



North Carolina Essential Standards Kindergarten Social Studies

Kindergarten through second grade students are introduced to an integrative approach of Social Studies by exploring aspects of self, others, families and communities across the world in developmentally responsive ways. In early years, children develop a foundation for the entire social studies program beginning in Kindergarten; therefore, Social Studies must be an essential part of the daily curriculum. As students are acquainted with diverse classmates, they develop awareness to the similarities among individuals in the classroom as well as within the school, community and world. Comparing family traditions enable students to accept and appreciate their pluralistic society and acquire a sense of purpose regarding their role and the role of other citizens within the community and world. K-2 students develop geographic awareness of their surroundings by using geographic representations to process information about locations using maps and globes. They learn that people not only use the environment, but also modify or adapt to it. In history, students begin to develop the ability to think like an historian as they acquire knowledge of history to understand the past and present. Students begin to appreciate the influence history has on their daily lives as they identify contributions of historical figures. They examine why certain events and people are celebrated through national holidays. In economics, students develop and build upon basic economic concepts by relating to their own wants and needs.

Note on Strands: **H**–History, **G**–Geography and Environmental Literacy, **E**–Economic and Financial Literacy, **C&G**–Civics and Governance, **C**–Culture

History

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
K.H.1	Understand change over time.	K.H.1.1	Explain how people change over time (self and others).
		K.H.1.2	Explain how seasons change over time.
		K.H.1.3	Explain the impact of how life events bring change (a new sibling, moving to a new house, a new job, a new school, etc.).

Geography and Environmental Literacy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
K.G.1	Use geographic representations and terms to describe surroundings.	K.G.1.1	Use maps to locate places in the classroom, school and home.
		K.G.1.2	Use globes and maps to locate land and water features.
		K.G.1.3	Identify physical features (mountains, hills, rivers, lakes, roads, etc.).
		K.G.1.4	Identify locations in the classroom using positional words (near/far, left/right, above/beneath, etc.).
K.G.2	Understand the interaction between humans and the environment.	K.G.2.1	Explain how people adapt to weather conditions.
		K.G.2.2	Explain ways people use environmental resources to meet basic needs and wants (shelter, food, clothing, etc.).

Economics and Financial Literacy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
K.E.1	Understand	K.E.1.1	Explain how families have needs and wants.

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
	basic economic concepts.	K.E.1.2	Explain how jobs help people meet their needs and wants.

Civics and Governance

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
K.C&G.1	Understand the roles of a citizen.	K.C&G.1.1	Exemplify positive relationships through fair play and friendship.
		K.C&G.1.2	Explain why citizens obey rules in the classroom, school, home and neighborhood.

Culture

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
K.C.1	Understand how individuals	K.C.1.1	Explain similarities in self and others.

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
	are similar and different.	K.C.1.2	Explain the elements of culture (how people speak, how people dress, foods they eat, etc.).

North Carolina Essential Standards First Grade Social Studies

Kindergarten through second grade students are introduced to an integrative approach of Social Studies by exploring aspects of self, others, families and communities across the world in developmentally responsive ways. In early years, children develop a foundation for the entire social studies program beginning in Kindergarten; therefore, Social Studies must be an essential part of the daily curriculum. As students are acquainted with diverse classmates, they develop awareness to the similarities among individuals in the classroom as well as within the school, community and world. Comparing family traditions enable students to accept and appreciate their pluralistic society and acquire a sense of purpose regarding their role and the role of other citizens within the community and world. K-2 students develop geographic awareness of their surroundings by using geographic representations to process information about locations using maps and globes. They learn that people not only use the environment, but also modify or adapt to it. In history, students begin to develop the ability to think like an historian as they acquire knowledge of history to understand the past and present. Students begin to appreciate the influence history has on their daily lives as they identify contributions of historical figures. They examine why certain events and people are celebrated through national holidays. In economics, students develop and build upon basic economic concepts by relating to their own wants and needs.

Note on Numbering: **H**–History, **G**–Geography and Environmental Literacy, **E**–Economics and Financial Literacy, **C&G**–Civics and Governance, **C**–Culture

History

	Essential Standards	Clarifying Objectives	
1.H.1	Understand that history tells a story of how people and events changed society over time.	1.H.1.1	Explain how and why neighborhoods and communities change over time.
		1.H.1.2	Explain the importance of folklore and celebrations and their impact on local communities.
		1.H.1.3	Explain why national holidays are celebrated (Constitution Day, Independence Day, Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Day, Presidents’ Day, etc.).

