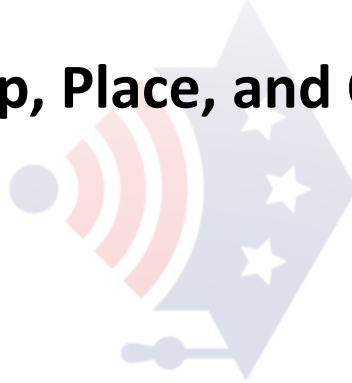


1st Grade American Online School

SOCIAL SCIENCES CURRICULUM

Citizenship, Place, and Our World



Version May/2025

1. Introduction

The Role of Social Sciences Education in 1st Grade

In 1st grade, students begin their journey as informed and empathetic members of local, national, and global communities. Through storytelling, maps, roleplay, and inquiry, learners explore citizenship, the geography of their world, and what it means to belong. They develop spatial thinking, civic responsibility, and a growing awareness of diverse people and places.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ Understand their role as respectful and responsible citizens.
- ✓ Describe map features and use simple maps and globes.
- ✓ Recognize symbols, landmarks, and values of the United States.
- ✓ Compare different communities and geographic locations.
- ✓ Engage in conversations about fairness, rules, and shared spaces.

2. Core Competence Areas

SoSCI.1 Foundations of Civic Life – “Pledge” and “Good Citizenship”

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Recite and explain the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ✓ Demonstrate behaviors of respect, responsibility, and honesty.
- ✓ Recognize how rules and laws help groups work together.

Competencies

SoSCI.1.A.1 – Practicing good citizenship in school and community

- Create class rules and discuss fairness in daily routines.
- Role-play situations involving kindness, teamwork, and listening.

SoSCI.1.A.2 – Understanding national symbols and values

- Learn about the national flag, national holidays, and basic democratic values (freedom, fairness, responsibility).
- Participate in a classroom flag ceremony and discussions about respect.

SoSCI.2 Geographic Literacy – “Geography: Maps,” “What Is a Globe,” and “Map Features”

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Use simple maps and globes to locate places.
- ✓ Identify basic map elements (title, legend, compass rose).
- ✓ Understand the purpose of maps in representing space and features.

Competencies

SoSCI.2.A.1 – Exploring different types of maps

- Label classroom maps and explore interactive online maps.
- Identify land, water, roads, and buildings in picture maps.

SoSCI.2.A.2 – Interpreting symbols and directions

- Use legends and compasses to describe direction and location.
 - Create personal maps of home, classroom, or school neighborhood.
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SoSCI.3 National Identity and Symbols – “USA”

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Recognize basic facts about the United States (flag, leaders, capital).
- ✓ Identify patriotic symbols, holidays, and monuments.
- ✓ Understand the purpose of government and community helpers.

Competencies

SoSCI.3.A.1 – Exploring American identity and symbols

- Study the flag, bald eagle, Liberty Bell, and White House.
- Celebrate holidays like Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Independence Day, and Presidents' Day with crafts and storytelling.

SoSCI.3.A.2 – Learning about leaders and public roles

- Identify roles of the president, mayor, police, firefighters, and others.
 - Discuss what it means to be a “helper” in a community.
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3. Assessment and Evaluation

Formative Assessments – Daily Participation and Reflection

- ✓ Journal entries: “I showed good citizenship when...”.
- ✓ Observation during map-building activities.
- ✓ Class discussions about symbols and helpers.

Summative Assessments – Projects and Visual Products

- ✓ Personal Map with legend and compass rose.
- ✓ Citizenship badge and self-assessment.
- ✓ American Symbols Poster Presentation.

Authentic Assessment – Civic and Global Connection

- ✓ Community helper interview or thank-you letter.
 - ✓ Flag ceremony leadership or video.
 - ✓ “My World” Presentation linking map to real places.
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4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

Interactive and Visual-Based Learning

- ✓ Use globes, maps, picture books, and digital tools.
- ✓ Build tactile learning centers with sorting and matching.

Roleplay and Real-World Application

- ✓ Simulate being mayor, voting, or solving community problems.
- ✓ Organize mock town meetings or rule discussions.

Celebration of Belonging and Identity

- ✓ Create identity flags, “All About Me” maps, and class flags.
- ✓ Foster a respectful classroom where every voice matters.