

Parents' Guide to Student Success in *Social Studies*

Kindergarten

Why Are Academic Standards Important?

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. Standards provide an important first step – a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. They also will help your child develop critical thinking skills that will prepare him or her for college and career.

Here are Some Things Your Child Will Be Working on in Kindergarten

- American holidays & symbols
- Basic concepts of geography
- Rules
- Character traits of good citizens
- Basic economic concepts



Keeping the Conversation Focused:

When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything instead keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In Kindergarten, these include:

- History
- Geography
- Economics
- Civics & Government

Help Your Child Learn at Home

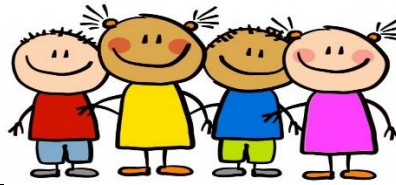
Try to create a quiet place for your child to study and carve out time every day when your child can concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics. Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

- Read to and/or with your child daily quality text that is aligned to the curriculum topics.
- Discuss the diversity in the American culture and communities by explaining family celebrations and customs.
- Discuss how rules are made and why rules should be followed.
- Explain how money is used to purchase goods and services and people must learn to make choices because they cannot have everything that they want.

Resource: <http://www.pta.org/parents/>

Kindergarten

Nine Week Checkpoints for Parents and Students



Helpful Websites

https://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/search/?q=holidays&selected_facet=grades:K

<https://bensguide.gpo.gov/liberty-bell-1753>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/map-skills-elementary-students/>

First Nine Weeks	Second Nine Weeks
<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and describe the purpose of national holidays (Labor Day) • Identify American symbols (Pledge of Allegiance, Star Spangled Banner) and explain their meaning • Explain how rules are made and why they should be followed • Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens (honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, self-control) • Describe the work that people do within the community • Use words and phrases related to chronology and time. 	<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and describe the purpose of national holidays (Columbus Day, Christmas, New Year’s Day, Thanksgiving Day, Veteran’s Day) • Use words and phrases related to chronology and time • Explain that a map is a drawing of a place and a globe is a model of Earth • State the street address, city, state, and country in which the student lives • Identify American symbols (Statue of Liberty) and explain their meaning • Explain the diversity of American culture by explaining the customs and celebrations of various families and communities
Third Nine Weeks	Fourth Nine Weeks
<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and describe the purpose of national holidays (Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents Day) • Identify American symbols (Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, White House) and explain their meaning • Explain how rules are made and why they should be followed • Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens (honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, self-control) • Explain that people must make choices because they cannot have everything they want 	<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and describe the purpose of national holidays (Independence Day, Memorial Day) • Identify American symbols (The national and state flags, Pledge of Allegiance, The Star Spangled Banner, The bald eagle) and explain their meaning • Explain how rules are made and why they should be followed • Explain that people must make choices because they cannot have everything they want • Describe the work that people do within the community and that people earn an income by working • Explain how money is used to purchase goods and services

