



# An At-Home Guide for Families

3rd Grade Social Studies in North Carolina Public Schools

## Course Outline

### **At the end of the course, my child will know...**

- Describe absolute location
- Explain how absolute location impacts our local community
- Describe relative location
- Explain how relative location impacts our local community
- Describe the climate of our local community
- Explain how the climate of our local community impacts the way people live
- Describe the physical characteristics of our local community
- Explain how the physical characteristics of our local community impact the way people live.
- Create compelling questions with peers about how geography (location, climate, physical characteristics) impacts our community.
- Create supporting questions with peers that relate to how geography impacts our community
- Identify the roles of local government leaders.
- Identify the roles of state government leaders.
- Sort various roles of state and local government leaders
- Identify the responsibilities of local government leaders.
- Identify the responsibilities of state government leaders.
- Sort various responsibilities of state and local government leaders
- Identify the structure of our state government
- Identify the structure of our local government
- Compare the similarities and differences of the structure of our state and local government
- Identify how our state government functions
- Identify how our local government functions
- Compare the similarities and differences of how our state and local government functions
- Describe the values, beliefs, and cultures of the American Indians living in our local area and state
- Explain how the experiences and achievements of American Indians contribute to our local community and state
- Explain how the experiences and achievements of African Americans contribute to our local community and state
- Explain how the experiences and achievements of women contribute to our local community and state
- Identify values, beliefs, cultural practices, and traditions of various groups in our local community
- Compare different values, beliefs, cultural practices, and traditions of individuals in our local and regional community
- Explain how and when our local communities were established



- Explain who helped establish and form our local communities
- Explain how various groups of people (women, religious, racial) contributed to how our town was established
- Use selected teacher sources to learn about symbols and events in our local communities
- Compare various interpretations of historical symbols and events in our local communities
- Explain how events have changed our local communities over time (conflict, disease, innovation, geography, etc)
- Identify how our communities have changed overtime
- Create compelling questions with peers about how innovation and technology may change our communities now and in the future
- Create supporting questions that relate to a compelling question about how innovation and technology may change our communities now and in the future
- Create responses to supporting questions with peers
- Identify examples of movement of goods
- Explain how the movement of goods is impacted by the geography of our local community.
- Identify examples of movement of people and ideas
- Explain how movement of people and ideas are impacted by the geography of our local community
- Identify groups of people who have moved to and from our community overtime (trail of tears, gold rush, migrating for natural disasters, etc.)
- Explain how the movement of people has impacted our local community overtime (trail of tears, gold rush, migrating for natural disasters, etc.)
- Identify natural resources in our local community
- Give examples of goods that are produced in our community
- Explain how natural resources impact goods that are produced in our community
- Give examples of goods that are produced in our community
- Explain how natural resources impact goods that are produced and consumed in our community
- Define and provide examples of supply and demand
- Summarize how supply and demand impacts local economies
- Describe entrepreneurship
- Gives examples of various entrepreneurs that impact our community
- Explain how entrepreneurs impact our local community
- Explain how our local government makes decisions and solves problems in our community.
- Compare how our local government solves problems with how state leaders solve problems.
- Identify a problem that needs to be solved by local or state government leaders
- Create compelling questions with peers about a problem that needs to be solved by local or state government leaders
- Create supporting questions that relate to a compelling question about a problem that needs to be solved by government leaders
- Create responses to supporting questions with peers
- Identify sources that can help answer students compelling and support questions about a problem that needs to be solved by government leaders
- Identify academic and domain specific words in sources related to the compelling question about a problem that needs to be solved by government leaders
- Create a claim in response to a compelling question about a problem that needs to be solved by government leaders


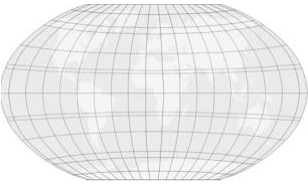
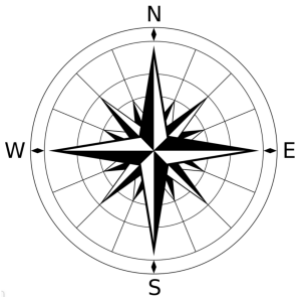
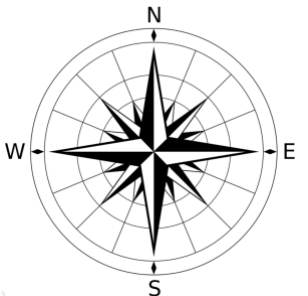


- Make inferences about the compelling question using teacher provided resources
- Create a response to identify ways to solve a problem that needs to be solved by government leaders.


