

Virtual Field Trips

Grade 1 - Families and Neighbors

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

Social Studies

Grade K - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.1.	'Culture' refers to the behaviors, beliefs, values, traditions, institutions, and ways of living together of a group of people.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.2.	Concepts such as: similarities, differences, beliefs, values, cohesion, and diversity.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.4.	How culture may change in response to changing needs and concerns.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.5.	How individuals learn the elements of their culture through interactions with other members of the culture group.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.6.	How peoples from different cultures develop different values and ways of interpreting experience.

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.1.	Ask and find answers to questions related to culture in the contexts of school, community, state, and region.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.2.	Explore and describe similarities and differences in the ways various cultural groups meet similar needs and concerns.

THEME	NCSS.2.	TIME, CONTINUITY, AND CHANGE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PAST AND ITS LEGACY.
CATEGORY	2.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	2.1.5.	Key symbols and traditions that are carried from the past into the present by diverse cultures in the United States and world.
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THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
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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	3.1.4.	Factors influencing various community, state, and regional patterns of human settlement, such as the availability of land and water, and places for people to live.
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	3.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.1.	Ask and find answers to geographic questions related to the school, community, state, region, and world.
THEME	NCSS.4.	INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTITY
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTITY.
CATEGORY	4.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	4.1.2.	Concepts such as: growth, change, learning, self, family, and groups.
THEME	NCSS.5.	INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERACTIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS.
CATEGORY	5.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.1.	This theme helps us know that people belong to groups and institutions that influence them and by which they are influenced;.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.2.	Concepts such as: community, culture, role, competition, cooperation, rules, and norms.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.4.	That individuals, groups, and institutions share common elements and also have unique characteristics.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.5.	The impact of families, schools, religious institutions, government agencies, financial institutions, and civic groups on their lives.
THEME	NCSS.9.	GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE.
CATEGORY	9.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	9.2.4.	Describe examples in which language, art, music, belief systems, and other cultural elements can facilitate global understanding or cause misunderstanding.

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Social Studies

Grade K - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.WST .	The World in Spatial Terms
STANDARD	WST.2.	How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context
STRAND	WST.2.4 .	Individual Perceptions Shape Mental Maps: Individuals may have different mental maps of places and regions
BENCHMARK	WST.2.4 A.	Describe how an individual's views and understandings of places and regions differ, as expressed by his or her mental map, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	WST.2.4 A.1.	Identify and describe differences in students' sketch maps of their community, including differences in details on their maps, scale, labels, location of features, etc.
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EXPECTATION	WST.2.4 A.3.	Describe the differences in students' views of a popular community attraction based on the details in their mental maps.
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.1.	The Concept of Place: Places are locations having distinctive characteristics that give them meaning and distinguish them from other locations
BENCHMARK	PR.4.1.A .	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different places, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	PR.4.1.A. 2.	Identify and describe the defining characteristics of the student's community as a place.
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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. 2.	Identify the physical and human characteristics that can be used to define a region within the local community (e.g., the characteristics of a retail strip mall area, downtown or central business district, boundaries of ethnic neighborhoods).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.6.	How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions
STRAND	PR.6.1.	The Perception of Places and Regions: People can have different views of the same places and regions
BENCHMARK	PR.6.1.A .	Describe how people view places in their community differently, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	PR.6.1.A. 2.	Describe how students view three well-known places in the community (e.g., police station, hospital, grocery store, shopping mall, school, park) and use the descriptions to illustrate the differences in their views.
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.1.A.3. Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.10.	The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
STRAND	HS.10.1.	Characteristics of Culture: A culture has distinctive characteristics
BENCHMARK	HS.10.1.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of a culture, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION HS.10.1.A.1. Identify and describe distinctive characteristics of their own cultural heritage (e.g., cuisine or agricultural products, traditional festivals or celebrations, vocabulary terms that locals would know and understand but outsiders might find confusing).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.1.	Modification of the Physical Environment: People modify the physical environment
BENCHMARK	ES.14.1.A.	Identify and describe ways in which humans modify the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.14.1.A.1. Identify and describe examples of human modifications to the physical environment surrounding the school or neighborhood (e.g., paving over vegetated areas, constructing buildings, building bridges, installing culverts or drainage ditches, removing or adding trees or shrubs).

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.A.	Describe examples in which the physical environment provides opportunities for human activities, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.15.1.A.1. Identify and describe the characteristics of the community's physical environment that first attracted people and enabled them to thrive and prosper (e.g., climate, water, soil, landforms).

