



Bedford Public Schools

Grade 2 – Social Studies

Second graders learn about their rights and responsibilities as a citizen of their classroom community and beyond. Through literature, they are taught to identify the admirable qualities of people who have made a difference in the world. Students study the significant sequence of events of a person who had made a positive impact. This builds an understanding of the admirable qualities that have led to their contribution to society. Students explore their own family history and create a timeline of significant events in their own lives. Their study of geography expands to include learning about major oceans, mountains ranges and rivers around the world.



Learning Expectations

Social Studies

Social Studies

Enduring Understandings In order to meet the standards, the students will need to understand that . . .	Essential Questions In order to understand, students will need to consider questions such as . . .	Knowledge and Skills Learning this material will require students to . . .
• People who live in a group all have rights and responsibilities. • Personal qualities often relate to the way people exercise their rights and meet their civic responsibilities (i.e. honesty, dependability, modesty, trustworthiness, and courage). • Understanding and practicing civic responsibility helps people become good leaders and good citizens.	• What do good citizens do? • How do people work together to help one another?	• Understand and give nonverbal signals. • Give and receive compliments. • Deal with annoying, teasing or “double D” behaviors. • Understand feeling words and read body language. • Express anger appropriately and plan problem solving steps. • Build positive relationships. • Recognize good leadership qualities. • List the rights and responsibilities that students have in school.

Enduring Understandings In order to meet the standards, the students will need to understand that . . .	Essential Questions In order to understand, students will need to consider questions such as . . .	Knowledge and Skills Learning this material will require students to . . .
• Maps and globes are used to show where things are located in our world. • Continents are large landmasses and are made up of individual countries. • There are oceans, large rivers and major mountain ranges around the world.	• How are continents divided into countries? • What and where are the oceans of the world? • Where are the major mountain ranges and rivers on Earth?	• Understand the division of North America into the countries of the United States, Canada and Mexico. • Locate the oceans and five major rivers of the world: the Mississippi, Amazon, Volga, Yangtze, and Nile. • Locate the major mountain ranges in the worlds: Andes, Alps, Himalayas, Mt. Everest, Mt. McKinley and the Rocky Mountains.

Enduring Understandings In order to meet the standards, the students will need to understand that . . .	Essential Questions In order to understand, students will need to consider questions such as . . .	Knowledge and Skills Learning this material will require students to . . .
• People who have made a difference share qualities in common, even if they come from different places, ethnic groups, faiths or time periods. • Fictional characters and real people in the school or community serve as good leaders and good citizens. • Many different global traditions and customs are celebrated here in America as a result of immigration by parents, grandparents or other relatives or ancestors. • Different areas of the world have traditional food, customs, sports games and music.	• What are ways individuals are recognized for their achievements and how can we describe and compare the different ways people have achieved great distinction? • What are considered good leadership qualities? • What are ways people can achieve great distinction? • What is a timeline? • What continents, regions or countries did our ancestors come from? • How do people live differently around the world?	• Identify the qualities that make people worthy of fame. • Give examples of fictional characters or real people in the school or community who were good leaders and good citizens, and explain the qualities that make them admirable (i.e. honesty, dependability, modesty, trustworthiness, and courage). • Create a personal timeline. • Locate the continents and countries from which their ancestors came. • Understand that different areas of the world celebrate different traditional foods, customs, sports, games, and music. • Identify well-known sites, events or landmarks from other countries and tell why they are important. • Give examples of traditions or customs from other countries that can be found in America today.