Parent Guide: Fourth Grade

Focus Standard 5: Relationships among people, places, ideas, and environments are dynamic.

Content
(Class content may vary as it is a part of the curriculum developed by your school and not prescribed by the state of Kansas.)

 Fourth grade content focuses on Kansas, regions of the United States, local history and the idea that relationships among people, places, ideas, and environments are dynamic. Students will compare the regions of the US through the major social studies disciplines of history, geography, economics, and civics/government.

Students Should Understand That . . .

- Relationships are the connections that exist between two or more parties.
- Relationships are characterized by constant change.
- The connections from a single relationship impacts to some degree all other relationships.
- Dynamic relationships involve circumstances which often create shifts in priorities, leading to tension and adjustments toward progress.

Concepts/Ideas

The following are concepts and ideas that your child may encounter at this grade level.

Kansas, transportation systems, trail systems, emigration, leaders, explorers, entrepreneurs, United States regions, rights and responsibilities, citizenship, civic duty, levels of government, Kansas Constitution, United States Constitution, community service, geographic characteristics, cultural characteristics, political features, immigration, absolute location, renewable and nonrenewable resources, ecosystems, opportunity cost, market economy, natural resources, capital resources, human resources, producer and consumer, saving and spending, economic specialization, taxes
QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT ASK YOUR CHILD

How does your relationship change when you are mad at someone?

How will your relationship change if a friend moves to a different state?

Competencies

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT
YOUR CHILD:
- provides examples of how effort relates to accomplishing a challenging task.
- demonstrates the ability to express their wants, needs, thoughts, and feelings while respecting others.
- demonstrates listening strategies.

CULTURAL
YOUR CHILD:
- explains their history and culture, and about contributions of people in their identity groups.
- uses accurate, respectful words to describe how they are similar to and different from other people.
- describes how life is easier for some people and harder for others based on who they are and where they were born.
- works with others to make their school and community fair for everyone.
- cooperates with others and works to achieve goals.

HISTORY
YOUR CHILD:
- asks questions about relationships as they relate to Kansas and Regions of the United States.
- analyzes multiple perspectives.
- recognizes the source and context of primary sources.
- understands relationships among people, places, ideas, and environments determine regions of the United States.

CIVICS/GOVERNMENT
YOUR CHILD:
- explains how individuals demonstrate good citizenship.
- takes responsibility for obeying rules and helping others.
- participates in group decision-making through consensus.
- engages effectively in discussions with people they might disagree with.
- builds on the ideas of others, and express their own ideas clearly.
GEOGRAPHY
YOUR CHILD:
- uses mapping skills to identify people, places, and environments in the United States.
- reads various types of map grid systems, symbols, legends, scales, etc.
- determines absolute and relative location of places.
- uses charts, graphs, and tables to gather information.

ECONOMICS
YOUR CHILD:
- explains the production, distribution, and consumption of a product.
- discusses opportunity cost in choices made in different regions of the country.
- defines the characteristics of a market economy (private property, voluntary exchange, competition, etc.).