Geography and Environmental Literacy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
1.G.1	Use geographic representations, terms and technologies to process information from a spatial perspective.	1.G.1.1	Use geographic tools to identify characteristics of various landforms and bodies of water.
		1.G.1.2	Give examples showing location of places (home, classroom, school and community).
		1.G.1.3	Understand the basic elements of geographic representations using maps (cardinal directions and map symbols).
1.G.2	Understand how humans and the environment interact within the local community.	1.G.2.1	Explain ways people change the environment (planting trees, recycling, cutting down trees, building homes, building streets, etc.).
		1.G.2.2	Explain how people use natural resources in the community.
		1.G.2.3	Explain how the environment impacts where people live (urban, rural, weather, transportation, etc.).

Economics and Financial Literacy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
1.E.1	Understand basic economic concepts.	1.E.1.1	Summarize the various ways in which people earn and use money for goods and services.
		1.E.1.2	Identify examples of goods and services in the home, school and community.

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
		1.E.1.3	Explain how supply and demand affects the choices families and communities make.

Civics and Governance

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
1.C&G.1	Understand the importance of rules.	1.C&G.1.1	Explain why rules are needed in the home, school and community.
		1.C&G.1.2	Classify the roles of authority figures in the home, school and community (teacher, principal, parents, mayor, park rangers, game wardens, etc).
		1.C&G.1.3	Summarize various ways in which conflicts could be resolved in homes, schools, classrooms and communities.

Culture

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
1.C.1	Understand the diversity of people in the local community.	1.C.1.1	Compare the languages, traditions, and holidays of various cultures.

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
		1.C.1.2	Use literature to help people understand diverse cultures.

North Carolina Essential Standards Second Grade: Social Studies

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History

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
2.H.1	Understand how various sources provide information about the past.	2.H.1.1	Use timelines to show sequencing of events.

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
		2.H.1.2	Identify contributions of historical figures (community, state, nation and world) through various genres.
		2.H.1.3	Compare various interpretations of the same time period using evidence such as photographs and interviews.

Geography and Environmental Literacy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
2.G.1	Use geographic representations, terms and technology to process information from a spatial perspective.	2.G.1.1	Interpret maps of the school and community that contain symbols, legends and cardinal directions.
		2.G.1.2	Interpret the meaning of symbols and the location of physical and human features on a map (cities, railroads, highways, countries, continents, oceans, etc.).
2.G.2	Understand the effects of humans interacting with their environment.	2.G.2.1	Give examples of ways in which people depend on the physical environment and natural resources to meet basic needs.
		2.G.2.2	Explain how people positively and negatively affect the environment.

Economics and Financial Literacy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
2.E.1	Understand basic economic concepts.	2.E.1.1	Give examples of ways in which businesses in the community meet the needs and wants of consumers.
		2.E.1.2	Explain the roles and impact producers and consumers have on the economy.
		2.E.1.3	Summarize the concept of supply and demand.
		2.E.1.4	Explain why people and countries around the world trade for goods and services.
		2.E.1.5	Explain how money is used for saving, spending, borrowing and giving.
		2.E.1.6	Summarize the role of financial institutions relative to savings.

Civics and Governance

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
2.C&G.1	Understand the purpose of governments.	2.C&G 1.1	Explain government services and their value to the community (libraries, schools, parks, etc.).

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
		2.C&G.1.2	Explain how governments establish order, provide security and create laws to manage conflict.
2.C&G.2	Understand the roles and responsibilities of citizens.	2.C&G.2.1	Exemplify characteristics of good citizenship through historical figures and everyday citizens.
		2.C&G.2.2	Explain why it is important for citizens to participate in their community.

Culture

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
2.C.1	Understand how various cultures influence communities.	2.C.2.1	Explain how artistic expressions of diverse cultures contribute to the community (stories, art, music, food, etc.).
		2.C.2.2	Recognize the key historical figures and events that are associated with various cultural traditions.
		2.C.2.3	Exemplify respect and appropriate social skills needed for working with diverse groups.