

## K-5 Scope and Sequence

### *Kindergarten - Self and Family/ Families Around the World*

Students focus on developing positive attitudes about themselves, their families and families of diverse cultures.

### *First Grade - Neighborhoods and Communities Around the World*

Students examine a variety of neighborhoods and recognize the multiple roles of individuals and families.

### *Second Grade - Regional Studies: Local, State, United States and World*

Students study how communities may be linked through cultural, geographic and economic ties.

### *Third Grade - Citizenship: People Who Make a Difference*

Students investigate contributions made to society by local, state, national and global leaders, as well as how leaders and communities confront and resolve problems.

### *Fourth Grade - North Carolina Geography and History*

Students study the land as well as the diverse groups of people that have contributed to the development of North Carolina beginning with the American Indians up to the Revolutionary period.

### *Fifth Grade - United States History, Canada, Mexico and Central America*

Students discover the history and history-makers of the United States while comparing and contrasting the social, economic and political institutions of Canada, Mexico and Central America.

## Social Studies Skills

Social Studies skills are necessary for the development of social inquiry and rational decision making. The social studies skills include:

- Reading and vocabulary building
- Using research to gather, synthesize, and report
- Analyzing, interpreting, creating, and using resources
- Applying decision making and problem solving techniques
- Incorporating technology

# Elementary Social Studies

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## Parent Tips for Developing Effective Citizens



K-12 Social Studies  
Curriculum and Instruction  
Department of Public Instruction



Public Schools of North Carolina  
Department of Public Instruction  
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## Elementary Social Studies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Elementary students are citizens of a world experiencing increasing amounts of information, varying cultural values, and growing interdependence among nations. Social studies in the K-5 classroom gives students the foundation for addressing the complexities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The purpose of social studies is to help develop the young person's ability to make sound decisions.



The *Social Studies Standard Course of Study* was revised and approved in 2001. The Standard Course of Study specifies the required themes, goals, and objectives that are to be taught at each grade level.

## ABCs of Elementary Social Studies

These ABC tips will help you support your child during their elementary years.

**A**sk questions about social studies expectations in your child's school.

**B**uy puzzles of the United States and the world. Children will connect the pieces and places.

**C**ongratulate your child when he/she demonstrates good character traits.

**D**iscuss significant and possibly controversial issues with your child when questions arise.

**E**ncourage your child to communicate with family and friends in a variety of ways (postal mail, email, phone).

**F**ind out about groups of which your child may become a member.

**G**et involved by voting or joining a civic organization.

**H**elp your child understand basic economic principles such as wants, needs, saving and spending.

**I**nform yourself and your child about events happening around the world.

**J**oin a library with your child.

**K**eeep maps and reference books close at hand.

**L**isten to questions and comments from your child. These become "teachable moments".

**M**ake a calendar or timeline to record important family events.

**N**otice and point out features like rivers, streams, forests and dunes while traveling.

**O**bserve and talk about changes in the environment such as seasons and farming.

**P**lot family trips on a map. Let your child assist in planning the route.

**Q**uestion the activities in which your child is involved.

**R**ead non-fiction articles and books related to social studies with your child.

**S**tay informed on current events.

**T**ell family stories to build a sense of history.

**U**rge your child to become an active participant in home, school and community affairs.

**V**isit museums, historic landmarks and other interesting places in the community with your child.

**W**ork with your child to set up rules at home and to understand their importance.

**X**erox and keep safe birth certificates and family records.

**Y**ield results by modeling and expecting good behavior.

**Z**ip through local schedules to locate cultural events and festivals to attend.