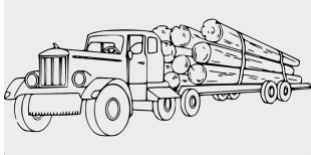




**Curious what the specific standards are for 3rd Grade Social Studies in North Carolina?**

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](#).



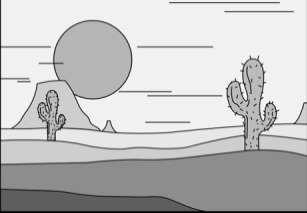

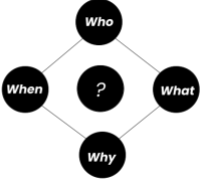

## Key Vocabulary

Visual	Term	Definition
	Absolute Location	Absolute location is the exact location of a place.
	Coordinates	A grid system can be used to find a location. The exact location on a grid system is its coordinates. You can find a location's coordinates on a map by looking at its longitude and latitude.
	Compass Rose	A compass rose is a circle showing the four cardinal directions (North, South, East, West) on a map.
	Directions	The four cardinal directions are North, South, East, and West. They help you find locations on a map.

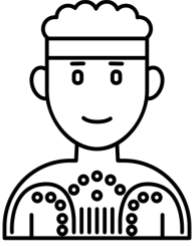



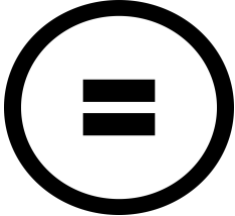


Visual	Term	Definition
	Relative Location	Relative location is the location of a place as it relates to another place.
	Resources	Resources are things that people can use. They can be natural or man-made.
	climate	Climate is the pattern of weather in a location for a long period of time.
	temperature	Temperature is how hot or cold something is.
	weather	Weather is what the sky and air are like outside.
	equator	The equator is an imaginary line of latitude that receives the most sunlight on Earth. Places on the equator are among the hottest on planet Earth.


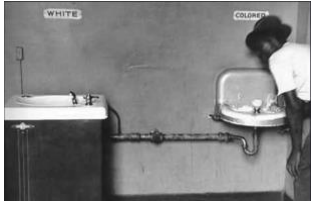





Visual	Term	Definition
	physical characteristic/ physical feature	A physical characteristic or a physical feature is a feature of a place such as its water, land, or plant life.
	landform	A landform is a physical feature of the land such as a valley, a hill, a mountain, or a plateau.
	region	A region is an area of land that is distinct in its physical features from other areas of land.
	Geography	Geography is the location, climate, and physical features of a place.
	Supporting questions	Supporting questions are questions that focus on descriptions, definitions, and processes.
	Compelling questions	Compelling questions are questions that make you use what you know in order to form and support an opinion or belief.


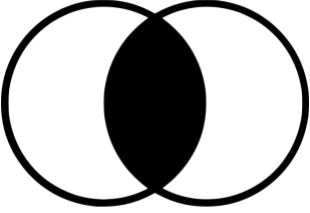
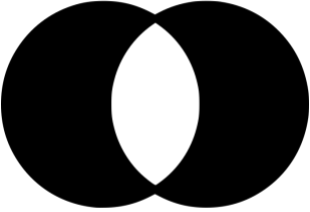




Visual	Term	Definition
 <small>Created by Amethyst Studio from the Noun Project</small>	Indigenous	Indigenous refers to the people who belong to a group that was the earliest known inhabitants of a place.
	Belief	A belief is something that is accepted, considered to be true, or held as an opinion.
	Culture	A culture is the beliefs, values, and practices of a group of people.
	American Indians	American Indians are the indigenous peoples of America.
	Civil Rights	Civil rights are rights that give everyone equal treatment.








