



Bedford Public Schools

Grade 5 – Social Studies

In grade 5, students study the history of the United States starting from the early colonial period through the birth of our country. Students begin the year by reviewing how and why we study history. Next, they explore the early colonial settlements in North America. They learn about the political, economic, and social development of the English colonies and compare and contrast life in the different regions. Students explore the cause and effect relationships between significant events in history that led to an increase in tensions between Great Britain and its colonies. Towards the third term, students learn how America came to be an independent nation against all odds. They will investigate the many factors that resulted in the colonies gaining their independence during the American Revolution.



Learning Expectations

Social Studies

Social Studies

Enduring Understandings In order to meet the standards, the students will need to understand that . . .	Essential Questions In order to understand, students will need to consider questions such as . . .	Knowledge and Skills Learning this material will require students to . . .
<p>Introduction to the Study of History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History is the story of our past. • Information and different points of view can change how we understand the story of our past. • Our past helps us understand who we are as Americans and where we have been. • The past is the key to understanding the present and helps us analyze and solve problems in the present. • Knowledge of our past helps us become responsible and informed citizens. • We study history through primary and secondary sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is history? • How do we know the true story of what happened in our past? • How does our view of historical events change over time? • How does the study of our past impact how we live today? • What factors and events change history? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the importance of understanding America’s history. • Compare primary and secondary sources and be able to define and make meaning of history. • Apply their knowledge of primary and secondary sources while making inferences about artifacts from the present and the past.

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<p>Thirteen Colonies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where you live affects how you live. • People came to the colonial regions for different reasons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does where you live affect how you live? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and contrast the three regional colonies and understand how geography affected the way of life of the people who lived there. • Apply their understanding of the differences by creating a product map. • Discuss the various reasons why people came to the thirteen colonies.

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<p>Crisis with Britain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The causes and ideas that led colonists to revolt against English rule and declare themselves an independent nation: The United States of America. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What causes people to revolt? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the many causes and effects that resulted in a rise in tension between the colonies and England (i.e. taxation, deprivation of self- government, increased control over economy, military presence). It was not one action that caused the revolution but rather the rise in tension from many events that eventually led to the colonists’ revolt. • Debate the arguments for and against colonial independence from Great Britain.

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<p style="text-align: center;">American Revolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> America came to be an independent nation, against all odds, by uniting the Patriots in a common cause. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What factors and events change history? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the many factors that helped the Patriots win a war that seemed impossible to win (i.e. better reasons for fighting, new techniques for fighting, good leadership, better information, and allies).