

**URBANDALE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK OUTLINE**

SUBJECT: Social Studies
COURSE TITLE: Grade 6 Social Studies
GRADE LEVEL: Grade 6
PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Sixth grade social studies is a study of world geography. The year will begin with a study of geography and the five themes (location, place, human environment interaction, movement and region). Students will then apply the five themes to the study of the continents.

UCSD CONTENT STANDARDS:

In order that students achieve the maximum benefit from their talents and abilities, the students of Urbandale Community School District's Grade 6 Social Studies program should be able to...

Content Standard I. Make connections among personal behaviors, group behaviors, and social issues to inform opinions and decisions.

Benchmarks: Explain the changing nature of society.
Identify the influences on individual and group behavior and group decision-making.
Summarize the process of how humans develop, learn, adapt to their environment, and internalize their culture.

Content Standard II. Analyze relationships between economic systems and their interdependence in the modern world.

Benchmarks: Describe the role of scarcity and economic trade-offs and how economic conditions impact people's lives.
Identify factors that create patterns of interdependence in the world economy.
Identify how universal economic concepts present themselves in various types of economies throughout the world.

Content Standard III. Analyze the interrelationship of people, places and environments to understand societies.

Benchmarks: Utilize geographic tools to locate and analyze information about people, places, and environments.
Explain how geographic and human characteristics create culture and define regions.
Describe how human factors and the distribution of resources affect the development of society and the movement of populations.



Describe how physical processes and human actions modify the environment and how the environment affects humans.

Content Standard IV. Investigate historical interactions to determine the development and evolution of societies.

Benchmarks: Identify the role of culture and cultural diffusion on the development and maintenance of societies.
State the effects of geographic factors on historical events.
Summarize the role of innovation on the development and interaction of societies.

Content Standard V. Apply knowledge of democratic principles and various political systems through life long civic action.

Benchmarks: Describe how various political systems throughout the world define the rights and responsibilities of the individual.

Content Standard VI. Evaluate and synthesize information to communicate an understanding of knowledge relative to social science content.

Benchmarks: Analyze primary and secondary sources.
Apply knowledge of text structures and text features.
Write arguments and informative/explanatory text focused on discipline specific content.
Produce and distribute writing from discipline specific content.
Research to communicate discipline specific content.



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**CONTENT STANDARDS AND COURSE BENCHMARKS WITH INDICATORS FOR
GRADE 6 SOCIAL STUDIES**

Standard I: Make connections among personal behaviors, group behaviors, and social issues to inform opinions and decisions.

Benchmark: Explain the changing nature of society.

Indicators: Evaluate how technology is important in spreading the ideas, values, and behavior patterns within a society.
Explain how technology affects movement of ideas within a society.
Identify how various institutions influence elements of culture.

Benchmark: Identify the influences on individual and group behavior and group decision making.

Indicators: Evaluate how technology is important in spreading the ideas, values, and behavior patterns within a society and among different societies.
Explain how technology affects movement of ideas within a society.
Explain how various factors affect decisions that individuals make.
Explain how the five themes affect decisions individuals make.

Benchmark: Summarize the process of how humans develop, learn, adapt to their environment, and internalize their culture.

Indicators: Describe how values, language, beliefs, and behaviors contribute to the transmission of culture.
Describe how values, language, beliefs, and behaviors contribute to the spread of culture.
Explain how technology is important in spreading the ideas, values, and behavior patterns within a society.
Explain how technology affects movement of ideas within a society.

Standard II. Analyze relationships between economic systems and their interdependence in the modern world.

Benchmark: Describe the role of scarcity and economic trade-offs and how economic



conditions impact people's lives.

Indicators: Analyze the cost and benefits of economic trade-offs and how scarcity of resources affects costs and benefits.
Analyze how supply and demand affects prices.
Describe the short term and long term impact of economic trade-offs on society.
Evaluate the pros and cons of economic decisions.