EXPECTATION ES.15.1.A.3. Describe how people take advantage of the physical environment of their local community (e.g., water supply, farming, gardens, recreational activities).

Virtual Field Trips

Grade 1 - Families and Neighbors

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)
Social Studies
Grade 1 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.1.	'Culture' refers to the behaviors, beliefs, values, traditions, institutions, and ways of living together of a group of people.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.2.	Concepts such as: similarities, differences, beliefs, values, cohesion, and diversity.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.4.	How culture may change in response to changing needs and concerns.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.5.	How individuals learn the elements of their culture through interactions with other members of the culture group.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.6.	How peoples from different cultures develop different values and ways of interpreting experience.

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
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CATEGORY	1.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.1.	Ask and find answers to questions related to culture in the contexts of school, community, state, and region.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.2.	Explore and describe similarities and differences in the ways various cultural groups meet similar needs and concerns.

THEME	NCSS.2.	TIME, CONTINUITY, AND CHANGE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PAST AND ITS LEGACY.
CATEGORY	2.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	2.1.5.	Key symbols and traditions that are carried from the past into the present by diverse cultures in the United States and world.
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THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
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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	3.1.4.	Factors influencing various community, state, and regional patterns of human settlement, such as the availability of land and water, and places for people to live.
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	3.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.1.	Ask and find answers to geographic questions related to the school, community, state, region, and world.
THEME	NCSS.4.	INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTITY
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTITY.
CATEGORY	4.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	4.1.2.	Concepts such as: growth, change, learning, self, family, and groups.
THEME	NCSS.5.	INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERACTIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS.
CATEGORY	5.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.1.	This theme helps us know that people belong to groups and institutions that influence them and by which they are influenced;.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.2.	Concepts such as: community, culture, role, competition, cooperation, rules, and norms.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.4.	That individuals, groups, and institutions share common elements and also have unique characteristics.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.5.	The impact of families, schools, religious institutions, government agencies, financial institutions, and civic groups on their lives.
THEME	NCSS.9.	GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE.
CATEGORY	9.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	9.2.4.	Describe examples in which language, art, music, belief systems, and other cultural elements can facilitate global understanding or cause misunderstanding.

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Social Studies

Grade 1 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.WST.	The World in Spatial Terms
STANDARD	WST.2.	How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context
STRAND	WST.2.4.	Individual Perceptions Shape Mental Maps: Individuals may have different mental maps of places and regions
BENCHMARK	WST.2.4.A.	Describe how an individual's views and understandings of places and regions differ, as expressed by his or her mental map, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.1.	Identify and describe differences in students' sketch maps of their community, including differences in details on their maps, scale, labels, location of features, etc.
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EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.3.	Describe the differences in students' views of a popular community attraction based on the details in their mental maps.
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.1.	The Concept of Place: Places are locations having distinctive characteristics that give them meaning and distinguish them from other locations
BENCHMARK	PR.4.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different places, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	PR.4.1.A.2.	Identify and describe the defining characteristics of the student's community as a place.
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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.2.	Identify the physical and human characteristics that can be used to define a region within the local community (e.g., the characteristics of a retail strip mall area, downtown or central business district, boundaries of ethnic neighborhoods).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.6.	How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions
STRAND	PR.6.1.	The Perception of Places and Regions: People can have different views of the same places and regions
BENCHMARK	PR.6.1.A.	Describe how people view places in their community differently, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	PR.6.1.A.2.	Describe how students view three well-known places in the community (e.g., police station, hospital, grocery store, shopping mall, school, park) and use the descriptions to illustrate the differences in their views.
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.1.A.3. Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.10.	The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
STRAND	HS.10.1.	Characteristics of Culture: A culture has distinctive characteristics
BENCHMARK	HS.10.1.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of a culture, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION HS.10.1.A.1. Identify and describe distinctive characteristics of their own cultural heritage (e.g., cuisine or agricultural products, traditional festivals or celebrations, vocabulary terms that locals would know and understand but outsiders might find confusing).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.1.	Modification of the Physical Environment: People modify the physical environment
BENCHMARK	ES.14.1.A.	Identify and describe ways in which humans modify the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.14.1.A.1. Identify and describe examples of human modifications to the physical environment surrounding the school or neighborhood (e.g., paving over vegetated areas, constructing buildings, building bridges, installing culverts or drainage ditches, removing or adding trees or shrubs).

