

# Grade 1 Unit 7: The American People

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies Grade 1**  
Time Period:  
Length: **10 days**  
Status: **Published**

## NJSLS - Social Studies

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SOC.6.1.2.CivicsDP.1	Explain how national symbols reflect on American values and principles.
SOC.6.1.2.CivicsDP.2	Use evidence to describe how democratic principles such as equality, fairness, and respect for legitimate authority and rules have impacted individuals and communities.
SOC.6.1.2.CivicsDP.3	Explain how historical symbols, monuments and holidays reflect the shared values, principles, and beliefs of the American identity.
SOC.6.1.2.CivicsCM.2	Use examples from a variety of sources to describe how certain characteristics can help individuals collaborate and solve problems (e.g., open-mindedness, compassion, civility, persistence).
SOC.6.1.2.CivicsCM.3	Explain how diversity, tolerance, fairness, and respect for others can contribute to individuals feeling accepted.
SOC.6.1.2.GeoSV.1	Use maps to identify physical features (e.g., continents, oceans, rivers, lakes, mountains).
SOC.6.1.2.HistoryUP.1	Use primary sources representing multiple perspectives to compare and make inferences about why there are different accounts of the same event.
SOC.6.1.2.HistoryUP.2	Use evidence to demonstrate how an individual's beliefs, values, and traditions may change and/or reflect more than one culture.

## Rationale & Transfer Goals

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Students in first grade will begin to understand traditions and customs. They will discuss American Indians and understand that they were the first people in North America. Students will learn about immigrants and why people move to new places. Students will understand that different cultures have different customs. Learners will understand what makes our country so diverse and the different roles each member has.

## Enduring Understandings

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- Children will learn what customs, traditions, and history Americans have in common and what makes the country's population diverse.

## Essential Questions

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- What are some celebrations that your family has had? What is a fun thing to do at a celebration?
- What is your role in your family when everyone helps around the house?
- What languages do you know? Do you know anyone who speaks a different language?

- Where can you see a picture of the entire world?

## **Important Vocabulary**

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- culture
- language
- history
- immigrant
- religion
- world
- custom
- tradition
- folktale
- celebration
- diverse
- role

## **Content - What students will know**

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- America's First People
- Coming to America
- People from near and far
- Living Culture
- Anansi The Spiderman
- Sharing Culture
- Out of Many, One
- American Families

## **Skills - What students will be able to do**

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- SWBAT Identify American Indians as the first people in North America and explain cultural contributions of American Indians.
- SWBAT Explain who immigrants are and why they move to new places.
- SWBAT Describe the experiences of immigrants and understand that immigrants come to America from all over the world.

- SWBAT Identify elements of culture and understand that customs and traditions are shared among families and groups.
- SWBAT Understand the folklore character of Anansi.
- SWBAT Describe a variety of cultural celebrations and understand that cultural celebrations are unique.
- SWBAT Describe what makes the United States Diverse and explain our country’s motto.
- SWBAT Identify roles within a family and describe the diversity of American families.

### **Instructional Activities - How we teach content and skills**

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- Reading Skills: Compare and Contrast
- Chart and Graph: Follow a flowchart
- Map and Globe: Follow a Route
- Unit 7 Magazine
- Little Thinkers Resource
- YouTube
- BrainPOP Jr
- Role Play

### **Evidence/Assessment - How we know students have learned**

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- Unit Assessment
- Benchmarks
- Teacher observation
- Class discussion
- informal assessments
- [Assessments](#)

### **Spiraling for Mastery**

<b>Content or Skill for this Unit</b>	<b>Spiral Focus from Previous Unit</b>	<b>Instructional Activity</b>
In this unit students will focus mostly on customs and traditions. Students may recall family traditions that they have and make connections with other students.	Holidays National holidays unite all Americans, as we celebrate our history.	Students will make connections with others and the customs and traditions they have.

	<p>U.S. Symbols Symbols, such as the U.S. flag, help us connect the present with our country’s past.</p> <p>Yesterday and Today Our traditions and customs originated sometime in the past.</p>	
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**Key Resources**

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- Unit 7 Magazine
- YouTube Videos
- Little Thinkers Resource
- Scholastic News Articles
- BrainPOP Jr.

**21st Century Life & Careers**

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WRK.9.1.2.CAP.1                      Make a list of different types of jobs and describe the skills associated with each job.

**Career Readiness, Life Literacies, & Key Skills**

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TECH.9.4.2.CI.1                      Demonstrate openness to new ideas and perspectives (e.g., 1.1.2.CR1a, 2.1.2.EH.1, 6.1.2.CivicsCM.2).

TECH.9.4.2.GCA.1                      Articulate the role of culture in everyday life by describing one’s own culture and comparing it to the cultures of other individuals (e.g., 1.5.2.C2a, 7.1.NL.IPERS.5, 7.1.NL.IPERS.6).

**Interdisciplinary Connections**

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TH.K-2.1.4.2.Cr2a	Contribute to the development of a sequential plot; collaborate with peers to devise a meaningful dialogue in a guided drama experience (e.g., process drama, story drama, creative drama).
MA.1.MD.A.1	Order three objects by length; compare the lengths of two objects indirectly by using a third object.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.SL1	Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
MU.K-2.1.3A.2.Pr6a	Perform music for a specific purpose with expression and technical accuracy.

## **Intersections of History**

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The traditions and customs of individuals of varying races, cultures, religions and orientations have shaped our world; Students will develop and build upon global awareness through current and past events. In this section students will build upon their knowledge of the American People and how diverse we are as a whole.

**Black:** Students will read *All Are Welcome*, a story about a diverse and inclusive school community, where everyone's traditions are not just tolerated but celebrated.

**Hispanic:** Students will read the story *Sing, Don't Cry* by Angela Dominguez and explore the Mexican song. In this story students will see that pain and loss are universal as the grandfather shares in voice and guitar to share his wisdom.

**Women:** Students will read the story *Pocahontas Princess of the New World* by Kathleen Krull. They will discover the fearless Native American that she was. Students will see the culture Native Americans left in North America.

**LGBTQ:** Students will read the story *A Family Is A Family, Is a Family* by Sara O'Leary and see that there are many different kinds of families. The traditional family is not the only family that exists. This will help students feel comfortable with the family that they have in their home.