

Social Studies

- **Kindergarten** – (Themes) We will be using the Einstein paper, fabric and wood units. In addition, we'll study animals of various habitats such as the polar region, pond, ocean, Australia and the rainforest. Dinosaurs will be explored. We'll learn about the Pilgrims, Christopher Columbus, Lincoln, Washington and Martin Luther King. Fire prevention and basic health practices will also be taught.
- **First Grade** - This area of study includes community, important people (Christopher Columbus, Martin Luther King Jr., George Washington, and Abraham Lincoln), and traditions. We look forward to the study of the first Thanksgiving and Chinese New Year. Students will also learn about different health and safety issues affecting their lives.
- **Second Grade** - This area of study includes geography and the interaction of people locally and globally. We will learn about some famous people and places in America, how our government works, and the working world (goods, services, wants and needs.)
- **Third Grade** - Social Studies work includes communities, their similarities and differences, and learning to read and use maps. We learn about renewable and nonrenewable resources. Third graders study national government, citizenship, and the election process. Students learn about the communities in which they reside, their local and state government. Students write to those who represent them in local government and receive responses. The citizenship test given to naturalized citizens is studied and students take the test. Third graders also study communities around the world and learn that each of us is a world citizen. Students also participate in "Here's Looking at You", a program based on reducing children's risky behaviors and promoting children's healthy behaviors.
- **Fourth Grade** – Wisconsin is the focus of social studies during the first semester. Students will learn about landforms and regions in Wisconsin and will use mapping skills related to what they are learning. Then students will learn about Wisconsin history beginning with prehistoric times leading to the present. We will study the Wisconsin branches of government and discuss how a bill becomes a law. The second semester we will focus on the United States, investigating the regions, states and capitals.
- **Fifth Grade** - Social studies covers several stages of American history beginning with Native Americans. We study the exploration of our country, the founding of the thirteen original colonies, the American Revolution, and the Declaration of Independence. We continue with the Constitution, westward settlement, the Civil War, industrialization, World War I, the depression, World War II, the Cold War, and immigration. Throughout the year, the students engage in hands-on activities to enhance learning. Map reading skills are reinforced throughout the year.

Middle School (Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grades) -

- **SOCIAL STUDIES 6**

This class takes an extensive look at world history, moving students through ancient, medieval, Renaissance to modern history chronologically. Some specific areas of study include: Ancient Greece, Egypt, Rome, China, and India; the Middle Ages, reformation, age of enlightenment, age of exploration in Europe and Asia; and the industrial revolution. Students learn study skills, along with doing projects and research throughout the year. Current events are stressed through weekly discussion.

- **SOCIAL STUDIES 7**

Seventh grade Social Studies centers on the culture of Canada and Latin America. Latin America includes Middle America, Mexico, Panama, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and South America-Europe, Africa, Asia Pacific Ring of Fire. The first two chapters are to review map and globe skills. Each unit is organized in chronological order. Students study the history of the country, along with culture and lifestyles, from the explorers to the present day. Students write a summary/opinion paragraph on a current news event and locate that country on a world map.

- **SOCIAL STUDIES 8**

Eighth grade Social Studies covers several stages of American History. The course uses three different textbooks. Book One (Liberty for All) covers social and racial injustice. Book Two (Age of Extreme) covers the Industrial Revolution's effect on life in the United States. Also, a US textbook is used periodically, depending on the unit of study. Book Three (War, Peace, and All That Jazz) covers World War I and World War II. Other areas covered in project form are colonial times, territorial expansion, and selected presidents. US History is presented in time order. Eighth grade students are required to complete a "Constitution" portfolio first semester and a research paper on the Civil War second semester. Weekly geography questions and terms, along with map work and current events, enhance student understanding of the world in which they live.