

Grade K Social Studies Units

September: Communities & Culture, Government	October: History, Communities & Culture, Economics	November: History, Communities & Culture, Government	December: Communities & Culture, History	January: Map Skills & Geography, Communities & Culture, History
Me & My School	We Have Families (Unit 1)	Families & People Long Ago (Unit 1, Unit 3, Unit 5)	Traditions Around the World (Unit 3)	Where We Live & People Long Ago (Unit 2 and Unit 3)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting To Know You • Classroom Orientation • September 17th- Constitution Day • First Day Tour of School • Introduction to School Staff • Rules • Pledge of Allegiance • Character Education • Second Step 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbus Day • Families • Open House – Introduce families to classroom • Using Directions • Bus Safety • Fire Prevention • Character Education • Second Step 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native Americans • Pilgrims • Thanksgiving • Family Traditions • Children Long Ago • Election Day • Turkey Drive • Character Education • Second Step 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kwanzaa • Las Posadas • Hanukkah • Christmas • Food Drive • Character Education • Second Step 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survival Skills • Martin Luther King Jr. • Globe Exploration • Freedom & Equality • Character Education • Second Step
February: History, Communities & Culture	March: Economics	April: Economics, Communities & Culture, Map Skills & Geography	May: Communities & Cultures, Map Skills & Geography	June: Government, Communities & Culture
People Long Ago (Unit 3)	Why We Work (Unit 4)	Why We Work (Unit 4)	Where We Live (Unit 2)	Getting Along Together (Unit 5)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President’s Day • Black History Month • Valentine’s Day • 100th Day of School • Character Education • Second Step 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs/Wants • Money • Jobs • Character Education • Second Step 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth Day • Recycling • Wants/Needs • Money • Jobs • Survival Skills • Character Education • Second Step 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Character Education • Second Step • Mother’s Day • Neighborhood and Home Maps & Models 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jobs/Careers • Flag Day • Career Day Character Education • Second Step • Father’s Day

Kindergarten Social Studies Vocabulary List

above	left
African American	right
American	liberty
below	map
biography	Native American
Black American	near
career	need
celebrate	neighborhood
character	off
Christmas	on
citizen	over
citizenship	perseverance
city	Pledge of Allegiance
community	president
community worker/helper	quality
consideration	republic
Constitution	respect
cooperation	responsibility
country	rules
courtesy	self-control
Declaration of Independence	state
down	symbol
election	Thanksgiving
equality	tolerance
famous	town
far	tradition
farm	under
flag	up
freedom	vote
globe	want
Hanukkah	water
holiday	
honesty	
indivisible	
Jewish	
job	
justice	
Kwanzaa	
land	
laws	

Topic: Map Skills and Geography (Kindergarten)

Essential Questions:
Where do we live?

Essential Knowledge & Skills SWBAT:	Guided Questions	Classroom Ideas (Instructional Strategies)	Assessment Ideas (Evidence of Learning)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • draw maps and diagrams that serve as representations of places, physical features, and objects • locate places within the local community, state, and nation; locate the Earth’s continents in relation to each other and to principal parallels and meridians • ask geographic questions about where places are located; why they are located where they are; what is important about their locations; and how their locations are related to the location of other people and places 	<p>Where is my school?</p> <p>Where is my home?</p> <p>What is in my community?</p> <p>What does my world look like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw a map/create a model of your neighborhood/yard/classroom • Locate and visit places in the community (Career Day, Fire Station, Library Visit) • Globe exploration (Land/water) • Survival Skills (learn addresses and phone numbers) 	<p>Quarterly Assessment of Survival Skills (Oral)</p> <p>Teacher Observation of map/model creations</p> <p>Coloring of landforms/water in response to Globe Exploration</p>

Connections to Text (Resources): Houghton-Mifflin leveled SS readers, MacMillan/McGraw-Hill TimeLinks flip chart

Time: on-going, Career Day in June

Connections to Technology: Google Earth

Key Vocabulary: globe, map, land, water, community, neighborhood, left, right, near, far, farm, city, town, up, down, over, under, on, off, above, below, state, country,

Topic: History (Kindergarten)
Essential Questions: How have people from the past changed my world?

