

# Unit 1: The First Americans

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies Gr. 5**  
Time Period: **September**  
Length: **6 Days**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit 1: The First Americans

## Department of Curriculum and Instruction



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

# Fifth Grade Social Studies

## Unit 1: The First Americans

**Belleville Board of Education**

**102 Passaic Avenue**

**Belleville, NJ 07109**

**Prepared by:** Ms. Morgan Musso

Dr. Richard Tomko, Ph.D., M.J., Superintendent of Schools

Ms. LucyAnn Demikoff, Director of Curriculum and Instruction K-12

Ms. Nicole Shanklin, Director of Elementary Education

Mr. George Droste, Director of Secondary Education

Board Approved: September 23, 2019

## **Unit Overview**

---

In Unit 1, students will investigate Ancient American Indian civilizations, cultures, government, and economy.

## **Enduring Understandings**

---

- American Indians both adapted to and modified the geography of their region, creating thriving civilizations in the North and South America.
- American Indians used a variety of natural resources to meet their needs for food, clothing, and shelter.
- American Indians prospered by creating diverse ways of life and adapting to the climate, resources, and other geographical factors.
- American Indians developed rich cultural traditions, creating societies with complex economics and governments.

## **Essential Questions**

---

- How does geography influence how people live?

## **Exit Skills**

---

By the end of Grade 5, Unit 1, the student should be able to:

- Define key terms
- Identify religious customs practiced by American Indian groups

- Make inferences as to why the Maya and Aztecs were considered advanced civilizations

## **New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSL)**

---

LA.RL.5.2	Determine the key details in a story, drama or poem to identify the theme and to summarize the text.
LA.RI.5.5	Compare and contrast the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in two or more texts.
LA.W.5.1.A	Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which ideas are logically grouped to support the writer's purpose.
LA.W.5.2.C	Link ideas within paragraphs and sections of information using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., in contrast, especially).
SOC.5-8.1.2.1	Select and use various geographic representations to compare information about people, places, regions, and environments.
SOC.5-8.1.3.3	Analyze primary and secondary sources for reconstructing the past and understanding historical perspectives (i.e., documents, letters, diaries, maps, images, etc.).
SOC.5-8.1.4.1	Select and analyze information from a variety of sources to present a reasoned argument or position in a written and/or oral format.
SOC.5-8.1.4.2	Present information in a logical manner using evidence and reasoning while demonstrating presentation skills (e.g., eye contact, adequate volume, clear pronunciation).

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

---

LA.RL.5.2	Determine the key details in a story, drama or poem to identify the theme and to summarize the text.
LA.RL.5.5	Explain how a series of chapters, scenes, or stanzas fits together to provide the overall structure of a particular story, drama, or poem.

## **Learning Objectives**

---

Students will be able to:

- identify and describe the ways of life of the ancient American Indians
- Compare and Contrast how geography and climate influences American Indian groups differently.
- Define culture and explain how it led to diversity among early American Indians
- Describe the roles of men, women, and children in the American Indian society
- Describe various features of American Indian religious life
- Describe how American Indian groups chose leaders and governed themselves
- Define the term economy and describe ways in which American Indian groups use local resources to survive

## **Suggested Activities & Best Practices**

---

Quest Project Based Learning:

- Research an American Indian food and create a recipe for an American Indian Restaurant
- Discuss the compelling question, "What does food tell us about culture?"

## **Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)**

---

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys

- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## **Primary Resources & Materials**

---

MyWorld Interactive Grade 5 Text and digital resources

## **Ancillary Resources**

---

Penguin's Who Was Series, "Who Was Christopher Columbus"

Internet Resources:

[www.pearsonrealize.com](http://www.pearsonrealize.com)

[www.history.com](http://www.history.com)

[www.stopbully.gov](http://www.stopbully.gov)

[www.edutopia.org](http://www.edutopia.org)

## **Technology Infusion**

---

MyWorld Interactive digital platform

Chromebooks

Google Classroom



## **Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology**

---

- English Language Arts;
- Science and Scientific Inquiry (Next Generation);
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology;

## **21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes**

---

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

## **21st Century Skills**

---

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

## **Differentiation**

---

### **Differentiations:**

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions

- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

#### **Hi-Prep Differentiations:**

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

#### **Lo-Prep Differentiations**

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw



- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

## **Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)**

---

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **English Language Learning (ELL)**

---

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **At Risk**

---

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)

---

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## Sample Lesson

---

**Unit Name:** The First Americans

### **NJSLS:**

SOC.5-8.1.2.1 Select and use various geographic representations to compare information about people, places, regions, and environments.

SOC.5-8.1.3.3 Analyze primary and secondary sources for reconstructing the past and understanding historical perspectives (i.e., documents, letters, diaries, maps, images, etc.).

**Interdisciplinary Connection:** Have students choose one of the American Indians groups and research the geographic features on the map. Students will complete a quick-write about the members of the group, resources they used, and benefits/challenges of their environment. Then, students will write a narrative using descriptive details and clear sequencing about the American Indian groups.

### **Statement of Objective:**

- Analyze maps.
- Interpret timelines.
- Place key events and people related to the early settlement of North America in a chronological sequence within a spatial context.
- Research an American Indian food and create a recipe for an American Indian restaurant.

**Anticipatory Set/Do Now:** Analyze a timeline and online map to discover where pre-Columbian groups in North America emerged.

**Learning Activity:**

- Describe & Define - Brainstorm students' family's traditional meals and the ingredients.
- Make Connections - Students can make a list of the ways the environment affects their traditional meals.
- Ask Questions - Students are assigned the task of planning a menu at a new restaurant that serves American Indians food to traditional groups.
- Research - Online resources

**Student Assessment/CFU's:**

- \* Write up Findings and asses based on a rubric.
- \* 5 Question Quiz

**Materials:**

- \* MyWorld Interactive 5 2019 Chapter 1 Lesson 1 and Quest
- \* Internet Resources: [http://lessonsoffourland.org/lessons?f\(0\)=im\\_field\\_grade\\_level%3A41](http://lessonsoffourland.org/lessons?f(0)=im_field_grade_level%3A41)

**21st Century Themes and Skills:**

- \* Information Literacy
- \* Media Literacy

**Differentiation/Modifications:**

- \* using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- \* check work frequently for understanding

**Integration of Technology:**

- \* Internet Resources: [http://lessonsoffourland.org/lessons?f\(0\)=im\\_field\\_grade\\_level%3A41](http://lessonsoffourland.org/lessons?f(0)=im_field_grade_level%3A41)
- \* Research recipes online that include slideshows or videos about authentic American Indian foods and preparation.