

**West Linn-Wilsonville School District
Primary (Grades K-5) Social Studies Curriculum**

Curriculum Foundations		
<u>Important Ideas & Understandings</u>	<u>Significant Content Strands</u>	<u>Significant Skills to be Learned & Practiced</u>
• The Stories of Human Experience ➤ Environmental Adaptation ➤ Technological Advances ➤ Sociological Influences • Trends and Relationships ➤ Accelerating Rate of Change ➤ Increasing Complexity ➤ Intensifying Interdependence	• Geography • Economics • History • Civics & Government	• Contextualized Reading • Research & Inquiry ➤ Asking Questions ➤ Following Questions Through a Process (Big6™) • Problem Solving & Decision Making • Expository & Persuasive Writing

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<u>Kindergarten</u> Curriculum Framework		
<u>Themes</u>	<u>Essential Learning/Questions</u>	<u>Topics/Contexts for Learning</u>
Communities – Family <i>The relationship between individual and family</i>	• Why do we have family? • What is a family? • How does a family work together, support each other, and celebrate? • How does the environment affect the family?	• All About Me • Family Members & Their Roles ➤ Jobs & Chores • Celebrations, Holidays & Traditions ➤ Uniqueness
Communities – School <i>The relationship between individual and school</i>	• What is a school community? • How does a school community work together, support each other, and celebrate? • How does a school environment affect how we learn? • Why do we have schools? • What is my role as a kindergartner? How do I fit in?	• Student Role • Rights & Responsibilities ➤ Rules • Celebrations & Traditions ➤ Uniqueness

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<u>First Grade</u> Curriculum Framework		
<u>Themes</u>	<u>Essential Learning/Questions</u>	<u>Topics/Contexts for Learning</u>
Communities – Neighborhoods <i>How neighborhoods reflect and support families and schools</i>	• Why do we have neighborhoods? • How does a neighborhood work together, support each other, and celebrate? • How does the environment affect a neighborhood? • How does a neighborhood affect the environment?	• People in the Neighborhood • What Makes a Neighborhood ➤ Essential Services
Communities – My Country, My Heroes <i>How national symbols represent patriotism</i>	• What are and why do we have national symbols? How do national symbols represent us? • What does patriotism look like? • What makes a hero?	• Flag & Symbols • Democratic Process ➤ Presidents & National Figures • National Celebrations & Holidays

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<u>Second Grade</u> Curriculum Framework		
<u>Themes</u>	<u>Essential Learning/Questions</u>	<u>Topics/Contexts for Learning</u>
Communities – Cities <i>Vital structures of a thriving city</i>	• Why and how do communities form? • What makes a community thrive? • How do my actions affect the whole community?	• Essential Systems of a Changing Community ➤ West Linn Government & Services ➤ Wilsonville Government & Services
People Make History <i>Choices that make you a leader, hero, and contributor</i>	• How do choices made in previous generations affect the following generations? • How does your family (past and present) contribute to the community? • How might your family contribute in the future to the community? • Who is a contributor/hero on a personal, a community, and a national level? • Who is a leader on a personal, a community, and a national level?	• The Stories of Your Family ➤ Family History • Contributors/Heroes & Leaders

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<u>Third Grade</u> Curriculum Framework		
<u>Themes</u>	<u>Essential Learning/Questions</u>	<u>Topics/Contexts for Learning</u>
Oregon – Past, Present, & Future <i>The dynamic relationship between people and the place they live</i>	• How do the geography and available resources of an area affect people's lives? • How do our actions and the actions of a culture affect the environment and available resources? • How do the actions of one culture affect another culture? • What are the challenges and opportunities for Oregon and its people?	• Native Americans ➤ Oregon Geography ➤ History & Current Culture ➤ Economics ➤ Resources & Adapting to the Land • Early Pioneers of Oregon ➤ Oregon Geography ➤ Interaction with Native Americans ➤ Way of Life ➤ Resources ➤ Reasons/Decisions for Relocation • Oregon Today ➤ Oregon Geography ➤ Economics ➤ Cultural Diversity ➤ Challenges & Opportunities ➤ The City of Portland

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<u>Fourth Grade</u> Curriculum Framework		
<u>Themes</u>	<u>Essential Learning/Questions</u>	<u>Topics/Contexts for Learning</u>
Exploration & Migration <i>The dynamic impact of exploration and migration</i>	• What are the reasons for exploration and migration? • How does a quest for “riches” impact people, the environment, and culture? • How did Lewis & Clark’s exploration impact westward migration?	• Lewis & Clark • Westward Movement ➤ Oregon Trail ➤ Gold Rush
States & Regions <i>Geographical and political qualities help define a community</i>	• How does the geographical landscape influence the economy, culture, and development of a particular region?	• World Geography • US Geography • Maps

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<u>Fifth Grade</u> Curriculum Framework		
<u>Themes</u>	<u>Essential Learning/Questions</u>	<u>Topics/Contexts for Learning</u>
Exploration <i>Impact of early world exploration</i>	• What are the reasons for exploration? • How does a quest for “riches” impact people, the environment, and culture? • How did early world explorers’ journeys initiate new understandings of the world, its economic opportunities, and peoples?	• Early New World Explorers
Colonial America & American Revolution <i>Purposes, goals, and outcomes of the colonization of America</i>	• What is the tipping point for a revolution? How long can people be oppressed before responding to their oppressor? • What was the tipping point for joining together and unifying as a nation? • What is a colony? Why do people colonize? What are current colonies?	• Colonies • American Revolution
Democracy/Government & Economics <i>The relationship between rights & responsibilities is the foundation of the US government</i>	• What is the purpose of government? How is our government structured and how has it developed to respond to changes in our world and the views of the people? • What is the relationship between rights and responsibilities? • What makes something valuable? What is the difference between needs and wants? What differences exist between various economic systems? • How are natural resources used and how does that use impact the economy?	• US Government ➤ Local ➤ Regional ➤ Federal • Economics