Grade 3 Social Studies

Category: Elementary, History/Social Studies

Assessment: Pre-Test, Lesson Practice, Unit Exams, Mid-Term Exam, Final Exam

Course Overview

The Acellus Grade 3 Social Studies course begins to explore how the student fits into the world as a member of a community, a country, and the world. It introduces maps and how where one lives affects ones life, how industry works, and how government works in the U.S.A. It continues with US History from early Native Americans to the Civil War, and finishes up with an introduction to world history.

Scope and Sequence

Unit 1 – What is a Community?

This unit discusses what communities are, the geography and history of communities, communities in the United States and in the world, citizens of Asia, and using scales on a map. Also included is a biography of Sonia Manzano.

Unit 2 – Types of Communities

This unit discusses rural, suburban, and urban communities. It also covers how a community changes from farm to town, map skills featuring Chicago, Illinois, and comparing two communities – Chicago in the USA and Tokyo in Japan. Also included is a biography of Samuel M. Williams.

Unit 3 – People Move from Community to Community

This unit discusses relocating to a new community and to a new country, map skills featuring Boston, Massachusetts, where immigrants come from, immigrant artists, what it would be like to begin a new life by immigrating to America, and the Great Migration of African Americans from the south to the north. Also included are biographies of Jane Addams and Langston Hughes.

Unit 4 – Community Celebrations

This unit discusses cultural celebrations, celebrating culture with dance, remembering and celebrating a community's past, national celebrations, and comparing Thanksgiving in the United States, and and N'cwala in Zambia in the southern part of Africa. Also included is a biography of Nan'yehi (Nancy Ward).

Unit 5 – The Environment of a Community

This unit discusses physical characteristics of the Earth, the regions, physical map, and climates of the United States. Also covered are moving to a new region, how the homes of the Pueblo Indians in Taos, New Mexico, have changed, how to use a line graph, communities and natural resources, and how resources change people's lives. Also included is a biography of Maria Martinez.

Unit 6 – Where Do Communities Start?

This unit covers mountain, water, and crossroads communities, map skills featuring Glenwood Springs, industries of Seattle, Washington, comparing the climates of different communities, and highways and railways. Also included are biographies of Daniel Boone and Harriet Tubman.

Unit 7 – History of Communities

This unit covers the first explorers who arrived in North America, and the countries who sent them, as well as Spanish, French, and English communities, and comparing the communities St. Augustine in the USA and Cadiz in Spain. Also included are the research skill of using a library, the map skill of using a locator map, and the biography of Pocahontas.

Unit 8 – Changes in Communities

This unit covers how transportation, communication, and medicine have changed and newer types of transportation, as well as map skills featuring the Oregon Trail, the social studies skill of using a timeline, inventions for work and play, and a biography of Helen Keller.

Unit 9 – Commerce in a Community

This unit covers learning to earn, spend, and save money; the history of currency, how to make wise choices, a local business, and biographies of Roberto C. Goizueta and Madam C.J. Walker.

Unit 10 – Producing Goods

This unit covers the use of resources, people and machines at work, working together, world trade, resources around the world, and a biography of Henry Ford.

Unit 11 – Governments: Rights and Responsibilities

This unit covers the Pledge of Allegiance, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Bill of Rights, the National Anthem, comparing the Magna Carta and the Constitution of the United States, the history of governments in Athens, Greece, map skills featuring Washington, DC, comparing the communities of Ancient Rome and Washington, DC, points of view featuring King John and the Barons, and responsibilities and examples of being a good citizen. Also included is a biography of William Bradford.

Unit 12 – Local Government

This unit covers services and leaders in a community, how taxes pay for government, map skills featuring latitude and longitude, state government, and biographies of Charles Curtis and Ronald Reagan.