



Essential Standards Extended Guide

Social Studies Kindergarten

Guiding Information:

In response to requests from schools and districts for guidance on essential standards, committees of educators from around Idaho collaborated in the summer of 2024 to categorize social studies standards into two groups:

- **Essential standards** are explicitly taught, assessed multiple times, and receive targeted interventions for students who have not yet reached proficiency.
- **Supporting standards** are taught to reinforce essential standards and may or may not be formally assessed.

This guidance helps LEAs prioritize the most critical standards, recognizing that not all standards are of equal importance. This document serves as a resource—not a mandate—to assist local efforts. Importantly, this work did not remove or revise any of the adopted Idaho Content Standards and is intended to refocus time and effort.

History

Essential Standards

Standards are to be explicitly taught, assessed more than once, and intervened upon in this cluster of standards.

K.SS.1.2 Sequence events in the past and present and begin to recognize that things change over time.

Supporting Standards

Standards that support the Essential Standards. These standards will be taught but may or may not be formally assessed.

K.SS.1.1 Describe how individuals have similarities and differences by sharing stories, pictures, and music of one's own personal life, family, and culture.

Geography

Essential Standards

Standards are to be explicitly taught, assessed more than once, and intervened upon in this cluster of standards.

K.SS.2.1 Demonstrate an understanding of maps and globes by: a. identifying the similarities and differences between a map and a globe; b. identifying basic map symbols; c. identifying land and bodies of water in the local community; and d. identifying the geographic location of the United States and Idaho on a map and globe.

Supporting Standards

Standards that support the Essential Standards. These standards will be taught but may or may not be formally assessed.

K.SS.2.2 Describe the relative location of people, places, and objects by using positional words, including but not limited to near/far, over/under, above/below, left/right, behind/in front, next to, and in between.

Economics

Essential Standards

Standards are to be explicitly taught, assessed more than once, and intervened upon in this cluster of standards.

K.SS.3.2 Explain the benefits of saving money and give examples of how people use money to make purchases.

Supporting Standards

Standards that support the Essential Standards. These standards will be taught but may or may not be formally assessed.

K.SS.3.2 Explain the benefits of saving money and give examples of how people use money to make purchases.

K.SS.3.3 Recognize and describe different types of jobs, including work done in the home, school, and community.

Civics and Government

Essential Standards

Standards are to be explicitly taught, assessed more than once, and intervened upon in this cluster of standards.

K.SS.4.1 Practice citizenship in the classroom by: a) taking responsibility for one's actions; b) practicing honesty and showing kindness to oneself and others; c) recognizing the purpose of rules and practicing self-control; d) caring for one's personal property and respecting other students' property; and e) taking turns, sharing, and working well with others for the good of everyone else.

K.SS.4.2 Identify symbols of the United States including but not limited to the flag, Pledge of Allegiance, Bald Eagle, red, white, and blue, and the Statue of Liberty.

Supporting Standards

Standards that support the Essential Standards. These standards will be taught but may or may not be formally assessed.

K.SS.4.3 Understand the meaning and purpose of the Pledge of Allegiance.

K.SS.4.4 Describe holidays and tell why they are commemorated in the United States, including, Indigenous Peoples' Day, Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Independence Day, and Presidents' Day.

Global Perspectives

Essential Standards

Standards are to be explicitly taught, assessed more than once, and intervened upon in this cluster of standards.

K.SS.5.1 Name traditions that came to the United States from other parts of the world.

For Questions Contact

Content & Curriculum

Idaho Department of Education

650 W State Street, Boise, ID 83702

208 332 6800 | www.sde.idaho.gov