

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), National Geography Standards (NGS), Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Subjects: Science, Social Studies

Grades: 3, 4, 5

Virtual Field Trips

Grade 4 - Southeast Region of the U.S.

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

Social Studies

Grade 3 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.3. PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.1. KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.3. Physical and human characteristics of the school, community, state, and region, and the interactions of people in these places with the environment.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.5. Physical changes in community, state, and region, such as seasons, climate, and weather, and their effects on plants and animals.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.7. Benefits and problems resulting from the discovery and use of resources.

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

Social Studies

Grade 4 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.3. PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.1. KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.3. Physical and human characteristics of the school, community, state, and region, and the interactions of people in these places with the environment.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.5. Physical changes in community, state, and region, such as seasons, climate, and weather, and their effects on plants and animals.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.7. Benefits and problems resulting from the discovery and use of resources.

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

Social Studies

Grade 5 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.3. PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.1. KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.1. The theme of people, places, and environments involves the study of the relationships between human populations in different locations and geographic phenomena such as climate, vegetation, and natural resources.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.3. Past and present changes in physical systems, such as seasons, climate, and weather, and the water cycle, in both national and global contexts.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.5. The concept of regions identifies links between people in different locations according to specific criteria (e.g., physical, economic, social, cultural, or religious).

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Social Studies

Grade 3 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.5.	That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity
STRAND	PR.5.1.	The Concept of Region: Regions are areas of Earth's surface with unifying physical and/or human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.5.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different regions, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.3.	Describe the characteristics that define a physical region in the state (e.g., Front Range in Colorado, Sand Hills in Nebraska, Hill Country in Texas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)

BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.1.	Identify different attributes of physical systems in photographs (e.g., sky, clouds, plants, soil, oceans, lakes, mountains).
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.1.	Environmental Opportunities and Constraints: The physical environment provides opportunities for and imposes constraints on human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.1.B.	Describe examples in which the physical environment imposes constraints on human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.B.2.	Describe examples in which human activities are limited by different types of climates (e.g., cold or polar, rainy or dry, equatorial).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.17.	How to apply geography to interpret the past
STRAND	UG.17.2.	Changes in Geographic Contexts: Places, regions, and environments change over time
BENCHMARK	UG.17.2.A.	Analyze how places, regions, and environments change over time, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.17.2.A.2.	Describe and analyze the change in the number of states in the United States and their boundaries.

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Social Studies

Grade 4 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
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BENCHMARK	PR.5.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different regions, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.3.	Describe the characteristics that define a physical region in the state (e.g., Front Range in Colorado, Sand Hills in Nebraska, Hill Country in Texas).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.1.	Identify different attributes of physical systems in photographs (e.g., sky, clouds, plants, soil, oceans, lakes, mountains).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.1.	Environmental Opportunities and Constraints: The physical environment provides opportunities for and imposes constraints on human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.1.B.	Describe examples in which the physical environment imposes constraints on human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.B.2.	Describe examples in which human activities are limited by different types of climates (e.g., cold or polar, rainy or dry, equatorial).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.17.	How to apply geography to interpret the past
STRAND	UG.17.2.	Changes in Geographic Contexts: Places, regions, and environments change over time
BENCHMARK	UG.17.2.A.	Analyze how places, regions, and environments change over time, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.17.2.A.2.	Describe and analyze the change in the number of states in the United States and their boundaries.

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Social Studies

Grade 5 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.5.	That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity
STRAND	PR.5.2.	Regional Change: The boundaries and characteristics of regions change
BENCHMARK	PR.5.2.A.	Describe and explain the changes in the boundaries and characteristics of regions, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.5.2.A.1.	Describe and explain how the formal regional boundaries and names of US territories and states have changed over time.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: Climate primarily

		determines the characteristics and geographic distribution of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe and explain how climate (temperature and rainfall) primarily determines the characteristics and geographic distribution of biomes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.3.	Explain how biomes do not always follow lines of latitude by identifying the influences of oceans and mountain ranges on the distribution of climate and vegetation.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.10.	The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
STRAND	HS.10.3.	Cultural Diffusion and Change: Changes in cultural characteristics and the distribution of cultures result from migration of people and the diffusion of ideas and technology
BENCHMARK	HS.10.3.A.	Describe and explain the processes of cultural diffusion, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.10.3.A.1.	Describe and explain how connections between cultures may result in the sharing of cultural characteristics (e.g., migration, travel, educational exchange programs).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.2.	Location and Spatial Patterns of Economic Activities: Access to factors of production, such as capital, labor, raw materials, and energy, influence the location of economic activities
BENCHMARK	HS.11.2.A.	Compare and explain the advantages of one location over another in the access to factors of production, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.11.2.A.1.	Explain why certain locations have developed a reputation for producing specific goods or services (e.g., Wyoming is known for its coal and natural gas deposits, China is known for assembly and manufacturing labor, New York is known as a center for investment capital).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.13.	How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.13.1.	Territorial Divisions: The types of boundaries used to define territorial division
BENCHMARK	HS.13.1.A.	Explain the types of boundaries based on physical and human characteristics, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.13.1.A.4.	Explain why states in regions of the United States typically have different kinds of boundaries (e.g., the eastern state lines reflect metes and bounds, the Midwest has baselines of latitude and longitude and water boundaries, the use of township and range system in the West).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: People can have different viewpoints regarding the meaning and use of resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Describe examples of how cultures differ in their definition and use of

		resources, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.1.	Describe differences in the types of resources used in different geographic contexts in various parts of the world (e.g., the use of wood or animal dung versus electricity or natural gas as a cooking fuel, the use of electrical appliances versus doing household chores by hand).
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.3.	Describe how cultures value things differently in terms of resource use (e.g., Old Order Amish choose not to use petroleum and electricity, Muslims and Jews choose not to use pork as a food source, many cultures around the world choose not to use insects as food source).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.17.	How to apply geography to interpret the past
STRAND	UG.17.2.	Changes in Geographic Contexts: Change occurs in the geographic characteristics and spatial organization of places, regions, and environments
BENCHMARK	UG.17.2.A.	Describe and explain changes in the geographic characteristics and spatial organizations of places, regions, and environments in the past, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.17.2.A.1.	Describe and compare population settlement patterns during different historical periods (e.g., discuss regional differences in colonial settlement patterns in North America, trace the westward expansion of the United States through land acquisitions and government incentives for land ownership).

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