

Social Studies Curriculum

To be reviewed and reworked 2018-2019 School Year

Philosophy Statement

Social studies is the basic subject of the educational world today. It is the so-called “Bible” by which many educators hope to solve the problems of life. At St. Paul’s, social studies are subservient to the Word of God. We believe that our Lord holds the destiny of all people in His hands, and he so directs their course that even the doings of the ungodly, unconscious of themselves, must contribute to His plan, His glory and the welfare of His Kingdom. Within the framework of social studies the child learns to function better in the home, school, community, state and nation so that s/he may be fit to make God-pleasing, reasonable decisions for the public good when confronted with problems, issues, and duties as an American citizen.

Course Introduction

The scope of study in St. Paul’s Lutheran social studies curriculum includes exposure to a variety of social science disciplines: world cultures, values and customs, history, geography, sociology, current events, economics, and civics. Instruction and activities in these areas are structured to help young students develop skills such as critical thinking, decision-making, cause-and-effect relationships, and reading charts, maps, and graphs. This curriculum aspires to give students the necessary tools to be active, well-adjusted citizens and leaders in today’s world.

Exit Goals for Graduation from St. Paul’s

1. Realize that God has created everyone and everything.
2. Appreciate how wonderfully God has created all things.
3. See how the people and the earth have developed according to God’s plan of salvation.
4. Be aware that the world is constantly changing.
5. Continue to lead a Christian life in this constantly changing world
6. Realize that everyone is a product of his environment.
7. Realize that people rely on others for day-to-day living
8. Realize that everyone should conserve human, natural, and cultural resources.
9. Learn the physical and political features of the world.
10. Learn the historical facts of our nation and other parts of the world.
11. Appreciate and show respect for worthwhile contributions by people throughout the world.
12. Realize, appreciate, and want to preserve his rights and privileges as a United States citizen.
13. Use social study tools and skills effectively.

Grade Level Measurable Objectives

Kindergarten-Second Grade

1. Identify, describe, and explain major national holidays
2. Identify and explain the meaning of important national symbols.
3. Use words and phrases related to chronology and time correctly to explain how things change.
4. Describe diverse community and family celebrations and customs.

5. Identify and explain very basic characteristics of maps and globes, and state where they live by street, city, county, state, nation, and continent.
6. Explain the creation and importance of rules, as well as the qualities of honesty, patriotism, loyalty, courtesy, respect, truth, pride, self-control, moderation, and accomplishment.
7. Describe types of work that people do to earn income.
8. Explain the concept of exchanging money for goods and services.
9. Keep informed of current events and recognize their significances as history in the making.
10. Study the home and school.
11. Study the family and environment in and outside the United States.

Third Grade Science Measurable Objectives

1. Study landforms of the United States.
2. Study Native Americans.
3. Study the pilgrims.
4. Study pioneers in the East.
5. Study the western settlers.
6. Study ways to protect our land resources.
7. Study community, state, and national government.
8. Study national holidays, symbols, and landmarks.

Fourth Grade Measurable Objectives

1. Be introduced to types of national regions (forest, mountain, sea, farming, manufacturing)
2. Identify oceans, continents, countries.
3. Know directions.
4. Locate the equator.
5. Interprets map symbols.
6. Study the United States today (regions of America).
7. Read Florida road maps.
8. Use table of contents and index to find information.
9. Study Florida state history.
10. Study U.S. states and capitals.

Grade 5 Measurable Objectives

1. Be introduced to civilizations such as Mayan, Actez, and other
2. Know directions.
3. Uses a scale to estimate distance.
4. Read special purpose maps (political, physical, product, historical, resources, etc.)
5. Understands latitude in relation to climate.
6. Has knowledge and application of geographical terms (plateau, isthmus, peninsula, delta, etc.)
7. Reads U.S. road maps.
8. Complete desk maps correctly with key or legend.
9. Locate information from a variety of sources.

Sixth Grade

1. Be introduced to history and geography of the U.S.A.
2. Interprets and compares special purpose maps (rainfall, population, product physical, etc.)
3. Understand latitude and altitude in relation to climate.
4. Understand longitude as a measure of time and east-west distance.
5. Understand revolution of earth in relation to seasons.
6. Understand geographical terms (parallels, meridian, Greenwich, strait, canal, tropic, etc.)

7. Uses atlas, almanacs, and reference books correctly.

Seventh – Eighth Grades

1. Gain an understanding of the historical continuity of the history of the U.S.
2. Understand the wide variety of forces which have shaped the U.S.
3. Consider how the history of other nations, explorers, and people has affected the growth and development of the U.S.
4. View, analyze, and evaluate the broad themes which make up American History.
5. Learn about politics, citizenship, and government.
6. Learn about the Constitution and the student's rights.
7. Learn about the Federal, State, and Local governments.
8. Learn about diversity of America.
9. Learn about the rise of dictators and wars around the world that have shaped America.
10. Review postwar America and the Civil Rights movement.
11. Learn about the recent patterns in our Nation's history.
12. Learn to read many types of maps.
13. Learn about political parties and elections.
14. Read many types of charts and graphs.
15. Interpret the meaning in political cartoons

Course of Study

Kindergarten: MacMillan Early Social Studies

Grade one and two: Resourceful Teacher Units along with MacMillan/McGraw-Hill

Grade three through five: MacMillan/McGraw-Hill

- a. Grade three- Our Communities
- b. Grade four- Our Regions
- c. Grade five- Our Nation

Grade six through eight: Glencoe

- a. Grade six- Geography: The World and Its People
- b. Grades seven and eight: The American Journey

Assessment

- Short answer and Essay Questions based off of Essential Questions
- Worksheets and projects (individual and group)
- Projects (reports, presentations, other various projects)
- Summative Testing