

# K-12 SOCIAL STUDIES

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MAY 28, 2024



# Social Studies Inquiry Arc

The inquiry arc defines what students can both do and understand.

Connecticut's Social Studies students can:



Dimension 1-  
**Develop Questions & Plan Inquiries**



Dimension 2-  
**Think like a**  
- Historian  
- Economist  
- Geographer  
- Political scientist



Dimension 3-  
**Evaluate Sources & Use Evidence**



Dimension 4-  
**Communicate Conclusions & Take Informed Action**



## Social Studies Inquiry Dimension 2

Think like a historian, economist, geographer and political scientist.

Connecticut's Social Studies students understand:



### History

- Change, Continuity, and Context
- Perspectives
- Historical Sources and Evidence
- Causation and Argumentation

### Economics

- Economic Decision Making
- Exchange and Markets
- The National Economy
- The Global Economy

### Geography

- Geographic Representation
- Human-Environment Interaction
- Human Population Trends
- Global Interconnections

### Civics

- Civic and Political Institutions
- Participation and Deliberation
- Processes, Rules, and Laws



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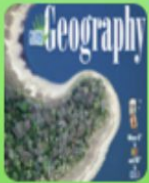
# ACROSS THE GRADES

## U.S. Symbols



### Kindergarten

- Jobs in their community
- Being a good citizen in your neighborhood
- Flags and US symbols



### Grade One

- Geography and its affects on our location
- Communities beyond my neighborhood
- Map and globes



### Grade 2

- North America
- Leaders and our government
- Locations and resources



### Grade 3

- Connecticut
- US Constitution and the branches of government
- Flags and US symbols



### Grade 4

- Geography of the United States
- Landforms
- People adapt to the environment



### Grade 5

- Earliest Settlements
- Colonial United States
- The American Revolution

- The Middle East & North Africa
- Asia
- South America
  
- Europe
- Russia
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- North America

Economic decision-making;  
Regional and global economies

World geographic regions;  
Movement and cultural diffusion

Systems of governance;  
Governance and human rights



# GRADE 6 / GRADE 7

# WORLD STUDIES

- The American Revolution
- The US Constitution
- Slavery
- Westward Expansion
- Immigration
- The Civil War
- Reconstruction

Origins of US democracy and national identity

Expansion, influence, and economic growth

Civil unrest

# GRADE 8

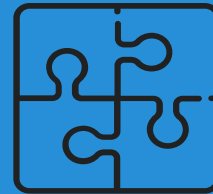
# AMERICAN REVOLUTION - RECONSTRUCTION



# "Who fired first on Lexington Green: the British or the colonists?"

Historically, we do not know who fired the "shot heard round the world", but NFMS 8th graders use primary sources from the era to come to a conclusion.

Students **critically analyze these primary sources to support their claim** with relevant **evidence** and sound **reasoning**.



*This is an engaging task that requires students to actively question a source, check the reliability of the author, identify valid and invalid arguments, etc. Speaking, listening, reading, and writing are woven throughout the work.*

# GRADE 9 / GRADE 10

## WORLD HISTORY

Government, economics and trade,  
social hierarchy, religion, daily life

Historical thinking, causal  
relationships and patterns, critical  
thinking, stance of inquiry

Primary / secondary sources,  
argumentative writing, research

- Ancient Civilizations
- The Middle Ages
- The Renaissance and Scientific Revolution
- The Enlightenment
  
- The Age of Revolution (Intellectual Revolution, French Revolution, Industrial Revolution)
- The World Wars and the Holocaust
- The Cold War and Decolonization
- Globalization





# NFHS GRADE 11, US HISTORY



## UNIT 1 -----

### Shaping America (1776-1860)

Declaration of Independence,  
US Constitution, Westward  
Expansion, Immigration,  
Industrialization,  
Causes of the Civil War

## UNIT 2 -----

### A Divided Country (1860 - late 1800s)

Slavery  
Causes and Effects of  
the Civil War  
Reconstruction

## UNIT 3 -----

### Growth & Conflict in America (late 1800s-WWI)

Manifest Destiny  
Transcontinental Railroad  
Second Industrial Revolution  
Immigration, Cities, and Labor practices,  
“New” Imperialism and WWI

## UNIT 4 -----

### From Isolation to Intervention (1920s-1940s)

The Roaring Twenties  
The Great Depression  
The New Deal  
WWII

## UNIT 5 -----

### Four Decades of Change (1940s-1980s)

Political, technological, economic,  
cultural, and civil rights changes,  
US involvement in global affairs

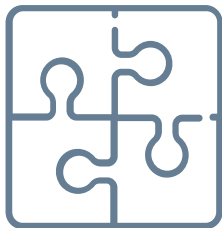
## UNIT 6 -----

### Into the 21st Century (1990s-)

Contemporary issues (civil rights,  
wealth distribution, environment,  
innovations, national security.



**AND MORE ...**



- American Government / AP American Government
- AP European History
- AP Human Geography
- AP World History Modern
- Sociology
- Psychology / AP Psychology
- Introduction to Economics
- Black and Latino Studies
- Post WWII America Honors
- Contemporary World Issues

# INQUIRY SKILLS

Informed  
decision-making

EXAMINING MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES

Questioning;  
Considering cause  
and effect;  
Recognizing valid /  
invalid arguments

Claim, evidence,  
reasoning

THINKING CRITICALLY

ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING

CLOSE READING

Evaluating and  
using primary and  
secondary sources

**Knowledgeable  
Scholars**



**Talented  
Communicators**



**Critical & Creative  
Thinkers**



**Engaged Global  
Citizens**



**Self-determined &  
Self-reliant  
Individuals**



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# THANK YOU

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