

Introduction

Curriculum Overview

Congratulations on choosing an outstanding first-grade curriculum! Using this curriculum, you and your student will be engaged in reading fiction and nonfiction literature selections, creating art projects, baking, visiting special places and people, publishing unique books, and a myriad of other activities. One of the advantages in selecting Texas Tech University K-12 curriculum is that you will have an all-encompassing curriculum similar to what you would find in some of the most outstanding teacher's classrooms in our nation.

This course is completed online in Blackboard using the PDF **Unit Lessons** and **Worksheets** documents.

Unit assessments in this course consist of two parts, the **Unit Test** and the **Unit Project**. For each Unit Test, the student will download and complete PDF test pages, then scan or take a digital photograph of the completed pages showing his or her work. Completed Unit Projects must also be scanned or photographed. Combine the images for each assignment into a single PDF (see **Requirements for Creating PDFs** on the course home page) and upload the file for grading as instructed in the assignment.

1st Grade Social Studies

In Social Studies, the student will recognize that he or she is a unique individual and how he or she belongs in a school, family, and community. The student will visit several community helpers to see how they contribute to the community and the safety of each of us. The student will learn rules for living and working together. The student will be able to distinguish between a town, state, and country and the leaders that govern them. The student will recognize the symbols of the United States and of Texas. The student will learn the rights and responsibilities of being a good citizen and how we are each responsible for taking care of the Earth. The student will learn about land forms, recycling, the use of natural resources, and how these affect the homes that we live in.

Course Objectives

The curriculum meets all of the [Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills](#) (TEKS) objectives. At the end of this course, the student should be able to:

- use visuals to determine word meanings;
- explain why schools are important;
- express ideas orally based on knowledge and experiences;

- identify main ideas;
- explain the need for rules in the home, school, and community;
- give examples of rules;
- use a decision-making process;
- identify school workers;
- identify the responsibilities of authority figures in the home and school;
- use location words to describe where things are;
- create and use simple maps to identify the location of places;
- compare and contrast types of school situations;
- learn about community workers in their community;
- recognize the rules or laws in the community;
- recognize that breaking rules or laws has consequences;
- identify leaders in the community, state, and nation;
- recognize his or her state on a United States map;
- learn about historical figures such as George Washington;
- recognize the democratic process of voting;
- recite the Pledge of Allegiance;
- identify symbols, anthems, and mottos of America and of Texas;
- identify characteristics of good citizens;
- identify the rights and responsibilities of being a good citizen;
- identify historical figures who have influenced the community, state, and nation;
- explain the difference between a neighborhood, city, state, and nation;
- identify and describe landforms and bodies of water;
- use the four cardinal directions correctly on a map;
- understand the importance of natural resources;
- identify types of natural resources;
- make predictions;
- learn how to protect our environment and our natural resources;
- explain how the environment affects the types of homes that people have;
- recognize ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Handwriting

Handwriting is taught in the Language Arts course. However, good handwriting skills are necessary in all subjects including social studies. In Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2, manuscript is the preferred technique. When teaching your child handwriting, please consider the appropriate letter formation and spacing. Please refer to the manuscript chart included on the next page to assist you in appropriately teaching your child handwriting. Please reinforce the importance of good handwriting in all subject areas.

Traditional Manuscript

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg

Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn

Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu

Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Books and Materials for SOCS 1 this Semester

Textbook

- Field et al., *Harcourt Horizons: About My World* (Harcourt, Inc., 2003), ISBN 978-0-15-334228-8

Other Required Books

These books can be purchased from any book vendor or borrowed from your public library.

- Aardema, *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain* (Puffin Books, 1983), ISBN 0140546162
- Adler, *A Picture Book of George Washington* (Holiday House, 1990), ISBN 0823408000
- Berenstain, *The Berenstain Bears Don't Pollute (Anymore)* (Random House, 1991), ISBN 0679823514
- Brown, *Arthur Meets the President* (Marc Brown, 1992), ISBN 0316112917
- Henkes, *Chrysanthemum* (HarperTrophy, 1996), ISBN 0688147321
- Hopkins, *Tumbleweed Tom on the Texas Trail* (Charlesbridge Publishing, 1994), ISBN 0881068470
- MacDonald/Brown, *The Little Island* (Dell Picture Yearling, 1993), ISBN 044040830X
- Masters, *The Fabulous Flying Flag Farm* (Masair Publications, 1996), ISBN 0962356352, or another book about the American flag
- Pellegrini, *Families Are Different* (Holiday House, 1991), ISBN 0823408876, or another book about families
- Rathmann, *Officer Buckle and Gloria* (Putnam Juvenile, 1995), ISBN 0399226168
- Rylant, *When I Was Young in the Mountains* (Puffin Books, 1985), ISBN 0140548750

Optional Books

- Adler, *A Picture Book of Abraham Lincoln* (Holiday House, 1990), ISBN 0823408019
- Adler, *A Picture Book of Christopher Columbus* (Holiday House, 1992), ISBN 082340949X
- Adler, *A Picture Book of Martin Luther King, Jr.* (Holiday House, 1990), ISBN 0823408477
- Altman, *Amelia's Road* (Lee and Low Books, 1995), ISBN 188000027X
- dePaola, *The Legend of the Bluebonnet* (Putnam, 1996), ISBN 0698113594
- Joose, *Mama Do You Love Me?* (Chronicle Books, 1991), ISBN 087701759X
- McGovern, ed., *Aesop's Fables* (Scholastic, 1963), ISBN 0590438808
- Oberman, *The Always Prayer Shawl* (Puffin Books, 1997), ISBN 0140561579

- Rattigan, *Dumpling Soup* (Megan Tingley, 1998), ISBN 0316730475
- Robbins, *Make Me a Peanut Butter Sandwich and a Glass of Milk* (Scholastic, 1992), ISBN 0590435507
- Rockwell, *Career Day* (Harper Collins, 2000), ISBN 0060275650
- Viorst, *Alexander, Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday* (Aladdin, 1987), ISBN 0689711999
- Waters, *Samuel Eaton's Day* (Scholastic, 1996), ISBN 0590480537
- Waters, *Sarah Morton's Day* (Scholastic, 1993), ISBN 0590474006
- Waters, *Tapenum's Day* (Scholastic, 1996), ISBN 0590202375

Materials

- audio recording of the song “Texas, Our Texas”
- camera (optional)
- cardboard
- coffee can or bowl
- craft paint or tempera paint
- crayons
- egg, 1
- envelopes mailed from various locations
- envelopes, 2
- flour
- glass
- globe (an inflatable or pillow globe would be best)
- glue
- hanger
- honey
- index cards, 3” × 5” white, 20
- index cards, different color or size, 18
- ink pad or washable paint
- map tacks, dots, or flag markers (optional)
- maps: Texas, the United States, the world, your town
- markers
- old magazines with pictures of different land and water forms and pictures of natural resources
- one-dollar bill
- paper plate

- paper: chart, construction (1½ sheets of 8½" × 11", and 1 piece of 12" × 18" or 2 pieces of 9" × 12"), drawing, plain white, writing
- pencils
- plastic six-pack soda can holders, 2
- poster board
- printed words to the songs "Texas, Our Texas" and "The Star Spangled Banner"
- quarter
- ruler
- salt: coarse and table
- scissors
- shoebox
- small model trees and other scenery (optional)
- spray paint, blue
- stamps, 2
- stapler
- string
- video about a community helper (firefighter, mail carrier, police officer, bank teller, etc.)
- water
- wooden skewer
- yeast

Grading Procedures and Unit Assignment Schedule

Grades are calculated for Unit 1, Unit 2, and Unit 3. The semester grade is an average of the three unit grades. The unit grades will include a test and a project for each unit. The Units 1 and Unit 2 Tests and Projects are located in their respective Unit folders in this online course; the Unit 3 Test and Project are the Final Exam folder.

The Unit Tests and Unit Projects will be submitted **separately** to Texas Tech University K-12 to be graded. After the student has finished the Unit Test, scan or take a digital photograph of the assigned pages, showing his or her work. Combine the images into a **single PDF** (see “Requirements for Creating PDFs” on the course home page).

Scan or photograph each Unit Project. (For audio or video projects, see “Audio Help” and “Video Help” on the course home page for information about saving these formats for upload.) Combine multiple images into a **single PDF**.

When you save your documents, use the naming convention given for each Unit Test or Unit Project as the name of your file. Upload the file according to the instructions given in the assignment.

Schedule for tests and projects

Unit 1:

- Day 23: Unit 1 Test
- Day 25: Unit 1 Project (choose one of the projects)

Unit 2

- Day 49: Unit 2 Test
- Day 50: Unit 2 Project (choose one of the projects)

Unit 3

- Day 74: Unit 3 Test
- Day 75: Unit 3 Project (choose one of the projects)

Unit Projects

Your student must complete a project for each unit. The student has the option of creating his or her own project or choosing one of those listed in **Suggested Projects** in this course. If the student chooses a topic, he or she must choose a topic based on the information presented in the

unit, and it must be approved by Texas Tech University K-12. The student must also complete a **Unit Topic Planner**. Please submit these to Texas Tech University K-12 no later than one week after your student begins the unit.

The student's teacher will send feedback regarding whether or not your project has been approved. You will find it in the **My Grades** area of this course.