

Kindergarten

Introduction to History and Social Science: Focus on the Community

The standards for kindergarten students focus on the local community and include an introduction to basic history and social science skills. During the course of their first year in school, students should learn about their community, including basic concepts related to history, patriotism, national symbols, good citizenship, geographic location, economics, and the importance of following rules and respecting the rights and property of other people.

Grade One

Introduction to History and Social Science: Focus on the Commonwealth of Virginia

The standards for first-grade students include an introduction to the lives of leaders in the history of Virginia and their contributions to the Commonwealth. Students should develop basic map skills. They should study the economic concepts of goods and services, consumers and producers, and making economic choices. Students should learn to apply the traits of a good citizen and recognize that communities in Virginia have local governments. They should learn that communities include people who have diverse ethnic origins, customs, and traditions, who make contributions to their communities, and who are united as Americans by common principles.

Grade Two

Introduction to History and Social Science: Focus on the United States of America

The standards for second-grade students include an introduction to the lives of Americans and their contributions to the United States as well as the heritage of the American Indians, past and present. Students should continue developing map skills and demonstrate an understanding of basic economic concepts. The students will identify selected American individuals who have worked to improve the lives of American citizens. The students will recognize that the United States is a land of people who have diverse ethnic origins, customs, and traditions, who make contributions to their communities, and who are united as Americans by common principles.

Grade Three

Introduction to History and Social Science: Focus on Ancient World Cultures

The standards for third-grade students include an introduction to the heritage and contributions of the peoples of ancient China, Egypt, Greece, Rome, and the West African empire of Mali. Students should continue developing map skills and demonstrate an understanding of basic economic and civics concepts. Students will examine the social, cultural, and political characteristics of major ancient world cultures. Students will recognize that many aspects of ancient cultures served as the foundation for modern governments, customs, traditions, and perspectives.

Virginia Studies

The standards for Virginia Studies allow students to develop a greater understanding of Virginia's rich history, from the cultures of its native peoples and the founding of Jamestown to the present. Geographic, economic, and civic concepts are presented within this historical context. Students will develop the skills needed to analyze, interpret, and demonstrate knowledge of important events and ideas in our history and will understand the contributions made by people of diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Students will use geographic tools to examine the influence of physical and cultural geography on Virginia history. Ideas that form the foundation for political institutions in Virginia and the United States also will be included as part of the story of Virginia.

The study of history must emphasize the intellectual skills required for responsible citizenship. Students practice these skills as they extend their understanding of the essential knowledge defined by all of the standards for history and social science.

Grade Five

Introduction to History and Social Science: Focus on local history branching into a regional survey of the United States

Fifth grade students will examine Caroline's geography, history, economics & agriculture, government, education, and prominent people. This local and in depth study of Caroline, connects students on a personal and local level to United States History to 1865. Following this foundation, students survey the geographical regions of the United States while demonstrating VDOE USI skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship.