

Social Studies

FIFTH GRADE

United States Studies: Beginnings to 1877

Fifth-grade content standards focus on the United States from the prehistoric period to 1877. The emphasis is on the geography and history of the United States from the earliest times through the formation and growth of a nation to the latter part of the nineteenth century. Special emphasis is placed on the study of the founding documents and the development of the American republic. Students also become familiar with major events in the periods of the American Revolution, the Westward Expansion, and the Civil War.

Students will:

1. Locate physical features that impacted the exploration and settlement of the Americas.
 - Locate states, capitals, and important geographic features east of the Mississippi River
 - Identify major ports in the United States
2. Identify causes and effects of prehistoric migration and settlement in North America.
3. Compare major Native American cultures in respect to geographic region, natural resources, government, economy, and religion.
 - Locate Native American groups by geographic region
4. Explain effects of European exploration during the Age of Discovery upon European society and Native Americans, including the economic and cultural impact.
 - Identify significant early European patrons and explorers and early settlements
 - Locate the countries of origin of early European patrons and explorers including Prince Henry the Navigator, Ferdinand Magellan, Christopher Columbus, Hernán Cortés, Juan Ponce de León, Hernando de Soto, and Francisco Pizarro
5. Describe the early colonization of North America and reasons for settlement in the Northern, Middle, and Southern colonies.
 - Identify major leaders, economic impact, and social changes in colonial society
 - Identify reasons for the French and Indian War
 - Describe the impact of the French and Indian War on the settlement of the colonies

- Identify geographic features, landforms, and differences in climates among the colonies
 - Describe emerging colonial governments
 - Describe the development of the emerging labor force in the colonies
 - Identify on a map changes in North American boundaries as a result of the French and Indian War
6. Identify the impact of trade routes on emerging colonies in the Americas.
- Trace the result of slave trading in the Americas
 - Locate centers of slave trade in the Western Hemisphere
7. Identify events leading to the American Revolution, including the French and Indian War, the Stamp Act, the Intolerable Acts, the Boston Massacre, and the Boston Tea Party.
8. Identify major events of the American Revolution, including the Battles of Lexington and Concord, the Battle of Bunker Hill, the Battle of Saratoga, and the Battle of Yorktown.
- Describe the social and political impact of the Declaration of Independence
 - Explain contributions of Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams, Paul Revere, Patrick Henry, Thomas Paine, George Washington, and ordinary citizens
 - Describe efforts to mobilize support for the American Revolution by the Minutemen, Committees of Correspondence, First Continental Congress, Sons of Liberty, boycotts, and the Second Continental Congress
 - Locate on a map major battle sites of the American Revolution
9. List steps involved in the development of the Constitution of the United States, including inadequacies of the Articles of Confederation and struggles over the ratification of the Constitution.
- List powers granted to Congress, the President, and those reserved for states or for the people
 - Discuss major ideas and concepts of the Constitution of the United States, including duties and powers of the three branches of government
 - Identify main principles in the Bill of Rights
 - Describe the process by which territories achieve statehood under the Constitution
10. Describe political, social, and economic events between 1803 and 1860 that led to the expansion of the territory of the United States.
- Trace expeditions of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark in the American West, including the role of Sacagawea
 - Identify the purpose of the Monroe Doctrine
11. Explain causes of and major events occurring during the War of 1812.
- Locate on a map major areas of conflict in the War of 1812, including Washington, D.C.

12. Identify causes of the Civil War from the northern and southern viewpoints.
- Describe the importance of the Missouri Compromise, the Compromise of 1850, John Brown's Rebellion, and the Emancipation Proclamation
 - Describe the impact of the Civil War on the social, economic, and political life of the United States
 - Identify on a map locations important to the Civil War
13. Identify social, political, and economic changes that occurred during Reconstruction.
- Describe the effects of Reconstruction on women and African Americans
 - Identify the impact of Reconstruction on education in the United States