



An At-Home Guide for Families

Second Grade Social Studies in North Carolina Public Schools

Content Outline

At the end of the year, my child will know...

- **Unit #1: Behavioral Sciences**
 - What does diversity mean in America?
 - How have cultures around the world influenced American culture?
 - How do different beliefs and values of cultural groups contribute to the art, music, customs, and traditions in the United States of America?
 - How to identify the similarities and differences of one's own culture and values?
 - How have the Iroquois Tuscaroran People influenced America?
 - How has the Cherokee Tribe influenced America?

- **Unit #2: Civics & Government**
 - How have the principles of democracy shaped the American government?
 - How does the government protect the freedom and equality of American people?
 - How do the three branches of the American government work?
 - How are the three branches of the American government the same and different?
 - How do different groups of people advocate for freedom and equality?

- **Unit #3: Economics**
 - What are the meanings of key economic vocabulary?
 - How does scarcity affect economic decisions in terms of needs versus wants?
 - How does scarcity affect economic decisions in terms of supply and demand?
 - How does the availability of resources impact the production of goods?
 - How does the availability of limited resources impact the production of goods?

- **Unit #4: Geography**
 - What is absolute location and how can I use it to describe my location?
 - What is absolute location and how can I use it with maps and globes?
 - What is relative location?
 - How can we figure out the absolute and relative location of a place?
 - How do different environments impact American settlements?
 - How has the movement of goods, people and ideas impacted American development?

- **Unit #5: History**
 - Which historical events have shaped America?
 - What was the impact of the suffrage movement in America?
 - How do people advocate for freedom and equality in America?
 - How does the working woman differ from the traditional woman?









- How did Rosie the Riveter impact America through propaganda?








Curious what the specific standards are for Kindergarten Math in North Carolina?

Check out the [North Carolina Standard Course of Study](#) to learn more. Looking for additional explanations about what students should be able to do at the end of this course? Check out [NC DPI's unpacked contents document](#) aligned to the course standards.









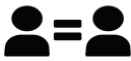
Key Vocabulary

Visual	Term	Definition
	Culture	The way of life for groups of people
	Diversity	A variety of differences
	Immigrant	A person who comes to live in a different country
	Culture	The way of life for groups of people
	Culture Iceberg	A model that explains that some parts of culture you can see and some parts of culture you cannot see
	Harlem Renaissance	A time period in American History where African Americans advanced their way of life by sharing their culture through music, writings, and art








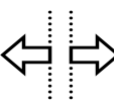




Visual	Term	Definition
	Value	How important something is or is worth
	Belief	What you think to be truthful or real
	Share	Someone having a part of something that also belongs to you
	Cultivate	To prepare and to use for growing plants
	Trade	The buying and selling of goods and services
	Iroquois Tuscarora Tribe	A North Carolina Native American tribe known for their planting, hunting, and medicines
	Cherokee	An American Indian group of people that originated from Tennessee and North Carolina













Visual	Term	Definition
	Customs	An activity or a way of behaving
	Influence	To have an effect on someone's behavior
	government	The system of rules and the people who make and administer them
	democracy	Government run by the people
	Declaration of Independence	The founding document of the United States that proclaimed freedom from Great Britain
	majority rule	More than half the people in a group come to some sort of an agreement
	republicanism	Government that emphasizes the participation of citizens for the common good of the community, all the people
	freedom	The ability to make choices
	equality	The state of being treated equally














Visual	Term	Definition
	rights	The freedoms people have that are protected by law
	Constitution	The laws of the American nation
	Bill of Rights	The first 10 amendments of the US Constitution
	Executive branch	The branch of government that enforces laws
	Legislative branch	The branch of government that makes the laws
	Judicial branch	The branch of government that evaluates the laws
	Checks and Balances	A system allowing each branch to make sure the others are not too powerful
	Separation of Powers	The power of each branch of government is separate
	Boycotts	To refuse to do something in order to bring about change
	Protests	The actions of a group who want to see change

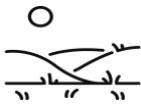



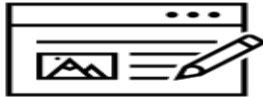
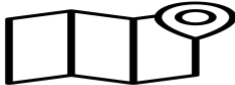





