Unit 6 - USA

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s): **Social Studies**
Time Period: **Ongoing**
Length: **approx 2 months**
Status: **Published**

NCS Kindergarten Social Studies Curriculum

BOE Adopted & Approved October 2017

Big Idea

Explore the United States of America

Important symbols to US and home states

First Americanas & European explorers

How our country has grown and changed

Essential Questions

What are some symbols of our country?

Who were the first Americans?

How did explorers come to America?

How has Thanksgiving changed?

How do we celebrate our country?

How has travel changed?

Who helps us?

Skills

Determine the impact of European colonization on Native American populations

Evaluate the voluntary and involuntary immigration on America's growth as a nation, historically, and today

Explain how folklore and the actions of famous historical and fictional characters from New Jersey and other regions of the US contributed to the American National Heritage

Describe how culture is expressed through and influenced by the behavior of people

Trace how the American identity evolved over time

Explain the role of historical symbols, monuments and holidays and how they affect the American identity

Learning Targets include but not limited to:

Some important symbols to the US

First people to live in the Americas were the Native Americans. They depended on natural resources to meet their needs

Explorers who journeyed to the Americas

Ways Thanksgiving has changed over time

Holidays and people that Americans celebrate and honor

How travel has changed over time - wagons, trains, cars, helicopters...

Understand the role scientists and inventors have played in the US

Activities include but not limited to:

United States Symbols

Who was Pocahontas?

Columbus Rhyme - sing and create ships

Thanksgiving Today/Long Ago

The Pledge of Allegiance

Travel Then/Now

People who help - create a class book

Standards

Includes but not limited to:

Assessments

Classroom Participation

Teacher Observation

Anecdotal notes

Classwork

Homework

Reviews & Tests

Resources/Instructional Materials

Holidays/Important Patriotic dates

Workbooks/Practice books

Atlas & Maps

Trade books

Read Aloud books

Modifications

Modifications for Special Education Students	Note IEP, audio recordings, digital media, screen casts, visual presentation, study guides, outlines
Modifications for English Language Learners	Extended time, assign preferential seating, positive reinforcement, peer tutoring, study guides, lower reading level, read directions aloud, alternative assignments, study guides, outlines
Modifications for Students Who Lack Support for School	Extended time, assign preferential seating, positive reinforcement, peer tutoring, study guides, lower reading

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Modifications for Gifted Students	Integrate, abstract, complex and varied assignments, freedom of choice when applicable, variable pacing levels

Integration of 21st Century Skills

Focus on the development of 21st Century Content Skills:

- Global awareness
- Civic literacy
- Health and wellness awareness
- Environmental literacy

Focus on the Development of Learning and Thinking Skills:

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills
- Communication Skills
- Creativity and Innovation Skills
- Collaboration Skills
- Information and Media Literacy Skills
- Contextual Learning Skills

Focus on the Development of Life Skills:

- Leadership
- Ethics
- Accountability
- Adaptability
- Personal Productivity
- Personal Responsibility
- People Skills
- Self Direction
- Social Responsibility

Interdisciplinary Connections

- Academic and Technical Rigor - Projects are designed to address key learning standards identified by the school or district.
- Authenticity - Projects use a real world context (e.g., community and workplace problems) and address issues that matter to the students.
- Applied Learning - Projects engage students in solving problems calling for competencies expected in

high-performance work organizations (e.g.,teamwork, problem-solving, communication, etc.).

- Active Exploration - Projects extend beyond the classroom by connecting to internships, fieldbased investigations, and community explorations.
- Adult Connections - Projects connect students with adult mentors and coaches from the wider community.
- Assessment Practices - Projects involve students in regular, performance-based exhibitions and assessments of their work; evaluation criteria reflect personal, school, and real-world standards of performance.