



Parent Guide to Kansas Standards for History, Government, and Social Studies for

4th Grade: Kansas and Regions of the US

Mission Statement:

The Kansas Standards for History, Government, and Social Studies prepare students to be informed, thoughtful, engaged citizens as they enrich their communities, state, nation, world, and themselves.

- An informed citizen possesses the knowledge needed to understand contemporary political, economic, and social issues.
- A thoughtful citizen applies higher order thinking skills to make connections between the past, present, and future in order to understand, anticipate, respond to, and solve problems.
- An engaged citizen collaborates, contributes, compromises, and participates as an active member of a community.

At this grade level . . .

The focus is on the similarities and differences across Kansas and the regions of the United States to promote geographic, historical, and civic awareness. A sense of place, an individual's role in the community and state, the influence of geography and economics on decision making, and the historical context of the state and regions are key elements. The goal is for students to use their understanding of various topics to distinguish how Kansas is similar and different from other regions in the United States so that students are able to apply their learning to their own lives.

History, Government, and Social Studies Standards

1. Choices have consequences
2. Individuals have rights and responsibilities
3. Societies are shaped by beliefs, ideas, and diversity
4. Societies experience continuity and change over time
5. Relationships between people, places, ideas, and environments are dynamic

These standards outline the expectations for Kansas students in all classes and courses in History/Government/Social Studies (HGSS). These standards and expectations lay out the skills and knowledge that are being developed through the curriculum and instruction of your local school district.

Students should be learning to . . .

- Refer to details and examples in a story or book when explaining what the text says
- Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical text, including what happened and why
- Determine the meaning of social studies words or phrases in a text relevant to a 4th grade topic
- Compare and contrast a primary and secondary accounts of the same event or topic; describe the differences in the information
- Write a report to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- Report on a topic or text in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant details to support main ideas or themes
- Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles
- Recognize the source and context of documents
- Demonstrate cooperation and compromise
- Read various types of maps, graphs, and charts
- Discuss what is lost by choices made
- Take responsibility for obeying rules and helping others
- Participate in group decision making

Topics that may be discussed . . .

History	Civics	Geography	Economics
Transportation	Rights	Customs	Supply and Demand
Communication	Responsibility	Culture	Market economy
Commerce	Constitution	Latitude	Human Capital
Migration	Branches of Government	Longitude	