Visual	Term	Definition
	Civil Rights	The rights given to all people in a nation
	Suffrage Movements	The fight for women's right to vote
	Petitions	Written requisitions signed by many people to bring change
	scarcity	A small supply
	economic decisions	Decisions made to create wealth
	goods	Items that can be bought and sold
	availability	The possibility of getting something
	resources	Natural and man-made things that people pay for
	natural resources	The things we use from nature
	services	Tasks that consumers pay for





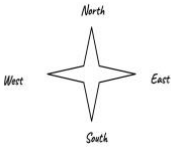



Visual	Term	Definition
	needs	Things we buy to survive
	wants	Things we buy to be happy
	spending	When money is used to make purchases
	supply	The amount of a product that is available
	demand	The number of people who want to buy a product
	Dustbowl	Drought from the 1930's that caused crop loss
	Great Depression	A decade of economic struggle
	Pandemic	A global epidemic that caused supply shortages
	Time	A limited resource that people must use wisely
	Raw Materials	Limited resources that are used to make the things people want and need to buy.
	Money	The limited resource used to make the economy function


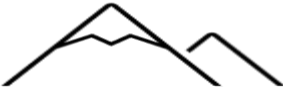



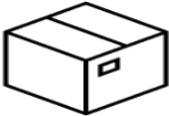

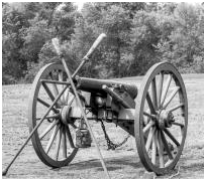


Visual	Term	Definition
	Land	A limited resource used to live and work on
	Labor	People are paid for their limited ability to do work
	Location	The place where something is located
	Absolute Location	An exact point on Earth where something is located
	Address	The place on Earth where someone lives
	Map	A drawing of Earth
	Globe	A round representation of Earth
 <small>Created by Gonzalo Bravo from the Noun Project</small>	Lines of Longitude	Imaginary lines that go around the Earth from East to West
 <small>Created by Gonzalo Bravo from the Noun Project</small>	Lines of Latitude	Imaginary lines that go around the Earth from North to South










Visual	Term	Definition
 <small>Created by Jems Mayor from the Noun Project</small>	Prime Meridian	An imaginary line that divides Earth into the Eastern and Western Hemisphere
 <small>Created by PenSmasher</small>	Equator	An imaginary line that divides Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemisphere
	Relative Location	Describes locations in relation to other places
	Compass Rose	A symbol that helps you read maps. The arrows on it point to the directions
	Cardinal Directions	The four points on a compass rose: North, East, South and West
	Settlement	A place where people live and work together. Sometimes they are large and sometimes they are small.




Visual	Term	Definition
	Landform	The different shapes of Earth's land
	Mountain	Rises high above an area. Can have steep sides and a peak. A kind of landform.
	River	A long, moving body of freshwater. A kind of landform
	Plains	Mostly flat land. A kind of landform.
	Movement	How goods, people and ideas travel from one location to another
	Import	To bring goods to another country
	Export	To send out goods to another country
	Civil War	A war fought between Northern America and Southern America over the right to own people and force them to work



Visual	Term	Definition
	Labor	Working in order to produce something
	Segregation	The separation of people based off of the color of their skin
	Integration	To mix and bring together
	Gender Role	To be expected to act a certain way based off of your gender
	Traditional Woman	A woman who does the roles of what society expects a woman to do such as cook, clean, and tend to her children
	Working Woman	A woman who goes to work instead of staying home
	Rosie the Riveter	A popular poster of a female factory worker flexing her muscles to encourage women to work in the factories that helped produce war materials for World War II.



Visual	Term	Definition
	Propaganda	A form of communication to distribute information

Learning in Action: Grade Level Skills

Examples of Grade Level Skills



How have cultures around the world influenced American culture?

One way that people show their different ways of life for their specific group is through their culture. Sometimes we may see people celebrate certain birthdays in different ways. People even eat certain things different from each other. The way that they celebrate and eat is heavily influenced by their culture!



What is Culture?

The word culture is very important when we talk about the identity of a group of people. The different cultures in America influence how people move, think, and act. Culture means the way of life for groups of people. Let's look at how people's culture affects their lifestyles.



Unit #1: Behavioral Sciences



How have the Iroquois Tuscaroran People Influenced America?

There are so many things that we, as Americans are so accustomed to today, that we actually adapted from other cultures. The Tuscarora tribe is one of those groups of people that we can thank for some of our ways of life.

They are known for their help for the advancement of medicine, trade, planting, and hunting. The Tuscarora Tribe created a unique way of cultivating and producing crops in which they used for food and medicine!

