



Newburyport History and Social Science Curriculum Framework Guide -Grade 4

Focus Areas

In Grade 4, the focus on student learning in History and Social Science

Topic 1. North America: geography and map skills

Topic 2. Ancient civilizations of North America

Topic 3. Early European exploration of North America

Topic 4. The expansion of the United States over time and its regions today: The Northeast The Southeast The Midwest The Southwest The West

Guiding Principles for Grade 4 History and Social Science

Topic 1. North America: geography and map skills

Supporting Question: What are the physical features and nations of North America?

1. On a physical map of North America, use cardinal directions, map scales, key/legend (symbols for mountains, rivers, deserts, lakes, cities), and title to locate and identify important physical features.

Topic 2. Ancient civilizations of North America

Supporting Question: How do archaeologists develop theories about ancient migrations?

1. Evaluate competing theories about the origins of people in North America and evidence for dating the existence of early populations in North America to about 15,000 years ago.

Topic 3. Early European exploration and conquest

Supporting Question: What were the reasons for European voyages across the Atlantic Ocean?

1. Explain how historians studying the European voyages to the Americas use archaeological evidence, maps, illustrations, and texts produced in Europe at the time, and that all of these materials are called primary sources.

Topic 4. The expansion of the United States over time and its regions today.

Supporting Question: How has the environment shaped the development of each region?

1. Describe how the construction of canals, roads, and railways in the 19th century helped the United States to expand westward.



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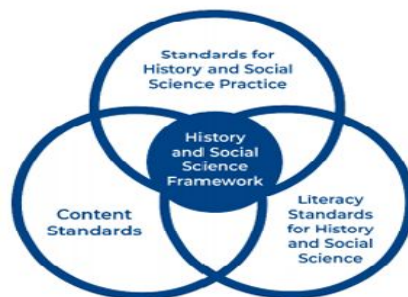
Literacy in History and Social Sciences

Literacy in History and Social Science In studying these topics, students apply grade 4 standards for reading informational text, writing, and speaking and listening, and learn vocabulary and concepts related to history and social science.

Standards for History and Social Science Practice, Pre-K–12

The practice standards encompass the process of inquiry and research that are integral to a rich and robust social science curriculum and the foundation for active and responsible citizenship.

1. Demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions.
2. Develop focused questions or problem statements and conduct inquiries.
3. Organize information and data from multiple primary and secondary sources.
4. Analyze the purpose and point of view of each source; distinguish opinion from fact.
5. Evaluate the credibility, accuracy, and relevance of each source.
6. Argue or explain conclusions, using valid reasoning and evidence.
7. Determine next steps and take informed action, as appropriate.



Three Pillars of the HSS Framework

This image represents the three pillars of the HSS Framework. Each pillar is designed for integration with the others. ~ MA DESE 2018