

Grand Island Public Schools

8th GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

As a result of their participation in this course, students will:

Strand 1: Processes

Strand 2: Potential of the Individual

- Interpret and explain how the causes and effects of the American Revolution led to the creation of a new and unique form of government.
- Illustrate and exhibit how the new nation deals with foreign conflict and internal change through 1840.
- Summarize the key events and practices associated with the Jacksonian era (e.g., the spoils system, national bank issue, Indian removal policy).
- Critique the presidency of Andrew Jackson.
- Describe how individuals and different groups affect great change throughout America's past.

Strand 3: Power and Governance

- Interpret and explain how the causes and effects of the American Revolution led to the creation of a new and unique form of government.
- Empathize with the sources of colonial and British dissatisfaction that led to the American Revolution.
- Debate the key issues involved in creating the United States Constitution and describe the struggles leading to its ratification and the addition of the Bill of Rights.
- Analyze the function and structure of the United States Constitution, and recognize its importance today.
- Compare and contrast the Articles of Confederation to the United States Constitution.
- Explain the seven principles of The Constitution.
- Describe how the Constitution established the structure of our governments and the policy-making process at the national, state, and local levels national, state, and local levels.
- Use the Constitution to show how citizens can participate in the processes of government.
- Analyze how the Constitution continues to affect the rights and responsibilities of Americans today.
- Argue contemporary court cases that involve the Bill of Rights.
- Describe the election process at the local, state, and national levels.
- Describe how individuals and different groups affect great change throughout America's past.

Strand 4: Groups and Institutions

- Illustrate and exhibit how the new nation deals with foreign conflict and internal change through 1840.
- Explain key aspects of American politics from 1812-1824 (e.g. Henry Clay's American System).
- Analyze how different attitudes and beliefs led to conflict and shaped the nation from the era of reform through the American Civil War.

- Analyze the African American experience in pre-Civil War America.
- Analyze and evaluate how the constitution led to the creation of a political system that has guided the nation from the early years of the republic to present day.
- Explain the conflicts that arose between Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson that led to the creation of political parties in America.
- Describe how individuals, and different groups affect great change throughout Americas past.

Strand 5: Reform and Change

- Interpret and explain how the causes and effects of the American Revolution led to the creation of a new and unique form of government.
- Analyze the Declaration of Independence to understand its purpose.
- Analyze how different attitudes and beliefs led to conflict and shaped the nation from the era of reform through the American Civil War.
- Explain the significance of other key events leading up to the Civil War (e.g. The Wilmot Proviso, The Ostend Manifesto, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Dred Scott decision, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, election of 1860).
- Analyze and explain the impact of post-Civil War changes in the United States.
- Analyze and evaluate the five phases of reconstruction.
- Relate the policies of reconstruction to issues of race relations today.

Strand 6: Impact of Economic System

- Interpret and explain how the causes and effects of the American Revolution led to the creation of a new and unique form of government.
- Empathize with the sources of colonial and British dissatisfaction that led to the American Revolution.
- Describe and model the expansion of the United States and resulting change during the first half of the nineteenth century.
- Explain and model how each of the major groups moved west from 1803-1853 (i.e. Californios, mountain men, missionaries, pioneer women, Mormons, forty-niners, and Chinese).
- Analyze how different attitudes and beliefs led to conflict and shaped the nation from the era of reform through the American Civil War.
- Compare and contrast the societies of the North and the South before the Civil War (e.g. agrarian vs. industrial).
- Analyze the African American experience in pre-Civil War America.
- Describe how scarcity of resources influences decisions that result in change in America, past and present (e.g. tea, cotton, labor).
- Describe how individuals, and different groups affect great change throughout Americas past.

Strand 7: Scientific and Technological Innovation

- Compare and contrast the societies of the North and the South before the Civil War (e.g. agrarian vs. industrial).
- Describe how technological change and innovation relates to economic change throughout American history (e.g. cotton gin, steam engine, minie ball, assembly lines).
- Describe how scarcity of resources influences decisions that result in change in America, past and present (e.g. tea, cotton, labor).

Strand 8: Environmental Influences

- Describe and model the expansion of the United States and resulting change during the first half of the nineteenth century.
- Explain how the United States made five key territorial acquisitions from 1803-1853.
- Explain and model how each of the major groups moved west from 1803-1853 (i.e. Californios, mountain men, missionaries, pioneer women, Mormons, forty-niners, and Chinese).
- Analyze how the physical systems of the earth impact the different stages of national expansion throughout American history.

Strand 9: Conflict and Consequences

- Describe the roles of key people and events of the American Revolution and argue why the Americans were able to win.
- Illustrate and exhibit how the new nation deals with foreign conflict and internal change through 1840.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the foreign policy developed by the new United States government.
- Describe and model the expansion of the United States and resulting change during the first half of the nineteenth century.
- Explain how the United States made five key territorial acquisitions from 1803-1853.
- Analyze and critique the idea of Manifest Destiny.
- Describe the legacy of each of the major groups that moved west from 1803-1853 (i.e. Californios, mountain men, missionaries, pioneer women, Mormons, forty-niners, and Chinese).
- Analyze how different attitudes and beliefs led to conflict and shaped the nation from the era of reform through the American Civil War.
- Experience the difficulty of reaching compromise on the issues that divide the North and South.
- Explain the significance of other key events leading up to the Civil War (e.g. The Wilmot Proviso, The Ostend Manifesto, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Dred Scott decision, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, election of 1860).
- Analyze and explain causes, key events, key people, and the effects of the Civil War.
- Analyze and evaluate the five phases of reconstruction.
- Relate the policies of reconstruction to issues of race relations today.
- Identify, describe, and explain conflict and change resulting from postwar migrations of people to the American West.
- Analyze how the physical systems of the earth impact the different stages of national expansion throughout American history.
- Analyze and evaluate how the constitution led to the creation of a political system that has guided the nation from the early years of the republic to present day.
- Explain the conflicts that arose between Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson that led to the creation of political parties in America.
- Describe how individuals, and different groups affect great change throughout Americas past.