

3rd Grade Social Studies Standards – Learning Targets

Standard	Learning Targets	Social Studies Skills	Vocabulary
SS3H1 Describe early American Indian cultures and their development in North America.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can describe early American Indian cultures and their development in North America. 		
a. Locate the regions where American Indians settled in North America: Arctic, Northwest Southwest, Plains, Northeast, and Southeast.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can locate the regions where American Indians settled in North American I can locate the regions where American Indians settled in the Arctic. I can locate the regions where American Indians settled in Northwest. I can locate the regions where American Indians settled in Southwest. I can locate the regions where American Indians settled in the Plains. I can locate the regions where American Indians settled in the Northeast. I can locate the regions where American Indians settled in the Southeast. 		
b. Compare and contrast how American Indians in each region used their environment to obtain food, clothing, and shelter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can compare how American Indians in each region used their environment to obtain food, clothing, and shelter. I can contrast how American Indians in each region used their environment to obtain food, clothing, and shelter. 		
c. Discuss how American Indians continue to contribute to American life (e.g., arts, literature).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can discuss how American Indians continue to contribute to American life. 		
SS3H2 Describe European exploration in North America.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can describe European exploration in North America. 		

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a. Describe the reasons for and obstacles to the exploration of North America.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe the reasons for the exploration of North America. ● I can describe the obstacles encountered during the exploration of North America. 		
b. Describe the accomplishments of: John Cabot (England), Vasco Núñez de Balboa (Spain), Hernando de Soto (Spain), Christopher Columbus (Spain), Henry Hudson (The Netherlands), and Jacques Cartier (France).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe the accomplishments of John Cabot. ● I can describe the accomplishments of Vasco Nunez de Balboa. ● I can describe the accomplishments of Hernando de Soto. ● I can describe the accomplishments of Christopher Columbus. ● I can describe the accomplishments of Henry Hudson. ● I can describe the accomplishments of Jacques Cartier. 		
c. Describe examples of cooperation and conflict between European explorers and American Indians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe examples of cooperation between European explorers and American Indians. ● I can describe examples of conflicts between European explorers and American Indians. 		
SS3H3 Explain the factors that shaped British Colonial America.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explain the factors that shaped British Colonial America. 		
a. Identify key reasons why the New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Southern colonies were founded (religious freedom and profit).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can identify key reasons the New England colonies were founded. ● I can identify key reasons the Mid Atlantic colonies were founded. ● I can identify key reasons the Southern colonies were founded. 		
b. Compare and contrast colonial life in the New England, Mid-Atlantic,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can compare colonial life in the New England colonies. 		

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and Southern colonies (education, economy, and religion).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can compare colonial life in the Mid Atlantic colonies. ● I can compare colonial life in the Southern colonies. ● I can contrast colonial life in the New England colonies. ● I can contrast colonial life in the Mid Atlantic colonies. ● I can contrast colonial life in the Southern colonies. 		
c. Describe colonial life in America from the perspectives of various people: large landowners, farmers, artisans, women, children, indentured servants, slaves, and American Indians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe colonial life in America from the perspectives of various people: large landowners, farmers, artisans, women, children, indentured servants, slaves, and American Indian. 		
SS3G1 Locate major topographical features on a physical map of the United States.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can locate major topographical features on a physical map of the United States. 		
a. Locate major rivers of the United States of America: Mississippi, Ohio, Rio Grande, Colorado, Hudson, and St. Lawrence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can locate majors rivers of the United States. ● I can locate the Mississippi River. ● I can locate the Ohio River. ● I can locate the Rio Grande River. ● I can locate the Colorado River. ● I can locate the Hudson River. ● I can locate the St. Lawrence. 		
b. Locate major mountain ranges of the United States of America: Appalachian, Rocky.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can locate major mountain ranges of the United States of America: ● I can locate the Appalachian Mountains. ● I can locate the Rocky Mountains. 		

