze what role black, indigenous and people of color played in the development of the 13 colonies leading up to the American Revolutionary War.

Content Continuum

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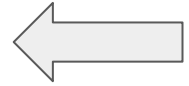
Grade 4 Social Studies-New Jersey History

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Grade 5 Social Studies-Early American History

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Grade 6 Social Studies-American History Through Reconstruction



INSTRUCTIONAL / SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

1. Textbook: Savvas My World!
2. Supplemental readings and online resources to enhance understanding of course content and skills:
 - The NJ Amistad Commission
 - Learning for Justice
3. All existing resources will be evaluated for alignment to new curriculum

KEY FEATURES OF REVISION

- Social studies curriculum was last revised in 2017.
- Student access to digital resources has expanded greatly.
- Alignment to the 2022 NJSL Social Studies.
- Integration of diverse texts within the curriculum.
- Incorporations of activities and assessments that develop 21st century skills.

Differentiation strategies will be included

Social Studies Department
West Orange Public Schools
Michael Figueiredo, Supervisor K-12

