Oakwood City School District:
Kindergarten Social Studies

Kindergarten Social Studies

Ohio's social studies content standards incorporate history, geography, government and economics in order to prepare students to be participating citizens.

Specifically, social studies:

- Helps students develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for themselves and for the common good
- Prepares students for their role as citizens and decision makers in a diverse, democratic society
- Enables students to learn about significant people, places, events and issues in the past in order to understand the present
- Fosters students' ability to act responsibly and become successful problem solvers in an interdependent world of limited resources.

Social Studies Inquiry and Application Standards

Inquiry, as theory, is a way in which people view the world. It requires critical thinking, a contribution of new ideas and reflection throughout the entire process. As such, the student is at the center of the experience with the teacher as "co-partner and guide". As teachers create inquiry curricula around students' interests and strengths, they also help students broaden the ways in which they think, question and explore. Investigation is a journey and teachers provide the guidance for the journey when they recognize that a student's experience of the inquiry process is a personal one.

Oakwood City School District: Kindergarten Social Studies

Content Standards

I. A Child's Place in Time and Space

A. History

1. Historical Thinking and Skills

a) Historical thinking begins with a clear sense of time – past, present and future – and becomes more precise as students progress. Historical thinking includes skills such as locating, researching, analyzing and interpreting primary and secondary sources so that students can begin to understand the relationships among events and draw conclusions.

(1) Time can be measured.

(2) Personal history can be shared through stories and pictures.

2. Heritage

a) Ideas and events from the past have shaped the world as it is today. The actions of individuals and groups have made a difference in the lives of others.

(1) Heritage is reflected through the arts, customs, traditions, family celebrations and language.

(2) Nations are represented by symbols and practices. Symbols and practices of the United States include the American flag, Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

Oakwood City School District: Kindergarten Social Studies

B. Geography

1. Spatial Thinking and Skills

a) Spatial thinking examines the relationships among people, places and environments by mapping and graphing geographic data. Geographic data are compiled, organized, stored and made visible using traditional and geospatial technologies. Students need to be able to access, read, interpret and create maps and other geographic representations as tools of analysis.

(1) Terms related to direction and distance, as well as symbols and landmarks, can be used to talk about the relative location of familiar places.

(2) Models and maps represent real places.

2. Human Systems

a) Human systems represent the settlement and structures created by people on Earth's surface. The growth, distribution and movements of people are driving forces behind human and physical events. Geographers study patterns in cultures and the changes that result from human processes, migrations and the diffusion of new cultural traits.

(1) Humans depend on and impact the physical environment in order to supply food, clothing and shelter.

(2) Individuals are unique but share common characteristics of multiple groups.

C. Government

1. Civic Participation and Skills

a) Civic participation embraces the ideal that an individual actively engages in his or her community, state or nation for the common good. Students need to practice effective communication skills including negotiation, compromise and collaboration. Skills in accessing and analyzing information are essential for citizens in a democracy.

(1) Individuals have shared responsibilities toward the achievement of common goals in homes, schools and communities.

2. Rules and Laws

a) Rules play an important role in guiding behavior and establishing order in families, classrooms and organizations. Laws are enacted by governments to perform similar functions.

(1) The purpose of rules and authority figures is to provide order, security and safety in the home, school and community.

D. Economics

1. Scarcity

a) There are not enough resources to produce all the goods and services that people desire.

(1) People have many wants and make decisions to satisfy those wants. These decisions impact others.

2. Production and Consumption

a) Production is the act of combining natural resources, human resources, capital goods and entrepreneurship to make goods and services. Consumption is the use of goods and services.

(1) Goods are objects that can satisfy people's wants. Services are actions that can satisfy people's wants.