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.A.	Describe examples in which the physical environment provides opportunities for human activities, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.15.1.A.1. Identify and describe the characteristics of the community's physical environment that first attracted people and enabled them to thrive and prosper (e.g., climate, water, soil, landforms).

EXPECTATION ES.15.1.A.3. Describe how people take advantage of the physical environment of their local community (e.g., water supply, farming, gardens, recreational activities).

Virtual Field Trips

Grade 1 - Families and Neighbors

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

Social Studies

Grade 2 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.1.	'Culture' refers to the behaviors, beliefs, values, traditions, institutions, and ways of living together of a group of people.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.2.	Concepts such as: similarities, differences, beliefs, values, cohesion, and diversity.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.4.	How culture may change in response to changing needs and concerns.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.5.	How individuals learn the elements of their culture through interactions with other members of the culture group.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.6.	How peoples from different cultures develop different values and ways of interpreting experience.

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.1.	Ask and find answers to questions related to culture in the contexts of school, community, state, and region.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.2.	Explore and describe similarities and differences in the ways various cultural groups meet similar needs and concerns.

THEME	NCSS.2.	TIME, CONTINUITY, AND CHANGE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PAST AND ITS LEGACY.
CATEGORY	2.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	2.1.5.	Key symbols and traditions that are carried from the past into the present by diverse cultures in the United States and world.
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THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
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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	3.1.4.	Factors influencing various community, state, and regional patterns of human settlement, such as the availability of land and water, and places for people to live.
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DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.1.	Ask and find answers to geographic questions related to the school, community, state, region, and world.
THEME	NCSS.4.	INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTITY
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTITY.
CATEGORY	4.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	4.1.2.	Concepts such as: growth, change, learning, self, family, and groups.
THEME	NCSS.5.	INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERACTIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS.
CATEGORY	5.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.1.	This theme helps us know that people belong to groups and institutions that influence them and by which they are influenced;.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.2.	Concepts such as: community, culture, role, competition, cooperation, rules, and norms.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.4.	That individuals, groups, and institutions share common elements and also have unique characteristics.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.5.	The impact of families, schools, religious institutions, government agencies, financial institutions, and civic groups on their lives.
THEME	NCSS.9.	GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE.
CATEGORY	9.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	9.2.4.	Describe examples in which language, art, music, belief systems, and other cultural elements can facilitate global understanding or cause misunderstanding.

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Social Studies

Grade 2 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.WST.	The World in Spatial Terms
STANDARD	WST.2.	How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context
STRAND	WST.2.4.	Individual Perceptions Shape Mental Maps: Individuals may have different mental maps of places and regions
BENCHMARK	WST.2.4.A.	Describe how an individual's views and understandings of places and regions differ, as expressed by his or her mental map, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.1.	Identify and describe differences in students' sketch maps of their community, including differences in details on their maps, scale, labels, location of features, etc.
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EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.3.	Describe the differences in students' views of a popular community attraction based on the details in their mental maps.
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.1.	The Concept of Place: Places are locations having distinctive characteristics that give them meaning and distinguish them from other locations
BENCHMARK	PR.4.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different places, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	PR.4.1.A.2.	Identify and describe the defining characteristics of the student's community as a place.
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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.2.	Identify the physical and human characteristics that can be used to define a region within the local community (e.g., the characteristics of a retail strip mall area, downtown or central business district, boundaries of ethnic neighborhoods).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.6.	How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions
STRAND	PR.6.1.	The Perception of Places and Regions: People can have different views of the same places and regions
BENCHMARK	PR.6.1.A.	Describe how people view places in their community differently, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	PR.6.1.A.2.	Describe how students view three well-known places in the community (e.g., police station, hospital, grocery store, shopping mall, school, park) and use the descriptions to illustrate the differences in their views.
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
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BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to

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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
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STRAND	ES.15.1.	Environmental Opportunities and Constraints: The physical environment provides opportunities for and imposes constraints on human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.1.A.	Describe examples in which the physical environment provides opportunities for human activities, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.15.1.A.1. Identify and describe the characteristics of the community's physical environment that first attracted people and enabled them to thrive and prosper (e.g., climate, water, soil, landforms).

EXPECTATION ES.15.1.A.3. Describe how people take advantage of the physical environment of their local community (e.g., water supply, farming, gardens, recreational activities).