Visual	Term	Definition
	Discrimination	Discrimination is the unfair or unequal treatment of a certain person or group of people.
	Segregation	Segregation means keeping people apart.
	Suffrage	Suffrage is the right to vote.
	Amendment	An amendment is a change to something that has already been written.
<b>Created by Nithinan Tatal</b>		
	Role	A role is the part a person plays in a group or a community.
<small>Created by Creative Mahira from the Noun Project</small>		




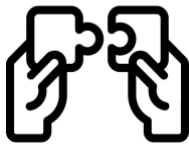


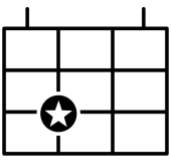

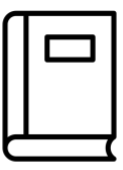
Visual	Term	Definition
 <small>Created by myladkings from the Noun Project</small>	Right	A right is something people are free to do.
 <small>Created by kenneu from the Noun Project</small>	Compare	When you compare, you tell how two or more things are alike.
 <small>Created by kenneu from the Noun Project</small>	Contrast	When you contrast, you tell how two or more things are different.
 <small>Created by luicv Fish</small>	Tradition	A tradition is something that is passed on from older family members to children.
	Immigrant	An immigrant is a person who comes from another place to live in a country.










Visual	Term	Definition
	Religion	A religion is a set of beliefs about God or gods.
	establish	To create something that is recognized.
 <small>Created by Creative Mania from Noun Project</small>	community	A community is a group of people living in a certain area. A community can be made up of a large or small group of people. The land area of a community can also be large or small.
	town	An area with buildings and streets where people live. It is smaller than a city.
	city	An area where people live. A city has more people living there than a town.






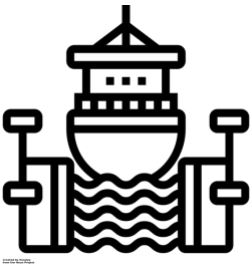
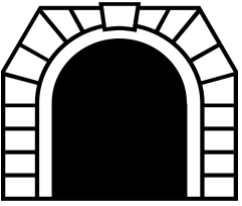
Visual	Term	Definition
	timeline	A way to show events in the order they happened. It helps us see the history of a community.
	contribute	To give or add to help create or build something.
	impact	To have a strong effect on something.
	interpretation	Explanation or understanding of something. Our personal view can affect our interpretation.
 <small>Created by Mosaic, icon from Noun Project</small>	event	A special or important happening
	primary source	An original document, photograph, record, or any artifact created at the time of an event or happening.
 <small>Created by Altam, icon from Noun Project</small>	secondary source	An item or record of the past created after or since the time of the event.








Visual	Term	Definition
	symbol	A picture or object that represents something else or stands for something.
	research	Using sources to learn new information about a topic.
	innovation	New ideas, processes or objects.
	technology	Using new ideas to invent things.
	Transportation	Transportation is the movement of people or goods.

Created by Smalllike

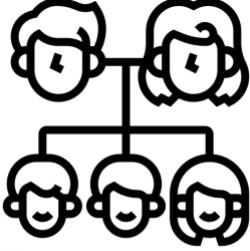







Visual	Term	Definition
	Goods	A good is a thing that can be bought or sold.
	Distribution	Distribution is the sending of goods to stores to sell to consumers.
Created by Nithinan Tatal		
	Consumer	A consumer is a person who buys goods and services.
	Canal	Canals are man made waterways that are dug across land.
	Tunnel	Tunnels are paths that run through or under the land.



Visual	Term	Definition
	Idea	An idea is a thought or an opinion.
	Language	Language is a system that people use to communicate, or share information.
	Settle	To settle means to move and live in a new community.
	settler	A settler is a person who comes to live in a new community.
	settlement	A settlement is a new community.


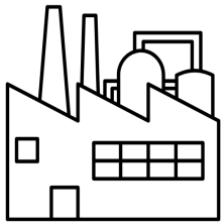






Visual	Term	Definition
	generation	A generation is a group of people about the same age.
	evacuated	To be evacuated means to leave from a place in an organized way, especially due to safety.
	conflict	A conflict is an opposition or struggle between two or more people or two or more groups of people.
	economy	The way that people make and spend money.
	natural resources	Something that you can find in nature that people can use to either grow or make things they need.
	goods	Things that people produce that can be used.

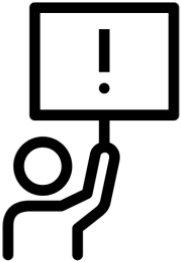





Created by Start Up Grap

Created by Adrien Coquet  
from the Noun Project



Visual	Term	Definition
	produce	To make, grow or create something.
	production	Process of creating goods and services
	consumption	Using goods and services to meet people's needs or wants.
	producers	Someone who makes things.
	consumers	Someone who buys things
	supply	Goods and services that are available.








