

1st Grade - History

History	<p>The study of geography and history in first grade helps students orient themselves in the physical and cultural world around them. Geography topics include the development of a spatial sense of the world (e.g., cardinal directions, continents, oceans, and map skills), a sense of the interactions between humans and their environment (specifically, an understanding of the relationships between civilizations and the rivers around which they were formed), and an understanding of the relationship between physical place and culture. Students will be able to articulate where they are oriented geographically by identifying their own continent, country, state, and community.</p> <p>History topics focus on the basic elements common to all civilizations. The year begins with a study of Egypt and Mesopotamia during which students come to understand how environment and religious tradition affect the development of culture. Students will then learn about cultures (geographically) closer to home as they delve into narrative about European exploration of the American continent. Focus then shifts to the inception and evolution of the three major religious traditions in the world: Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. A basic grasp of these worldwide religions is vital to understanding the development of and relationships between major world civilizations. After this, students begin their study of America in which they orient themselves geographically by identifying their immediate surroundings, and culturally by studying the development of American civilizations. This course of study begins with the early people of the Americas and moves into an examination of the remnants of those cultures as they are expressed in modern-day Mexico. Next, students learn about the forces that shaped Texas. This orientation to our own cultural inheritance as citizens of the United States continues as students explore the colonists' revolution against England, and finally the nascent stages of U.S. westward expansion. Each American studies unit brings to light the particular cultural symbols and icons which are important to our understanding of life in the United States of America.</p> <p>Unit 1: Geography Unit 2: Mesopotamia Unit 3: Ancient Egypt Unit 4: Earl Explorers and Settlers Unit 5: Three World Religions Unit 6: Early Civilizations of the Americas Unit 7: Mexico Today Unit 8: From Colonies to In</p>
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