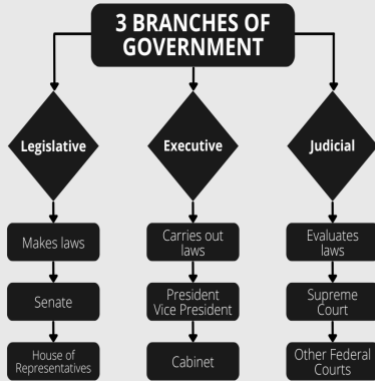
Unit #2: Civics & Government



What is Democracy?

The American government is a democracy. That means all citizens, or people, who live in the United States have a say in how the government runs. America is also considered a republic. That means the citizens of the United States vote for and elect representatives to share their ideas and opinions and to help pass laws that they agree with.

The people who are elected live and work in the U.S. capital, Washington, D.C. These elected officials are all a part of the United States Congress.



Explain three branches of the Government.

The Executive Branch - The executive branch is made of the president, the vice president, the Cabinet, and the Executive Office of the President. The leader of the executive branch is the president of the United States of America.

The Legislative Branch - Congress makes up the legislative branch. The Senate and the House of Representatives are the two parts of Congress. This branch of government makes, writes, and votes on laws.

The Judicial Branch - The judicial branch is made up of the Supreme Court and other courts. The Supreme Court has nine members who are Judges called justices. The most important job of the judicial branch is to evaluate, or check out, laws to understand the meaning and to make sure the laws match what the Constitution of the United States says.



Explain Freedom, Equality, and Rights

Freedom is the ability to make choices and do what you want to do, as long as your actions do not hurt others. All American people have freedom to make choices and that freedom is protected by the government and elected officials.

Equality means that people are treated the same way, no matter what they look like or where they come from. The founding documents of the United States, including the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, discussed the importance of equality. Rules and laws are continuously changed and put into place to make sure that all American citizens are treated equally.

Rights are a set of rules or principles of what is allowed. There are different types of rights that people have.



Human rights are the freedoms that all people are born with. Human rights include the right to live as a free person, the right to have shelter and food, and the right not to be mistreated. These rights belong to all humans just because they are human. Civil rights are the freedoms that citizens of a government have. These rights from the government may decide who can vote, who can buy property, or who can be educated.

Unit #3: Economics



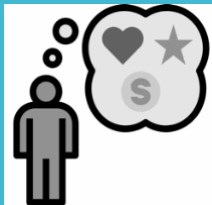
Explain wants and needs.

People use their money to buy resources. Resources can be things that people need, like food, water, and shelter. Resources can also be things that people want, like cell phones, toys, and televisions. Some goods are the things people need, like healthy food, vehicles, Furniture, Toys, computers, etc. Other goods are the things people want, such as games and tablets.



Explain how scarcity affects the ways people buy the things they need and want.

Scarcity means there is not enough of a product. Scarcity can have an effect on the concept of supply and demand. Supply is the amount of a product that is available. Demand is the number of people who want a product.



Explain what supply and demand are.

Supply and demand have a cause and effect relationship. If supply is high and demand is low, that means there is more product than the number of people who want the product. This often leads to stores and sellers lowering the price of the product that consumers do not want. If supply is low and demand is high, that means there is not enough of a product for all the consumers who wish to buy the product. This often leads to stores and sellers increasing the price of the product that consumers want.

Unit #4: Geography



What is a Globe?

This is a globe. A globe is a circular representation of Earth. You can use a globe to find your absolute location.

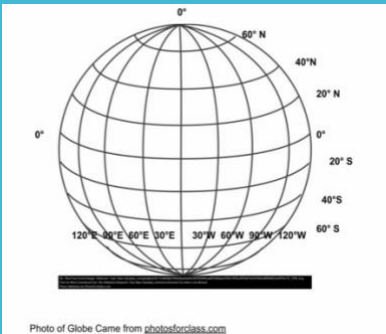


Photo of Globe Came from photosforclass.com

Explain Lines of Latitude.

These are imaginary lines that run north to south. The equator is the starting point. It measures at 0°. They help to measure the distance of a place from the north or the south of the equator. Lines that run north of the equator have a N at the end. Lines that run south of the equator have a S at the end.



Why did the Colonists come to America?

