



Secondary Curriculum and Development

ALIGN, ADVANCE, ENGAGE.

Social Studies – Grade 8

2021-2022 Pacing Calendar

Units of Instruction

Unit 1: The Thirteen Colonies

This four-part unit begin with an exploration of the importance of history. The remaining lessons focus on Jamestown and Plymouth, the first two English settlements in the Americas, and then uses the concepts of Economic, Social/Cultural, Political, and eNvironmental [ESPN] factors that are critical in examining continuing settlement patterns in the original thirteen English colonies.

2021		August				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
	Enrichment Opportunities					
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
	Enrichment Opportunities					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Teacher Service Days (no students)		Teacher Prep Day (no students)	Teacher Service Days (no students)		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Unit 1 (7 90-min. or 14 45-min. class periods)					
29	30	31	01	02	03	04
	Unit 1 (7 90-min. or 14 45-min. class periods)					
05	06	Notes: Aug. 16-20 - Teacher Service Days (no students)				



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Unit 1: The Thirteen Colonies

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Unit 2: Causes of the American Revolution

This two-part unit examines the concept of causation, conflict and leadership to analyze causes of the American Revolution including those individuals who assumed leadership in that conflict. Students will study the Declaration of Independence and identify the important ideas and the role of this document in the foundation of our country.

2021		September				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	01 Unit 1 (7 90-min. or 14 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04
05	06 Labor Day	07 Unit 1 (7 90-min. or 14 45-min. class periods)	08	09	10	11
12	13 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	14	15	16 Fall Holiday	17 Teacher Service Day (no students)	18
19	20 Unit 2 (4 90-min. or 8 45-min. class periods)	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Unit 2 (4 90-min. or 8 45-min. class periods)	28	29	30 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	01	02
03	04	Notes: Sept. 6 - Labor Day Sept. 16 - Fall Holiday Sept. 17 - Teacher Service Day (no students)				

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Units of Instruction

Unit 2: Causes of the American Revolution

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Unit 3: The American Revolution

In this two-part unit students examine how battles including Lexington/Concord, Saratoga, and Yorktown are turning points in the American Revolution and in history. The unit concludes with an examination of the short- and long-term effects of the United States fight for freedom against Britain.

Unit 4: Constitutional Convention

This two-part unit bridges the gap between the government during the American Revolution and the ratification of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Students focus on major events, significant individuals, and key ideas of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, including debates between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists.

2021		October				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	01 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	02 END OF CYCLE 1
03	04 Teacher Service Day (no students)	05 Unit 3 (5 90-min. or 10 45- min. class periods)	06	07	08	09
10	11 Unit 3 (5 90-min. or 10 45- min. class periods)	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Unit 3 (5 90-min. or 10 45- min. class periods)	19 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	20	21	22	23
24	25 Unit 4 (5 90-min. or 10 45-min. class periods)	26	27	28	29	30
31	01	Notes: Oct. 4 - Teacher Service Day (no students)				



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Unit 4: Constitutional Convention

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Unit 5: The Constitution: Principles and Bill of Rights

In this three-part unit students study the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights to understand the structure and function of democracy in the United States. In this unit students also study constitutional principles, landmark cases and the processes of amendment and judicial review.

2021		November				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	01 Unit 4 (5 90-min. or 10 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04	05	06
07	08 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	09	10	11	12	13 END OF CYCLE 2
14	15 Unit 5 (6 90-min. or 12 45-min. class periods)	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Thanksgiving						
28	29 Unit 5 (6 90-min. or 12 45-min. class periods)	30	01	02	03	04
05	06	Notes: Nov. 22-26 - Thanksgiving Break				



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Unit 5: The Constitution: Principles and Bill of Rights

In this three-part unit students study the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights to understand the structure and function of democracy in the United States. In this unit students also study constitutional principles, landmark cases and the processes of amendment and judicial review.

Unit 6: Domestic and Foreign Policies in the New Republic 1789-1820s

In this three-part unit students examine the formative years of the United States concentrating on the period from 1789 to 1820. Students study the growing power of the federal government, the development of national political parties, and the emergence of the United States as a powerful force in foreign affairs.

2021		December				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	01 Unit 5 (6 90-min. or 12 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04
05	06 Unit 5 (6 90-min. or 12 45-min. class periods)	07	08 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	09	10	11
12	13 Unit 6 (5 90-min. or 10 45-min. class periods)	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Enrichment Opportunities		Winter Break			
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
	Winter Break					
02	03	Notes: Dec. 20-31 - Winter Break				



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Units of Instruction

Unit 6: Domestic and Foreign Policies in the New Republic 1789-1820s

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Unit 7: The Young Nation Grows and Expands

This three-part unit examines the Young Nation period focusing on the concept of ESP causation [Economic, Social, and Political]. Students study the economic impact of the Industrial Revolution as inventions and inventors transformed production; the social/cultural significance of various reform movements and their leaders which contributed to significant societal change; and the westward expansion of the United States under the banner of the political idea of Manifest Destiny and American empire.

