



8th Grade Social Studies Connecting Themes and Enduring Understandings



Unit 1: Concepts and Enduring Understandings used in Georgia Studies

■ Unit 1 Essential Questions

- ☐ **What are the enduring understandings used in Georgia Studies?**
- ☐ **Why and how do we use the enduring understandings, or course concepts, to study Georgia Studies?**
- ☐ **What concepts can we currently relate to our everyday life?**



Location

- Location affects a society's economy, culture and development

How do your activities change depending on where you go on vacation?

What are some differences between city (urban) and country (rural)?



Governance

- As a society increases in complexity and interacts with other societies, the complexity of the government also increases

How do rules change in sports from when you are young to professional sports?

How might rules, responsibilities, and expectations change when there is a change in your family (new sibling, divorce, grandparent moving in)?



Movement/Migration

- The movement or migration of people and ideas affects all societies involved

What impact do you have on your community?

How does your class change when a new student moves in?



Individuals, Groups, and Institutions

- The actions of individuals, groups, and/or institutions affect society through intended and unintended consequences

How might the actions of a few students bring consequences for an entire class?

What decisions have you made in your life that have had intended or unintended consequences?



Technological Innovation

- Technological innovations have consequences, both intended and unintended, for a society.

How has access to the internet both benefited and harmed school?

What technological innovations have impacted the way you are taught and the way you study?



Production, Distribution, and Consumption

- The production, distribution, and consumption of goods/services produced by the society are affected by the location, customs, beliefs, and laws of the society

What are some of the products produced or manufactured in your area?

How are these products distributed in other areas?



Distribution of Power

- Distribution of power in government is a product of existing documents and laws combined with temporary values and beliefs

How is power divided in your family?



Rule of Law

- In a democracy, rule of law influences the behavior of citizens, establishes procedures for making policies, and limits the power of government

What prevents teachers or police from abusing their power?

Why should you (or shouldn't you) have all laws written down in an official document?



Conflict and Change

- When there is conflict between or within societies, change is the result

How might conflict among family members result in change for that family?

Why did the government of Iraq recently change?



Conflict Resolution

- Societies resolve conflicts through legal procedures, force, and/or compromise.

What conflict has occurred in your community and how was it resolved?

Understanding the Concepts

- **Directions:** Using your Concepts chart and knowledge of the course concepts and enduring understandings choose one concept that you think matches each event listed. Then, explain why you chose that concept for the event.

- ***Events***

- ☐ 1. Civil War
- ☐ 2. "Water Wars" between GA, FL, and AL
- ☐ 3. Presidential election
- ☐ 4. War in Iraq
- ☐ 5. Colonizing America
- ☐ 6. The Great Depression
- ☐ 7. Creating the Constitution
- ☐ 8. Founding of the Coca-Cola Co.
- ☐ 9. Prehistoric Indians
- ☐ 10. American Revolution