

Nashoba Regional School District

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

**Standards and Benchmarks
Grade 2**



Nashoba Regional School District History and Social Science Standards and Benchmarks, 2008.

Work in this document is based upon the standards outlined in the Massachusetts History and Social Science Framework, August 2003.

History and Social Studies by Grade Level

Grade 2

Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks (August 2003)

The World and Us

Grade Two Focus: An introduction to the geography of the World and student's own family history.

Concepts and Skills to be addressed:

The Massachusetts Social Studies Curriculum Frameworks will be addressed for second graders with an introduction to Geography. Students will learn more about who Americans are and where they came from. They will explore their own family history and listen to or read a variety of stories from around the world. Students will also learn more economic concepts by identifying producers, consumers, buyers, and sellers in their own communities.

Big Ideas:

- People learn about themselves by learning their family history. (H)
- Families have beliefs, customs, and traditions. (H, C)
- Maps and globes represent space. (G)
- A map shows the location of places, land forms, and bodies of water in the world. (G)
- People adapt to and change the land to fit their needs. (G)
- People make choices about how to spend their money based on needs and wants. (E)

Essential Questions:

In relation to "history":

- How can you use a calendar to identify the days, weeks, months, years, and seasons?
- What are the different purposes of a timeline?
- Why is it important to know our family history and traditions?
- What objects and pictures do I have that tell the story of my family history?
- What makes each one of us unique?

In relation to "geography":

- What is Geography?
- How does location impact the life of people in that region?
- How does Geography help me understand more about the world?
- How do people adapt to their environment?
- How do maps and globes represent space in different ways?

Essential Questions – continued:

In relation to “civics and government”:

- What are rights and responsibilities?
- What rights and responsibilities do you have in school?

In relation to “economics”:

- Who are “producers” and who are “consumers” in your community?
- What kinds of things are bought and sold in your community?

By the end of Second Grade, students should be able to answer the Essential Questions above and apply knowledge and concepts attained to be able to:

- On a map of the world, locate all the continents: North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, and Antarctica. (2.1/ G)
- Locate the current boundaries of the United States. (2.2/ G)
- Locate the oceans of the world: the Arctic, Atlantic, Indian, Pacific, and Southern Oceans. (2.3/ G)
- Locate five major rivers in the world: the Mississippi, Amazon, Volga, Yangtze, and Nile. (2.4/ G)
- Locate major mountains and mountain ranges in the world such as the Andes, Alps, Himalayas, Mt. Everest, Mt. McKinley, and the Rocky Mountains. (2.5/ G)
- Explain the difference between a continent and a country and give examples of each. (2.6/ G)
- On a map of the world locate the continent, regions, and then the countries from which the students, their parents, guardians, grandparents, or other relatives or ancestors came. Describe traditional food, customs, sports and games, and music of the place they came from. (2.7/ G,C)
- Give examples of traditions or customs from other countries that can be found in America today. (2.8/ G,C)
- Identify and describe well-known sites, events, or landmarks in at least three different countries from which students’ families come and explain why they are important. (2.9/ H, G, C)
- After reading or listening to a variety of true stories about individuals recognized for their achievements, describe and compare different ways people have achieved great distinction (e.g., scientific, professional, religious, commercial, military, athletic, or artistic). (2.10/ H)

GRADE TWO RESOURCE LIST

Scholastic Book Series, Regions of the World:

Life in the Cities
Life in the Coastlines
Life in the Deserts
Life in the Islands
Life in the Mountains
Life in the Oceans
Life in the Plains
Life in the Polar Lands
Life in the Rainforests
Life in the Woodlands

True Books About Geography: Continents

Africa South America
Antarctica North America
Asia Europe
Australia

Geography From A to Z: A Picture Glossary

Look What Came From...Series

China Mexico
Egypt Russia
France Japan
Greece Australia
India Austria
Italy England
Germany Ireland
Netherlands Spain
Switzerland United States

The Usborne Book of Peoples of the World
Internet-Linked