

Fourth Grade Social Studies: United States Studies

The fourth grade social studies curriculum introduces students to geographic, economic, governmental concepts through the lens of the United States. They study the physical geography of the United States as well as the cultural characteristics of regions of the country. Students analyze human systems in the United States by exploring the interaction between the people and their natural environments, the movement of people, products, and ideas, and the distinguishing features of various regions within the country. By focusing on the characteristics of the U.S. economy, students learn fundamental economic concepts and apply these to their own lives. They study economic ties between the United States and other places, and discover how their country is an interdependent part of the global economy. Students are introduced to the purposes, structure, and function of our federal government. They also examine the relationship between the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic republic. Students examine current issues facing the United States and practice making and expressing informed decisions as citizens.

Units of Study

Unit 1: Foundations in Social Studies

Unit 2: The United States in Spatial Terms

Unit 3: Human Geography in the United States

Unit 4: Exploring Economics

Unit 5: Our Federal Government

Unit 6: Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship