

Introduction

Curriculum Overview

Congratulations on choosing an outstanding kindergarten curriculum! Using this curriculum, you and your student will be engaged in reading books, role plays, creating art projects, cooking, playing games, singing songs, and a myriad of other activities. One of the true 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 the **Unit Projects**. For each Unit Project, scan or take digital photographs of the completed pages showing the student's work. 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.

Kindergarten Social Studies

The student will examine his or her uniqueness; understand the interdependence of members of families and communities; learn about the roles and responsibilities of families; understand the relationship of how needs and wants affect choices; explore traditions, customs, and special events in different cultures; and learn about many important people such as Christopher Columbus, the Pilgrims, and the Native Americans.

Course Objectives

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

- place events in chronological order;
- use vocabulary related to time and chronology, including *before*, *after*, *next*, *first*, and *last*;
- identify basic human needs;
- explain how the basic human needs of food, clothing, and shelter can be met;
- identify personal attributes common to all people, such as physical characteristics;
- identify differences among people;

- obtain information about a topic using a variety of oral sources such as conversations, interviews, and music;
- obtain information about a topic using a variety of visual sources such as pictures, symbols, television, maps, computer images, print material, and artifacts;
- sequence and categorize information;
- identify main ideas from oral, visual, and print sources;
- identify the human characteristics of places such as types of houses;
- identify ways of earning a living;
- identify jobs in the home, school, and community;
- explain why people have jobs;
- identify purposes for having rules;
- identify rules that provide order, security, and safety in the home and school;
- identify family customs and traditions and explain their importance;
- compare family customs and traditions;
- use a problem-solving process to identify a problem, gather information, list and consider options, consider advantages and disadvantages, choose and implement a solution, and evaluate the effectiveness of the solution;
- use a decision-making process to identify a situation that requires a decision, gather information, identify options, predict consequences, and take action to implement a decision;
- describe the customs of the local community.

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 K this Semester

Required Books

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

- Ansary, *Native Americans* series:
 - ✧ *Southwest Indians* (Heinemann Library, 1999), ISBN 1575729237
 - ✧ *Plains Indians* (Heinemann Library, 2000), ISBN 1575729296
 - ✧ *Eastern Woodland Indians* (Heinemann Library, 2000), ISBN 157572930X
- Brown & Krensky, *Perfect Pigs* (Little, Brown & Co., 1983), ISBN 0316110809
- Carlson, *I Like Me* (Puffin, 1990), ISBN 0670820628
- Freymann, *How Are You Peeling?* (Scholastic, 2004), ISBN 0439598419
- Henkes, *Chrysanthemum* (William Morrow & Co., Inc., 1996), ISBN 0688147321
- Hoberman, *A House is a House For Me* (Viking, 1978), ISBN 0941978310
- Hutchins, *Happy Birthday* (William Morrow & Co., Inc., 1991), ISBN 0688104827
- Hutchins, *The Door Bell Rang* (William Morrow & Co., Inc., 1989), ISBN 0688092349
- Jeram, *Birthday Happy, Contrary Mary* (Candlewick Press, 1998), ISBN 0763604569
- Krensky, *Christopher Columbus* (Random House, Inc., 1991), ISBN 0679803696
- Lobel, *Frog and Toad Are Friends* (Harper Collins Children's Books, 1979), ISBN 0064440206
- McGovern, *The Pilgrims' First Thanksgiving* (Scholastic, Inc., 1993), ISBN 0590461885
- Modesitt, *Sometimes I Feel Like a Mouse* (Scholastic, 1996), ISBN 0590448366
- Pfister, *Rainbow Fish* (North-South Books, 1995), ISBN 1558584412
- Piper, *The Little Engine That Could* (Grosset & Dunlap, 1986), ISBN 0448190788
- Sage, *I Am a Native American* (Rosen Publishing Group, Inc., 2001), ISBN 082359014X
- Tardif, *Pilgrim Children Had Many Chores* (Creative Teaching Press, Inc., 1996), ISBN 1574711210
- Williams, *A Chair For My Mother* (William Morrow & Co., 1984), ISBN 0688040748
- Wood, *Quick as a Cricket* (Child's Play International, 1991), ISBN 0859533069

Optional Books

- Berenstain, *The Berenstain Bears Forget Their Manners* (Random House, 1985), ISBN 0394873335

- Hill, *Did You Know?* (Creative Teaching Press, Inc., 1998), ISBN 1574713353
- McGovern, *If You Sailed on the Mayflower* (Scholastic Paperbacks, 1991), ISBN 0590451618
- Waters, *Giving Thanks: The 1621 Harvest Feast* (Scholastic, 2001), ISBN 0439243955
- Waters, *Tapenum's Day: A Wampanoag Indian Boy on Pilgrim Times* (Scholastic Press, 1996), ISBN 0590202375

Materials

- alcohol
- baking powder, 4 teaspoons
- baking soda, 1 tsp.
- baseball cap
- basket or bucket
- beef jerky
- brown sugar, 1 cup packed
- brushes
- calendar
- cheese
- chocolate chips, 1 pkg., 11.5-oz.
- chopped nuts, 1 cup (optional)
- cinnamon, 1 tablespoon
- cornbread, boxed mix
- cornmeal, yellow, 1 cup
- crackers
- craft sticks
- cranberries, 2 cups fresh
- crayons
- decorating materials: beans, sequins, macaroni, etc.
- drinking glass
- eggs, 4
- electric skillet
- electronic game
- fabric
- feathers (optional)
- flour, 4 cups

- food coloring
- frosting, canned
- Fruit Loops
- glitter
- globe
- glue
- grocery sacks
- index cards, 3" × 5"
- ingredients for cake or cupcakes
- knife
- light bulb or small lamp
- magazines with pictures of:
 - ◊ different types of people
 - ◊ people showing different emotions
 - ◊ needs and wants
 - ◊ families
 - ◊ household items
 - ◊ different types of homes
- magnifying glass
- markers: black, color
- measuring tape
- milk, 1 cup
- mirror
- modeling clay
- newspapers
- noodles, large
- paints: tempera, watercolor
- paper: butcher, construction, plain white, scraps, writing
- pencils
- photos of the student at various ages
- plastic bag, small
- plate
- pretzel sticks

- ribbon
- salt, 1¾ teaspoon
- scissors
- scotch tape (optional)
- shoebox or paper sack
- shortening, 1¼ cup
- small brown paper sack
- soap, bar
- spoon
- stamp pad
- stapler
- story book
- sugar, 2 cups
- sunflower seeds
- tagboard (optional)
- tapioca pudding recipe and ingredients
- toothpicks
- tortillas, flour
- vanilla, 1 tsp.
- video, *The Berenstain Bears Forget Their Manners*
- video, *The Wizard of Oz*
- water
- water tub or basin
- world map (optional)
- yard stick (optional)
- yarn

Grading Procedures and Unit Assignment Checklists

Grades are calculated for Unit 1, Unit 2, and Unit 3. The semester grade is an average of the three unit grades.

The student will be graded on completion of the projects for each unit. The parts of each project are listed below. Projects will be uploaded to Texas Tech University K-12 for grading on Days 25, 50, and 75.

After completing each Unit, scan or take digital photographs of the assessment pages showing the student's work. Combine the images into a **single PDF** (see "Requirements for Creating PDFs" on the course home page). When you save the document, use the naming convention given for each Unit Project as the name of your file. Upload the file according to the instructions given in the assignment.

Schedule for projects

Unit 1 Checklist

- "Me" booklet pages:
 - ◇ Day 2
 - ◇ Day 7
 - ◇ Day 14
 - ◇ Day 15
 - ◇ Day 18
 - ◇ Day 19
 - ◇ Day 23

Unit 2 Checklist

- Day 29
- Day 35
- Day 39
- Day 50

Unit 3 Checklist

- “Thanksgiving” booklet pages:
 - ◊ 10 pages of information
 - ◊ an illustrated book cover
 - ◊ an author page