

2 | SECOND GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

Life in the United States

Course Description: Second grade students will learn about life in the United States, including the culture, economics, geography, government and civics, and history of our country by studying their identity as citizens and how our nation operates.

C—Culture, E—Economics, G—Geography, H—History, P—Politics/Government, T—Tennessee
TCA—Tennessee Code Annotated: These standards are legally required to be taught.

Grades K-2 Social Studies Practices

Overview: Students will apply these skills to create and address questions that will guide inquiry and critical thinking. These practices should be regularly applied throughout the year. Students will progress through the inquiry cycle (SSP.01-SSP.04) by analyzing primary and secondary sources to construct and communicate their conceptual understanding of the content standards and to develop historical and geographic awareness (SSP.05- SSP.06).

SSP.01	<p>Gather information from a variety of sources, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Printed materials (e.g., literary texts, newspapers, political cartoons, autobiographies, speeches, letters, personal journals) ● Graphic representations (e.g., maps, timelines, charts, artwork) ● Artifacts ● Media and technology sources
SSP.02	<p>Critically examine a primary or secondary source in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Summarize significant ideas and relevant information ● Distinguish between fact and opinion ● Draw conclusions ● Recognize author’s purpose and point of view
SSP.03	<p>Organize data from a variety of sources in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compare and contrast multiple sources ● Recognize differences between multiple accounts ● Frame appropriate questions for further investigation
SSP.04	<p>Communicate ideas supported by evidence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrate an understanding of ideas ● Compare and contrast viewpoints ● Predict outcomes ● Illustrate cause and effect

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SSP.05	Develop historical awareness by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sequencing past, present, and future in chronological order● Understanding that things change over time
SSP.06	Develop geographic awareness by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Identifying geographic symbols on maps and globes● Understanding relationships between people, places, and resources

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Culture

Overview: Students will explore how collaboration and respect for others is necessary to achieve and maintain a functioning society.	
2.01	Identify various cultural groups within the U.S. and the students' community.
2.02	Compare and contrast the beliefs, customs, ceremonies, and traditions of the various cultures represented in the U.S.
2.03	Distinguish how people from various cultures in the community and nation share principles, goals, and traditions.

Economics

Overview: Students will analyze the U.S. in economic terms, including: producers and consumers, supply and demand, imports and exports, and why budgets are important.	
2.04	Examine different types of producers and consumers in the U.S.
2.05	Recognize major U.S. industries and their products, including: agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, transportation, etc.
2.06	Analyze how supply and demand influence production.
2.07	Differentiate between imports and exports.
2.08	Evaluate how imports and exports help to meet the needs of people in the U.S.
2.09	Explain why and how producers advertise to sell a product or service.
2.10	Describe the purpose of a budget.

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Geography

Overview: Students will examine the geography of the U.S. in relation to the world, continue to learn that maps communicate useful information, and explore how the availability of resources affects the way people live.

2.11	Compare how maps and globes depict geographical information in different ways.
2.12	Identify and locate the four hemispheres (i.e., Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western), equator, prime meridian, North and South Poles, and the seven continents.
2.13	Recognize that the U.S. is part of the North American continent, and identify the U.S land/water borders including: Canada, Mexico, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, and Gulf of Mexico.
2.14	Recognize the difference between physical and political maps.
2.15	Use legends and cardinal directions to determine locations on physical and political maps.
2.16	<p>Compare physical features of the earth, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Island • Lake • Mountain • Ocean • Peninsula • Plain • Plateau • River • Valley
2.17	Compare and contrast regions of the U.S. (i.e., Southeast, Northeast, Great Plains, Southwest, Rocky Mountain, and Pacific Northwest) in terms of climate, physical features, and population.
2.18	Analyze how the location of regions affects the way people live, including their: food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and recreation.

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Government and Civics

Overview: Students will explore the concept of democracy by learning about rules, authority, and national symbols in order to develop an understanding of the role of citizens and the U.S. government.

2.19	Recall the origins, meaning, and lyrics of the “Star Spangled Banner”.
2.20	Identify and examine the significance of well-known national symbols and landmarks, including: Mt. Rushmore, the White House, Statue of Liberty, and bald eagle.
2.21	Recognize that the U.S. has a constitution, which is the basis for our nation’s laws.
2.22	Recognize that Tennessee has a constitution, which is the basis for our state’s laws.
2.23	Describe the three branches of U.S. government and the basic role of each.
2.24	Recognize that our nation makes laws and that there are consequences for breaking them.
2.25	Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens of the U.S.
2.26	Understand that there are laws written to protect citizens’ right to vote.
2.27	Compare the ways one becomes a citizen (i.e., by birth or naturalization).
2.28	Describe the fundamental principles of American democracy, including: equality, fair treatment for all, and respect for the property of others.

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History

Overview: Students will analyze significant individuals and observances, utilize chronological sequences, and explore primary and secondary texts.

2.29	Examine the significant contributions made by people of the U.S., including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neil Armstrong• David Crockett• Benjamin Franklin• Martin Luther King, Jr.• Rosa Parks• Jackie Robinson• Wilma Rudolph• Sequoyah• George Washington
2.30	Describe periods of time in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Days• Weeks• Months• Years• Decades• Centuries
2.31	Analyze and interpret events placed chronologically on a timeline.
2.32	Contrast primary and secondary sources.

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