

Social Studies Overarching Transfer Goals, Understandings, and Essential Questions

Transfer Goals:

- Pose and pursue questions to better understand issues or identify patterns based on evidence.
- Evaluate claims and analyze issues to verify the credibility of different points of view.
- Cite evidence to make predictions, persuade, or draw conclusions.
- Communicate information and ideas through writing, speaking, and illustrations for a target audience using appropriate vocabulary.
- Evaluate how individuals and groups influence or change communities (local, national, global) over time.
- Actively participate in civic action(s) to work towards solving a problem that is meaningful to self and society.
- Apply social studies concepts and content to make connections to a given situation, problem, or challenge.
- Analyze the relationship between geography and people (society/civilizations).

SOCIAL STUDIES INQUIRY AND COMMUNICATION

- Pose and pursue questions to better understand issues or identify patterns based on evidence.
- Evaluate claims and analyze issues to verify the credibility of different points of view.
- Cite evidence to make predictions, persuade, or draw conclusions.
- Communicate information and ideas through writing, speaking, and illustrations for a target audience using appropriate vocabulary.

Understandings	Essential Questions
<p>Historians work to explain what happened through a continuous process of questioning, research, analysis, and interpretation.</p> <p>Every source of information is limited by the author's point of view and the information available to that person.</p> <p>Historical thinking involves using evidence and reasoning to draw conclusions about probable causes and effects, recognizing that these are multiple and complex.</p> <p>To be effective, conclusions and interpretations must be supported with evidence and/or valid reasoning and must consider other points of view.</p> <p>Effective communicators make thoughtful, original, and creative choices about content, language, and style to convey their message to their target audience in a variety of ways.</p> <p>Different images have been used throughout history to influence and inspire populations.</p> <p>Identifying a source's format, purpose, point of view, and context helps learners analyze and comprehend sources.</p>	<p>Why should social scientists consider a range of sources?</p> <p>What makes a source valid/reliable? How do I make sense of contradictions?</p> <p>What point of view is this model/display/text based on? How does that affect the interpretation?</p> <p>Whose story is it? Who is being left out?</p> <p>How does the story someone tells give insight into who he or she is?</p> <p>How do I find the information I am looking for? When do I have enough information so that I can draw a conclusion?</p> <p>How do I support my conclusions with appropriate citation of a variety of evidence?</p> <p>What is effective communication and how do I choose, based on audience?</p> <p>Why do certain monuments/images/photographs/films become symbolic?</p>

HISTORY

- Apply social studies concepts and content to make connections to a given situation, problem, or challenge.
- Evaluate how individuals and groups influence or change communities (local, national, global) over time.

Understandings	Essential Questions
<p>Ideas from a particular set of circumstances can be applied to other situations to gain insight, identify patterns and make predictions.</p> <p>People seek change in society, based on values and viewpoints, and use different methods to accomplish change.</p> <p>Historical events and developments are shaped by specific individuals, groups, and unique circumstances of time and place, as well as broader historical contexts.</p> <p>Historians recognize multiple points of view to gain a clearer understanding of an event/time period.</p> <p>People's perspectives of historical events may change over time.</p> <p>Fear, cultural differences, and/or pursuit of power can lead to unjust actions.</p> <p>A specific sequence of events can lead to a particular outcome.</p>	<p>How do events, ideas, innovations impact people's lives and/or our view of the world?</p> <p>How has discrimination affected the course of history?</p> <p>How can one person make a difference in the lives of others?</p> <p>When is conflict necessary?</p> <p>How does indifference allow problems to spread?</p> <p>What do people do to stand up for themselves? What lines do they cross? How far are they willing to go?</p> <p>Why do people's perspectives of historical events change over time?</p> <p>How do contemporary perspectives influence our interpretations of the past?</p> <p>When do the rights of individuals outweigh the rights of many?</p>

ECONOMICS

- Apply social studies concepts and content to make connections to a given situation, problem, or challenge.
- Evaluate how individuals and groups influence or change communities (local, national, global) over time.

Understandings	Essential Questions
<p>Economic ideas can be applied to various situations to gain insight, identify patterns, and make predictions.</p> <p>Identify reasons why people seek change in society, based on values and viewpoints, and the different methods used to accomplish change.</p> <p>Economics shape the ideas, choices, and actions of individuals and groups.</p> <p>A variety of resources (human capital, physical capital, and natural resources) are used to produce goods and services.</p> <p>The desire for economic goods (both buying and selling) creates interdependence as well as conflict.</p> <p>Desire for more resources can cause the oppression of groups of people.</p>	<p>How do thriving and struggling economies impact societal actions?</p> <p>What will government/business/people do to increase resources on a local or global scale?</p> <p>How do people acquire resources they lack?</p> <p>How does needs vs. wants impact behavior?</p> <p>How do people and governments decide how wealth should be distributed and used?</p> <p>How does the use of resources define a society's priorities?</p> <p>How does changes in economic policy affect individuals and society?</p> <p>How does individual responsibility affect wealth and standard of living?</p>

GEOGRAPHY

- Analyze the relationship between geography and people (society/civilizations)
- Apply social studies concepts and content to make connections to a given situation, problem, or challenge.
- Evaluate how individuals and groups influence or change communities (local, national, global) over time.

Understandings	Essential Questions
<p>The natural resources and location of a place significantly affect the livelihood, politics, and opportunity of the people living in them.</p> <p>Movement of people creates short-term and long-term change both to the lives of people and the characteristics of the place.</p> <p>Geographers use a variety of tools to evaluate the characteristics of a place or population.</p> <p>Decisions that people make have a direct impact on the environment.</p> <p>The environment in which we live has a direct impact on how we live and the decisions we make.</p> <p>Technology impacts the interactions of people, communication of ideas, and changes in the environment over time.</p>	<p>How does where you live affect how you live?</p> <p>Why do people move and how does it affect both places?</p> <p>How do human settlements and movements relate to the location and use of natural resources?</p> <p>How does migration/population trends affect the lives of people and the characteristics of places?</p> <p>What does the geographic visual (map/table/graph/chart) include and what can I conclude from the information?</p> <p>What is the relationship between humans and the environment?</p> <p>How do people's surroundings affect their view of others?</p> <p>How have human innovations changed the way we interact with each other and the environment?</p>

CIVICS

- Actively participate in civic action(s) to work towards solving a problem that is meaningful to self and society.
- Apply social studies concepts and content to make connections to a given situation, problem, or challenge.
- Evaluate how individuals and groups influence or change communities (local, national, global) over time.

Understandings	Essential Questions
<p>What citizens choose to do and not do affects the quality of life in their community.</p> <p>Citizens can change their world through action.</p> <p>Representative government relies on people's responsible participation.</p> <p>Civic engagement can shape the rights and responsibilities of citizens.</p> <p>Rules/laws are established to create order which may or may not be in the best interest of certain people.</p> <p>Rules and laws can change society.</p> <p>People can change rules and laws through various civic actions.</p> <p>Different types of government are created because they are influenced by a society's political, religious, and economic philosophies.</p>	<p>Who is in charge here? What gives them their power? What makes others take them seriously?</p> <p>What rights and responsibilities do citizens have in this government?</p> <p>What is the purpose of government?</p> <p>How can individuals and groups contribute to their communities and to the world?</p> <p>What are this group's rules/laws? Why do they need to be followed? When do rules/laws need to be changed?</p> <p>How and why do governments make decisions?</p> <p>How have people's rights and responsibilities as a citizen changed over time?</p> <p>How do personal interests and perspectives impact civic virtues, government decisions, and human rights?</p>