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SS3G2 Locate and describe the equator, prime meridian, and lines of latitude and longitude on a globe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can locate the equator on a globe. ● I can locate the prime meridian on a globe. ● I can locate the lines of latitude on a globe. ● I can locate the lines longitude on a globe. ● I can describe the equator on a globe. ● I can describe the prime meridian on a globe. ● I can describe the lines of latitude on a globe. ● I can describe the lines longitude on a globe. 		
SS3G3 Describe how physical systems affect human systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe how physical systems affect human systems. 		
a. Explain why American Indian groups occupied the areas they did (SS3H1a), with emphasis on why some developed permanent villages and others did not.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explain why American Indian groups occupied the areas they did, with emphasis on why some developed permanent villages and others did not. 		
b. Describe how the early explorers (SS3H2a) adapted, or failed to adapt, to the various physical environments in which they traveled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can described how the early explorers adapted to the various physical environment in which they traveled. ● I can described how the early explorers failed to adapt the the various physical environments in which they traveled. 		
c. Explain how the physical geography of the New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Southern colonies helped determine economic activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explained how the physical geography of the New England colonies helped determined economic activities. ● I can explained how the physical geography of the Mid-Atlantic colonies helped determined economic activities. ● I can explained how the physical geography of the Southern colonies helped determined economic activities. 		

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SS3CG1 Describe the elements of representative democracy/republic in the United States.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe the elements of representatives democracy in the United States. ● I can describe the elements of republic in the United States. 		
a. Describe the three branches of national government: executive (president), legislative (Congress), and judicial (Supreme Court of the United States).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe the three branches of the national government. ● I can describe the executive branch. ● I can describe the legislative branch. ● I can describe the judicial branch. 		
b. Describe the three branches of state government: executive (governor), legislative (Georgia General Assembly), and judicial (Supreme Court of Georgia).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can describe the three branches of the state government. ● I can describe the executive branch. ● I can describe the legislative branch. ● I can describe the judicial branch. 		
c. State the main responsibility of each branch: executive (enforcing laws), legislative (making laws), judicial (determining if laws are fair).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can state the main responsibility of each branch. ● I can describe the responsibility of the executive branch. ● I can describe the responsibility of the legislative branch. ● I can describe the responsibility of the judicial branch. 		
SS3CG2 Explain the importance of Americans sharing certain central democratic beliefs and principles, both personal and civic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explain the importance the Americans sharing central democratic beliefs and principles, both personal and civic. 		
a. Explain the necessity of respecting the rights of others and promoting the common good.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I can explain the necessity of respecting the rights of others and promoting the common good. 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain the necessity of obeying reasonable laws voluntarily and explain why it is important for citizens in a democratic society to participate in public (civic) life. 		
b. Explain the necessity of obeying reasonable laws/rules voluntarily, and explain why it is important for citizens in a democratic society to participate in public (civic) life (staying informed, voting, volunteering, and communicating with public officials).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain the necessity of obeying reasonable rules voluntarily and explain why it is important for citizens in a democratic society to participate in public (civic) life. (staying informed, voting, volunteering, and communicating with public officials). 		
SS3E1 Define and give examples of the four types of productive resources. a. Natural (land) b. Human (labor) c. Capital (capital goods) d. Entrepreneurship (risk-taking and combining natural, human, and capital resources in an attempt to make a profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can define and give examples of the four types of productive resources. (natural (land), human (labor), capital (capital goods), and entrepreneurship (risk taking). 		
SS3E2 Explain that governments provide certain types of goods and services in a market economy (schools, libraries, roads, police/fire protection, and military) and pay for these through taxes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain that governments provide certain types of good and services in a market economy and pay for these through taxes. 		
SS3E3 Give examples of interdependence and trade and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can give examples of interdependence of trade and explain the benefits of voluntary exchange. 		

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explain the benefits of voluntary exchange.			
a. Describe the interdependence of consumers and producers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can describe the interdependence of consumers and producers. 		
b. Describe how goods and services are allocated by price in the marketplace.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can describe how goods and services are allocated by price in the market place. 		
c. Explain that some goods are made locally, some elsewhere in the country, and some in other countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain that some goods are made locally, and some elsewhere in the country, and some in other countries. 		
d. Explain that most countries create their own currency for use as money.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain that most countries create their own currency for use as money. 		
SS3E4 Explain the concept of opportunity cost as it relates to making a saving or spending choice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain the concept of opportunity cost as it relates to making a saving or spending choice. 		