

Sacred Heart School

Syllabus title: Social Studies Grade 4

Teacher Information: Maureen Kamercia

Grade 4

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Course description: The purpose in fourth grade is to explore the geographical, social, and economic aspects of the United States through literature, biographies, and lessons about real people. The students will learn how the United States developed and changed over time. They will learn about people and events in other times and places.

Course content: This course integrates Social Studies in home, school, community, and the United States by utilizing four strands: History, Geography, Civics, and Economics. Material is taught through a variety of methods including, but not limited to: whole group instruction, small group projects and presentations, hands-on activities using multiple intelligences, research, and the use of technology.

General course objectives:

History

The student will

- Develop an understanding of the past and present
- Understand the meaning of time and a general chronology of events
- Make and use timelines
- Discuss traditions and origins
- Explore our five regions of the United States-their climate, culture, resources, and how they developed over time
- Understand Connecticut history
- Compare and contrast Native American and early settlers influence
- Describe the contribution of major historical figures

Geography

The students will

- Use maps for identifying and using the key, compass rose, and map scale
- Understand the five regions of the United States through nature and the different characteristics of the region
- Identify the physical, demographic, and economic characteristics of regions of the United States
- Use longitude and latitude

Civics

The students will

- Develop an appreciation for the multicultural nature of the United States
- Learn how democracy helped our country to develop
- Appreciate the need for rules at home, school, community, nation, and our government
- Analyze how government promotes the common good and protects individual rights and freedom
- Distinguish between the three branches of government

Economics

The students will

- Recognize production and transportation development of the United States
- Recognize the impact of technology
- Recognize the interdependence between regions
- Identify the three questions of all economic systems: What is produced? How is it produced? For who is it produced?
- Identify factors of production and market economy
- Identify producers and consumers
- Describe the principle of supply and demand
- Understand market and price
- Describe global trade
- Explain taxes and how they are used

Course materials:

Houghton Mifflin Social Studies Series
Map Activities
Worksheets/Supplements
Junior Achievement

Instructional strategies:

Lecture
Discussion/Questioning
Viewing/Listening/Answering
Problem Finding/Solving
Collaborative Learning Groups
Independent Learning
Computer Applications
Videos

Assessment/grading:

- Observations of verbal and written work
- Chapter and Unit tests/quizzes
- Map Skills
- Individual projects

Student expectations:

- Actively participate in readings and discussions working individually and in group work
- Be respectful of other students and adults, their property and the classroom
- Work to complete assignments on time and to review information given in class
- Be responsible for identifying any missing work assignments and completing them in a timely manner of within a week when absences occur