Colonists came for many reasons. For example, a chance of a new life, to own land, religious freedom. Many colonial towns and cities were established along the east coast. Some of the towns are: Boston, MA Philadelphia, PA, New York, NY, Wilmington, NC. Being near water was important because it was easy to import and export goods.

Unit #5: History



What is Civil War?

There was a time in our history where the world was divided based off of the color of your skin. African Americans represented a darker skin color and they were treated unfairly. During this time, people were able to force African Americans to work without any pay. The work was very cruel and very difficult. America was split into two. The North thought that this idea was wrong. The south thought that this idea was right! There were so many people who fought on both sides to try to make the opposing side agree with their way of thinking. This fight ended up being named “The Civil War”. This War, and the people involved, helped shape America to what it is today!



Explain the Women’s Suffrage Movement.

The fight for equal rights did not just happen between races, but also between genders. Women were not treated equal to men at one point in our history. All of the laws and rules that were made were all decided on between men. Women were not allowed to vote. Women had no say so in the decisions that they were made to follow. There were a lot of women who stood up and took a chance to fight for the rights of all women. This movement was called “The Women’s Suffrage Movement”.



Explain gender roles in America.



In today's time both men and women go to work everyday. Did you know that there was a time when only the men worked and women stayed home to tend to the house and the children? These were the gender roles in America. All that changed when America entered World War II and the men left to go fight in the war. Women began to step out of their traditional roles and change the view on a woman's responsibility.

Resources

Links and online resources to allow you to support your child's learning.

- [Needs and Wants](#)- Watch Needs and Wants video and discuss with students. Pause the video when the narrator asks questions in order to engage students in valuable discussion.
- [Khan Academy Video-Scarcity](#)- Watch Scarcity video and discuss with students. This video is meant for older students, so pause frequently to discuss the meaning of words and to summarize ideas in developmentally appropriate language.
- [PBIS Video](#)-Discuss the difference between needs and wants, then view the Happiness and use the included question stems to support learning.
- [Harlem Renaissance](#)-Watch the video and create a chart of things you learned about the Harlem Renaissance.
- [Native American History](#)-Watch the video and create a PowerPoint that teaches others about the Native American History.
- [LearnBright](#)-Watch and discuss democracy.
- [Ducksters:Civil Rights](#)-Use information to help students understand civil rights.
- [Google Earth](#)-Use Google Earth to explore the absolute and relative location or town/city and state.
- [What are Maps?](#)-Students will watch a short video to learn more about how maps are used.
- [Women Suffrage](#)-Use information to learn about women's movement for right to vote.

At-Home Connections

- Tell me what new information you have learned.
- Tell me the difference between the three branches of the government.



- Tell me what this information reminds you of.
- Tell me what questions you still have.
- Tell me what you know about supply and demand.
- Tell me how you think we can find more information about this topic.
- Tell me why video games are more expensive when they first come in the market.
- Tell me the meaning of diversity in your own words.
- Tell me what you know about the Civil Rights Movement.
- Tell me the relative location of your best friend's house.
- Tell me what is the address of your school.
- Tell me why you think colonists came to America.

Challenges to Anticipate

Students will also be asked to think critically and write about what they are learning. It is hard to watch our children struggle but this is an important part of the learning process. Be supportive and encouraging when struggles happen. Reach out to your child's teacher if needed and have open dialogue with your child when challenges arise. If students are stuck and unsure of how to respond to an assessment, a written question, or any part of the work, read your student's responses and listen to them to get a sense of their thinking. Ask clarifying questions such as, "What does this remind you of?", "How do you know this?", "What evidence do you have?"

Communicating with Your Child's Teacher

Still feeling stuck? Reach out to your child's teacher to discuss what you can do further your child's learning. Some questions that might guide your discussion:

- What resources would you suggest I use to support my child?
- Where do you see my child struggling? What can we do together to help?
- What should my child practice at home?
- What collective message can we send together to help my child learn?

Need Technical Help?

Reach out to your student's home school for technical assistance. Include the type of device (PC, Mac, Chromebook, etc.) and browser (Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc.).

Citations:

Cornes, R. (2011). *Globe*. Pics4Learning. <https://pics4learning.com/details.php?img=globe12.jpg>

Encyclopædia Britannica, inc. (n.d.). *Harlem Renaissance*. Encyclopædia Britannica. Retrieved February 24, 2023, from <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Harlem-Renaissance/353232>



RETHINK EDUCATION

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