

## Social Studies

- **Use Historical Thinking Skills to Develop an Understanding of Major Historical Periods, Issues, and Trends in the United States**

### Initial Understanding

Identify oral history, primary and secondary sources, immigrant, ancestors, perspective  
Describe the sources of historical information  
Identify ways different cultures record their histories

### Developing an Interpretation

Gather historical data from multiple sources, some of which are contradictory and require questioning of validity  
Create time lines which sequence events and people

### Making Connections

Distinguish between primary and secondary sources  
Create written narratives from investigations of source materials

### Critical Stance

Analyze the affects that perspectives have on the interpretation of history

- **Use Knowledge of Geography and Economics to Understand the Consequences on the Interaction of Human, Natural, and Capital Resources During the Early American Period**

### Initial Understanding

Locate Native Americans of North America  
Describe the culture of each major tribe by region  
Identify opportunity and cost, trade, markets, scarcity

### Developing an Interpretation

Compare the resources used by various cultures and regions of the United States  
Explain the essential features and functions of maps, globes, photographs, geographic, models, and satellite images  
Explain and understand that individuals, households, societies, and businesses contend with scarcity  
Make maps, globes, models, charts, and geographic databases

### Making Connections

Describe the relationships among demand, supply and price and their role in a market system  
Use an historical map to draw conclusions and to pose questions about the past

### Critical Stance

Use maps and globes to analyze patterns and explain how humans depend on, adapt to, and alter physical environment  
Understand that economic factors influenced historical events in the United States

- **Understand the Key Elements of the Development of the Nation – Who was already here, When and from Where Others Arrived, and Why They Came**

### Initial Understanding

Describe and locate the different Native American groups that early explorers and settlers would encounter  
Give examples of conflict, cooperation, and interpretation among those groups  
List reasons for the European struggle to control North America  
Identify Colony, Expeditions, Conquistador, Northwest Passage, Roanoke, Indentured Servants, Missionary

### Developing an Interpretation

Describe the affects of the contact between European and Native Americans in North America  
Explain the origins of American religious diversity, showing knowledge of some of the beliefs of Native Americans and of immigrants to the new world  
Compare ways in which Native Americans and explorers responded to their physical environment and social conditions  
Explore ways that belief systems and other elements of culture led to understandings and misunderstandings

### Making Connections

Understand the differences and similarities among Africans, Europeans, and Native Americans who converged in the Western Hemisphere  
Contrast Native American and European views of the land

### Critical Stance

Understand that European explorations and colonization resulted in cultural, economic, and political interactions among previously unconnected peoples

- **Understand How the Values and Institutions of Europe Took Root in the Colonies and How Slavery Reshaped European and African life in the Americas**

#### Initial Understanding

Identify reasons why people left their homeland to resettle in the colonies

Locate areas where the English, French, Spanish, and Dutch competed for land

Locate the thirteen colonies on a map along with the location of the Indians already inhabiting these areas

Identify individuals and groups responsible for founding each colony

Identify frontier, self-sufficient, free enterprise, plantation, slave trade, triangular trade, overseer, slave codes, Puritan, Mayflower Compact

#### Developing an Interpretation

Compare the religious, economic and political life of the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies

Understand religious diversity in the colonies and how ideas about religious freedom evolved

Describe religious groups in Colonial America and the role of religion in their communities

#### Making Connections

Describe how gender, property ownership, religion, and legal status affected political rights in the colonies

Understand African life under slavery and the development of a distinctive African American culture

Explain the widespread use of slavery in the south, despite opposition to slavery in other colonies

#### Critical Stance

Understand how political, religious, and social institutions emerged in the colonies

Understand ways in which the colonies changed as their populations grew

- **Understand the Causes of the American Revolution, the Ideas and Interests Involved in Forging the Revolutionary Movement, and the Reasons for the American Victory**

#### Initial Understanding

Identify French and Indian War, Articles of Confederation, Northwest Ordinance, Patriot, Loyalist, Continental Army, Mercenary Army, Minuteman, Militia, Stamp Act, boycott, Sons of Liberty

Identify government policies and the responses to those policies leading up to the revolution

#### Developing an Interpretation

Reconstruct the chronology of critical events leading to the outbreak of war

Examine the arguments about independence among patriots and loyalists

Explain how a decision was reached to declare independence

Map the major military battles, campaigns, and turning points of the Revolutionary War from Lexington and Concord in 1775 to Yorktown in 1781

Examine the lives, views, and influence of key individuals

#### Making Connections

Understand the accomplishments and failures of the Continental Congress

Understand how the thirteen colonies settled the question of governing themselves after declaring their independence from England

#### Critical Stance

Understand that the Declaration of Independence served as a unifying force throughout the American Revolution and set forth the basic rights of all people, the purpose of government, and the powers in the consent of the government

- **Understand the Issues Involved in the Creation and Ratification of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights as the Foundation of the American Political System**

#### Initial Understanding

Identify the guarantees of the Bill of Rights

List the features of the Constitution that have made it endure

Identify delegate, preamble, amendment, Federalist Papers, ratify, veto, republic, federalism, two party system, Father of Our Country

Identify the key proponents of the Federalists and Anti-Federalists

### Developing an Interpretation

Explain the shortcomings of the Articles of Confederation

Examine the ideas behind the system of checks and balances and those behind the separation of powers established by the Constitution

Describe the alternative plans considered, and the major compromises agreed upon, to secure approval of the Constitution

Describe and compare limited and unlimited government

Describe the characteristics of effective citizenry

### Making Connections

Describe the role of the Constitution in the limitation of government powers

Recognize and interpret how the “common good” can be strengthened through various forms of citizens actions

Identify and apply criteria that is useful in selecting political leaders at the local, state, and national levels

### Critical Stance

Understand how the rule of law and the values of liberty and equality have an impact on individual, local, state, and national decisions

Understand that political systems emanate from the human need for order that leads to compromise and the establishment of authority