Benchmark: Identify factors that create patterns of interdependence in the world economy.

Indicators: Explain the impact of imported and exported goods and services on a region.
Describe how the increased interdependence causes economic conditions in one country to affect others.
Describe how interdependent relationships between countries cause economic conditions in one country to affect others.

Benchmark: Identify how universal economic concepts present themselves in various types of economies throughout the world.

Indicators: Examine the different types of economies and universal economic concepts and their influence on each other.
Compare and contrast communism, socialism, and capitalism.
Recognize how the laws of supply and demand affect price.

Standard III. Analyze the interrelationship of people, places and environments to understand societies.

Benchmark: Utilize geographic tools to locate and analyze information about people, places, and environments.

Indicators: Identify the characteristics and purposes of geographic tools and representation of the earth.
Interpret different types of maps to draw conclusions about the five themes of geography.
Explain geographic relationships such as population density and distribution patterns.

Benchmark: Explain how geographic and human characteristics create culture and define regions.

Indicators: Analyze how the physical environment affects life in different regions.
Explain human and physical characteristics of place.
Analyze the concept of region.

Benchmark: Describe how human factors and the distribution of resources affect the



development of society and the movement of populations.

Indicators: Explain how physical and human geographic factors have influenced major historic events and movements.
Identify physical and cultural patterns and their interactions.

Benchmark: Describe how physical processes and human actions modify the environment and how the environment affects humans.

Indicators: Define how human systems develop in response to conditions in the physical environment.
Explain how humans adapt to their physical environment.
Express the environmental consequences of people changing the physical environment.
Explain how humans modify their physical environment.
Explain how humans depend on their physical environment.

Standard IV. Investigate historical interactions to determine the development and evolution of societies.

Benchmark: Identify the role of culture and cultural diffusion on the development and maintenance of societies.

Indicators: Describe how language, literature, the arts, architecture, other artifacts, traditions, beliefs, values, and behaviors have contributed to the development and transmission of culture.
Explain the movement of culture from one location to another.
Express how information and experiences from the past may be interpreted.

Benchmark: State the effects of geographic factors on historical events.

Indicators: Recognize how geography is used to interpret the past.
Use geography to interpret historical events.
Discuss how historical events have been influenced by physical and human geographic factors.
Explain the impact of physical and human geographic factors on historical events.

Benchmark: Summarize the role of innovation on the development and interaction of societies.

Indicators: Explain the impact of new inventions and technological developments in various regions of the world.
Recognize that technology has influenced the course of history.

Standard V. Apply knowledge of democratic principles and various political systems through life long civic action.



Benchmark: Describe how various political systems throughout the world define the rights and responsibilities of the individual.

Indicators: Recognize the essential characteristics of limited and unlimited governments.
Recognize the different types of government.
Compare and contrast the United States government with other governments in the world.
Express the role of government's impact on individual rights.

Standard VI. Evaluate and synthesize information to communicate an understanding of knowledge relative to social science content.

Benchmark: Analyze primary and secondary sources.

Indicators: Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source.
Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.

Benchmark: Apply knowledge of text structures and text features.

Indicators: Integrate visual information with other information in print and digital texts.
Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to social studies.

Benchmark: Write arguments and informative/explanatory text focused on discipline specific content.

Indicators: Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts and examples.
Use precise language and vocabulary to explain the topic.

Benchmark: Produce and distribute writing from discipline specific content.

Indicators: Use technology, including the internet, to produce and publish writing.
Produce clear and coherent writing appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Benchmark: Research to communicate discipline specific content.

Indicators: Conduct short research projects to answer a question.
Draw evidence from informational texts to support research.

No student enrolled in the Urbandale Community School District shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in the District's programs on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, religion, marital status, ethnic background, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio-economic background. The policy of the District shall be to provide educational programs and opportunities for students as needed on the basis of individual interests, values, abilities and potential.

