

PETERS TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

CORE BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

SOCIAL STUDIES

GRADE 5

For each of the sections that follow, students may be required to understand, apply, analyze, evaluate or create the particular concepts being taught.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course, students will develop and practice using map skills to read and interpret a variety of maps and graphic aids. Students will investigate early European explorers and their motivation for and means of settlement in North America. They will understand the challenges and successes of settlement of the thirteen colonies, daily life in the colonies, and the colonists' impact on Native Americans. They will analyze the causes and effects of the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. Students will understand the purpose of the Constitution and the framework of our constitutional government.

STUDY SKILLS

- Use study guides and note-taking skills to prepare for assessments
- Use map skills to read and interpret a variety of maps

UNIT THEMES

1. EXPLORATION, COLONIZATION, INDEPENDENCE

- Identify major European explorers and explain their motivation and achievements.
- Read and interpret historical maps.
- Identify and analyze the roles of early European settlers.
- Identify and research key colonial figures.
- Compare and contrast the settlement and founding of the 13 colonies.
- Compare and contrast the economies of the colonies.
- Analyze the triangular trade routes and free enterprise system that developed.
- Compare and contrast colonial groups.
- Analyze the effects of English colonization on Native Americans.
- Describe daily life in the 13 colonies.
- Identify and evaluate the causes and effects of the French and Indian War.
- Identify and analyze the causes, key events, and effects of the American Revolution.
- Describe the purpose and effects of the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution.

2. THE CONSTITUTION

- Describe how the Constitution outlined the government of the United States.
- Explain the importance of the Great Compromise.
- Explain the purpose of the Constitution.
- Compare the powers and functions of the three branches of government.
- Describe the struggle to get the Constitution approved.
- Explain the key rights guaranteed in the Bill of Rights.
- Describe the development of the United States Government.
- Identify the principles of a constitutional government.
- Explain how the authority of a democracy comes from its people.

MATERIALS

- Harcourt Social Studies Textbook: The United States: Making a New Nation
- Workbook
- Study guides
- Tests
- The First Americans by Joy Hakim
- The Discovery of The Americas by Betsy Maestro
- Exploration and Conquest by Betsy Maestro
- Making Thirteen Colonies by Joy Hakim
- The New Americans: Colonial Times: 1620-1689 by Betsy Maestro
- And Then What Happened, Paul Revere? by Jean Fritz
- Struggle for a Continent: The French and Indian War by Betsy Maestro
- "A World on Fire" Activity Kit: The French and Indian War 1754-1763
- "The War That Made America" Documentary DVD, WQED
- Shh! We're Writing the Constitution and other related books by Jean Fritz
- America Votes: How Our President is Elected by Linda Granfield
- "We The People..." Teacher and Student Book(s)
- We the Kids by David Catrow
- Additional print and video resources in McMurray Elementary Library
- Linked videos from United Streaming website

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