

Social Studies - Pre-Kindergarten

(1) Social studies concentrate on the nature of people and their world, the heritage of the past, and contemporary living and culture. The social studies are both integral to young children's lives and of great interest to them. Driven by a desire to know and achieve mastery over self and their environment, children are eager to gain understanding of the many aspects of their cultural and environmental world. Through social studies, children begin to develop the self-understanding that will serve as a foundation for learning about others and the world around them.

(2) Although all aspects of education have the goal of preparing children to become contributing members of society, social studies are particularly well suited to foster the skills and attitudes necessary for participation in a democracy. Skills such as problem-solving, decision-making, and working independently and with others in a classroom prepare children to become fully functioning citizens.

(A) identifies similarities and differences in characteristics of people.

(B) identifies similarities and differences in characteristics of families.

(C) organizes their life around events, time and routines.

(PK.2) Economic Skills

In pre-kindergarten, children learn about the world in their community. They explore the roles and relationships of consumers and producers, and become aware that people produce services as well as goods. Children learn that their community benefits from many different people working in many different ways. The student is expected to:

(A) demonstrate that all people need food, clothing and shelter.

(B) participate in activities to help them become aware of what it means to be a consumer.

(C) discuss the roles and responsibilities of community workers.

(PK.3) Geography Skills

Pre-kindergarten children begin to think about geography using location and direction. Children use direction to locate their relative position in space and to locate their home and school in their community.

The child:

(A) identifies and creates common features in her immediate environment.

(PK.4) Citizenship Skills

The child begins to understand important customs, symbols, and celebrations that represent American beliefs and principles and contribute to our national identity.

The child:

(A) identifies flags of the United States and Texas.

(B) recites the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and observe a moment of silence.

(C) engages in voting as a method for group decision-making.

(D) identifies similarities among people like himself and classmates as well as among himself and people from other cultures.

(E) discusses customs of the country including celebrations and holidays.

(F) discusses food, clothing, literature, and other cultural elements such as transportation, games, art, etc.