2022	January					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
02	03 Unit 6 (5 90-min. or 10 45-min. class periods)	04	05	06	07	08
09	10 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	18 Teacher Prep Day (no students)	19 Unit 7 (6 45-min. or 12 45- min. class periods)	20	21	22
23	24 Unit 7 (6 45-min. or 12 45- min. class periods)	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Unit 7 (6 45-min. or 12 45- min. class periods)	Notes: Jan. 17 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Jan. 18 - Teacher Preparation Day (no students)				
						END OF CYCLE 3

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Units of Instruction

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This three-part unit examines the Young Nation period focusing on the concept of ESP causation [Economic, Social, and Political]. Students study the economic impact of the Industrial Revolution as inventions and inventors transformed production; the social/cultural significance of various reform movements and their leaders which contributed to significant societal change; and the westward expansion of the United States under the banner of the political idea of Manifest Destiny and American empire.

Unit 8: The Road to War

This two-part unit highlights the growing split between North and South in the decades prior to the outbreak of the American Civil War. It examines ESPN causation [Economic, Social, Political, and eNvironmental] and looks at how a trigger event such as the election of Lincoln or the firing on Fort Sumter can ignite a powder keg of conflict.

2022		February				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	01 Unit 7 (6 45-min. or 12 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	05
06	07 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	08	09 Unit 8 (5 90-min. or 10 45-min. class periods)	10	11	12
13	14 Unit 8 (5 90-min. or 10 45-min. class periods)	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Teacher Service Day (no students)	22 Unit 8 (5 90-min. or 10 45-min. class periods)	23	24 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	25	26 END OF CYCLE 4
27	28 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	01	02	03	04	05
06	07	Notes: Feb. 21 - Teacher Service Day (no students)				



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Units of Instruction

Unit 9: The Civil War & Reconstruction

This three-part unit uses the concept of conflict to examine significant individuals and turning point events in the American Civil War, including an emphasis on the ideas and leadership of Abraham Lincoln and their impact on the period. In addition, this unit addresses the concept of ESP change necessary for Reconstruction including passage of the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments.

2022		March				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	01 Unit 9 (7 90-min. or 14 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04	05
06	07 Unit 9 (7 90-min. or 14 45-min. class periods)	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Enrichment Opportunities			Spring Break		
20	21 Unit 9 (7 90-min. or 14 45-min. class periods)	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Chávez / Huerta Day	29 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	30	31	01	02
03	04	Notes: Mar. 14-18 - Spring Break Mar. 28 - César Chávez/Dolores Huerta Day				



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In addition, this unit addresses the concept of ESP change necessary for Reconstruction including passage of the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments.

Unit 10: Social/Cultural Frontiers

This two-part unit allows students to examine the new “frontiers” in American art and expression. It also explores cultural frontiers including issues related to immigration and citizenship.

Unit 11: Tying It All Together – A Review Unit for Grade 8 Social Studies

Using the macro concepts of economic, social, and political change, this unit provides an opportunity to review concepts and information from the Grade 8 Social Studies course in early American history that helped form the heritage and government of the United States of America from colonial times through the highlights of Reconstruction. It can serve as a review of content for the Grade 8 Social Studies STAAR test.

2022	April					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	01 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	02
03	04 Unit 10 (4 90-min. or 8 45-min. class periods)	05	06	07	08	09
10	11 Unit 10 (4 90-min. or 8 45-min. class periods)	12	13	14 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	15 Spring Holiday	16
17	18 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Unit 11 (10 90-min. or 20 45-min. class periods)	26	27	28	29	30
01	02	Notes: Apr. 15 - Spring Holiday				

**END OF
CYCLE 5**



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Unit 12: Promises Deferred!

This two-part unit allows students to analyze the idea that all people are created equal and consider the question “Have the promises of the Declaration of Independence that all men [people] are created equal been fulfilled?” It encourages students to interpret the experiences of minority groups including women, racial and ethnic groups. It brings the concept of Reconstruction into the 21st century and allows an opportunity for students to decide the progress minorities have made in achieving equality.

2022		May				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
01	02 Unit 11 (10 90-min. or 20 45-min. class periods)	03	04	05	06	07
08	09 Unit 11 (10 90-min. or 20 45-min. class periods)	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Unit 11 (10 90-min. or 20 45-min. class periods)	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	24	25 Unit 12 (4 90-min. or 8 45-min. class periods)	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31 Unit 12 (4 90-min. or 8 45-min. class periods)	01	02	03	04
05	06	Notes: May 30 - Memorial Day				



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2022		June				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	01 Unit 12 (4 90-min. or 8 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04
05	06 Unit 12 (4 90-min. or 8 45-min. class periods)	07 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	08 Teacher Prep Day (no students) END OF CYCLE 6	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
03	04	Notes: Jun. 8 - Teacher Preparation Day (no students)				