Essential Knowledge & Skills SWBAT:	Guided Questions	Classroom Ideas (Instructional Strategies)	Assessment Ideas (Evidence of Learning)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read historical narratives, myths, legends, biographies, and autobiographies to learn about how historical figures lived, their motivations, hopes, fears, strengths, and weaknesses • distinguish between past, present, and future time periods • understand the roles and contributions of individuals and groups to social, political, economic, cultural, scientific, technological, and religious practices and activities • explore the lifestyles, beliefs, traditions, rules and laws, and social/cultural needs and wants of people during different periods in history and in different parts of the world 	<p>Who were important people in the past?</p> <p>How did these important people change the world?</p> <p>How are things different today from the past? (freedoms, transportation, jobs, homes, clothing, technology)</p>	<p>Columbus Day</p> <p>Election Day (as appropriate)</p> <p>Thanksgiving</p> <p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</p> <p>Presidents' Day</p> <p>Winter holidays</p>	<p>Teacher Observation and Questioning</p> <p>Weekly Reader questions</p> <p>Journaling</p> <p>Role Playing</p> <p>Writing activities</p>

Connections to Text (Resources): Weekly Reader, MacMillan/McGraw-Hill TimeLinks flip chart
Time: On-going throughout the year
Connections to Technology: Brain Pop, Jr., videotape series
Key Vocabulary: biography, Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Pledge of Allegiance, republic, indivisible, liberty, justice, equality, character, freedom, quality

Essential Knowledge & Skills	Guided Questions	Classroom Ideas	Assessment Ideas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know the roots of American culture, its development from many different traditions, and the ways many people from a variety of groups and backgrounds played a role in creating it • explain those values, practices, and traditions that unite all Americans • gather and organize information about the traditions transmitted by various groups living in their neighborhood and community • recognize how traditions and practices were passed from one generation to the next • gather and organize information about the important accomplishments of individuals and groups, including Native American Indians, living in their neighborhoods and communities • explore different experiences, beliefs, motives, and traditions of people living in their neighborhoods, communities, and State • participate in activities that focus on a classroom, school, or community issue or problem • explore the lifestyles, beliefs, traditions, rules and laws, and social/cultural needs and wants of people during different periods in history and in different parts of the world 	<p>What is a community?</p> <p>Who is in a community?</p> <p>How do people in a community help each other?</p> <p>What is a tradition?</p> <p>How are traditions passed on?</p> <p>How are different holidays celebrated?</p> <p>What holidays do people celebrate?</p>	<p>Getting to Know our Classroom/School/Classmates (classroom orientation, first day safari, student of the day)</p> <p>School Community (student jobs, workers in our school)</p> <p>Second Step (peer interactions, problem solving, empathy)</p> <p>Johnny Appleseed (Individual accomplishment in history, individuality)</p> <p>Thanksgiving (feast, community, Turkey Drive, family, traditions, history, Native American accomplishments)</p> <p>December Holidays (Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Christmas, traditions, culture, similarities/differences, craft/cooking activities)</p> <p>Martin Luther King, Jr. (history, getting along, non-violence, contributions to society, Black history)</p> <p>Valentine’s Day (classroom community, consideration, caring, valentines for everyone in class, traditions)</p> <p>Presidents’ Day (Presidential accomplishments, Lincoln/Washington, current president, Washington, DC)</p> <p>Career Day (current jobs in communities, Career Day field trip, write “thank you” letters to community establishments visited, consider future jobs)</p>	<p>Teacher Observation and Questioning</p> <p>Weekly Reader questions</p> <p>Journaling</p> <p>Role-Playing</p> <p>Observation of Peer Interactions and Socially Appropriate Behavior</p>

Connections to Text (Resources): Weekly Readers, Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, The Kissing Hand, The Little Red Hen, The Little Engine That Could, Franklin stories, Clifford stories, Stone Soup, Stellaluna, Froggy stories, The First Thanksgiving Day, Sarah Morton’s Day, Samuel Eaton’s Day, Squanto, Johnny Appleseed, Make Way for Ducklings, For Every Child a Better World, Nine Days ‘Til Christmas, The Mitten Tree, Seven Candles for Kwanzaa, Eight Nights of Hanukkah, Mollie’s Menorah, The Magic Dreidel, The Night Tree, The Express, Rudolph, Frosty the Snowman, The Night Before Christmas, Martin’s Big Words, The Valentine Bears, MacMillan/McGraw-Hill TimeLinks flip chart