Visual	Term	Definition
	demand	What goods and services people want or need.
	services	Work that a person does to offer things that people want or need.
	surplus	When producers have more of something than consumers want
	stockpile	An amount of goods you save for later.
	entrepreneur	Someone who starts and runs a business.
	Local Government	A local government is the government of a city or a county.

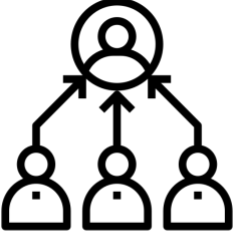

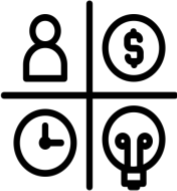
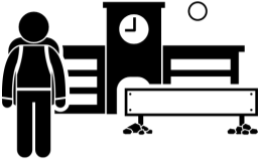
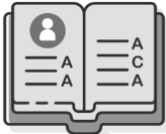

Created by Made by Made  
from the Noun Project








Visual	Term	Definition
 <small>Created by Leonardo Schneider from the Noun Project</small>	State Government	A state government is the government of the state.
	Public Servant	A public servant is a person who makes decisions and takes action for the community.
 <small>Created by Creative Mania from the Noun Project</small>	Elected	An elected official is one who is decided on by a vote.
 <small>Created by Kamin Ginkae</small>	Appointed	An appointed official is one who is named to their position.
 <small>Created by Wilson Joseph from the Noun Project</small>	Government Service	A government service is a service that the government provides everyone in a certain area.



Visual	Term	Definition
	Representative	A representative is a person chosen by a group of people to act or speak for them.
<p>Created by Becris</p> 	Governor	A governor is the elected leader of a state's government.
<p>Created by WEBTECHOPS LLP from the Noun Project</p> 	Resource	A resource is a source of supply or support.
<p>Created by Ahmad Roaay</p> 	source	Person, book, or other primary or secondary document that helps provide information.
	academic words	Words that help us talk about our learning
	domain specific words	Words that belong to a specific subject.



Visual	Term	Definition
	claim	A statement that answers a question.
	inference	An idea that comes from what you have read and what you already know.
	solution	An answer to solving a problem.

## Learning in Action: Grade Level Skills

### Examples of Grade Level Skills

**Skill:** Describe the values, beliefs, and cultures of the American Indians living in our local area and state.

**Task:** Students create an image and caption that could be added to a nonfiction book about Indigenous Americans focusing on North Carolina tribes.

**Skill:** Explain how the experiences and achievements of African Americans contribute to our local community and state.

**Task:** Students will create a wax museum exhibit about a famous African-American's experiences and contribution to our community. Students will research a famous African-American and create a short monologue about their chosen person. The monologue should include when the person was born, something about their childhood, and what they were known for and/or what contribution they have made to our community.

**Skill:** Identify examples of movement of goods.

**Task:** Students create a list of 3 ways goods can be moved. Students then select one way goods move and explain how geography might negatively affect the distribution of goods using this means of transportation and how this obstacle could be overcome.

**Skill:** Create a claim in response to a compelling question about a problem that needs to be



solved by government leaders.

**Task:** Students use their compelling question and supporting questions about a problem they want to solve in the community and create a claim and a solution.

## Resources

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

- [Khan Academy](#)
- [Ducksters History For Kids](#)

## At-Home Connections

Engage in conversations about learning experiences by asking questions such as:

- What new information have you learned so far?
- Tell me what this information reminds you of.
- What period of history are you studying?
- Which part of the class do you enjoy most and why?
- What questions do you still have?
- How could we get those questions answered?

## Challenges to Anticipate

Throughout the Social Studies curriculum, students will develop the skills needed to evaluate multiple historical perspectives and how these perspectives impacted the forming of the United States and North Carolina. Students will learn about primary and secondary sources, and will use charts and maps to analyze historical events. Students may need to read and review sources more than one time to fully understand the message. Parents can assist their students by breaking reading passages into chunks to analyze them before putting it all together. Parents can also help students by guiding them to reliable and credible online resources when conducting research.

Students will also be asked to think critically and write about what they are learning. If they are stuck and unsure of how to respond, read your student’s writing 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?



## RETHINK EDUCATION

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

- 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**

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