Time: On-going throughout year

Connections to Technology:

Key Vocabulary: community, tradition, holiday, celebrate, American, famous, Native American, Kwanzaa, Christmas, Hanukkah, Thanksgiving, African American, Jewish, Black American, consideration, cooperation, respect, citizenship, courtesy, self-control, tolerance, honesty, responsibility, perseverance, career, community worker/helper

Topic: Economics (Kindergarten)
Essential Questions: How do I get what I want and need?

Essential Knowledge & Skills SWBAT:	Guided Questions	Classroom Ideas (Instructional Strategies)	Assessment Ideas (Evidence of Learning)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know some ways individuals and groups attempt to satisfy their basic needs and wants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a want? • What is a need? • How do people get what they want? • How do people get what they need? • What do people do for jobs around us? • Who are some community helpers? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Prevention Activities (community helpers/service) • Bus Safety Activities (community helpers/service) • Career Day Activities and Field Trips • Informal Conversation/Discussion • Discussion of MacMillan Unit 4: Why We Work (S. S. Flip Chart) • Weekly Reader Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher observation and questioning • Weekly Reader questions • Journal Entries • Role Playing

Connections to Text (Resources): Harcourt Trophies series, Weekly Readers, MacMillan/McGraw-Hill Flip Chart, Classroom Libraries
Time: On-going throughout year
Connections to Technology: DVDs/VHS,
Key Vocabulary: want, need, community helper, job, career

**Topic: Government
(Kindergarten)**

Essential Questions: What can I do to be a good citizen?

Essential Knowledge & Skills SWBAT:	Guided Questions	Classroom Ideas (Instructional Strategies)	Assessment Ideas (Evidence of Learning)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know the meaning of key terms and concepts related to government, including democracy, power, citizenship, nation-state, and justice • explain the probable consequences of the absence of government and rules • describe the basic purposes of government and the importance of civic life • understand that citizenship includes an awareness of the holidays, celebrations, and symbols of our nation • examine what it means to be a good citizen in the classroom, school, home, and community • identify and describe the rules and responsibilities students have at home, in the classroom, and at school • understand that effective, informed citizenship is a duty of each citizen, demonstrated by jury service, voting, and community service • show a willingness to consider other points of view before drawing conclusions or making judgments • participate in activities that focus on a classroom, school, or community issue or problem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is citizenship? • What does a good citizen do? • Why do we have rules/laws? • What is the name of our town? • What is the name of our state? • What is the name of our country? • What are some of the symbols of our country? • What are some of our national holidays? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pledge of Allegiance • Classroom Jobs/Responsibilities • Classroom Rules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Classroom Management Systems - Discussion of Need for rules • Election Day Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mock Votes - Graphing Activities • Flag Day Activities • Thanksgiving Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feast - Historical Discussion/Texts • Presidents' Day Activities • Martin Luther King Jr. Day Activities • Character Education activities • Second Step Lessons • Unit 5 MacMillan Flip Charts (Getting Along Together) • Survival Skills Instruction (Addresses) • Shared Readings of Content Literature • Weekly Reader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher observation & questioning • Weekly Reader questions • Role playing • Journal Writing Activities

Connections to Text (Resources): Weekly Readers, Character Education Readers/Stories, MacMillan/McGraw-Hill Flip Chart, Classroom Libraries, Second Step, I Pledge Allegiance, The Flag We Love, America, Sara Morton's Day, Samuel Eaton's Day, Happy Birthday, Martin Luther King, Martin's Big Words, Martin Luther King, Jr., I Have A Dream, Rosa Parks, Abe Lincoln, Let's Read About Abe Lincoln, Let's Read About George Washington, The Gettysburg Address, God Bless America, My Country 'Tis Of Thee

Time: On-going throughout year

Connections to Technology: videotapes/DVDs, Dr. Jean CDs

Key Vocabulary: citizen, citizenship, country, town, state, rules, laws, responsibility, symbol, vote, freedom, flag, election, president, holiday,