

NORTH BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Essential Curriculum
Social Studies

Kindergarten

Content

History	Civics/Government	Geography	Economics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Me & My Family • Famous People & Symbols • Major Events, Celebrations • Values & Family Tree 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Friends & Solving Problems • Current Events • Community service • Citizenship & Respect for Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currency • Family chores & jobs

Upon completion of Kindergarten, students will be able to:

Units

Family

- Define “family” and identify the roles and responsibilities of its members.
- Demonstrate self-awareness in defining the characteristics of their own families.
- State the importance of rules in their families.

Holidays

- Demonstrate self-awareness in defining the characteristics of their own holidays.
- Recognize similarities and differences between themselves and others.
- Respect different forms of celebration of various holidays.
- Become familiar with famous people and symbols associated with holidays and important events.

Friends

- Demonstrate self-awareness in defining the characteristics of their own friends.
- Recognize similarities and differences between themselves and others.
- State the importance of rules when dealing with their friends.

NORTH BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Grade 1

Content

History	Civics/Government	Geography	Economics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School • Neighborhood • Traditions Around the World 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Community • School Rules • Being a Good Neighbor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom & School Maps • Elements of a Map 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currency • Introduction to Careers (police, fire, post office, etc.) • Needs & Wants • Environment (Recycle, Reduce, Reuse in the School)

Upon completion of Grade 1, students will be able to:

Units

School

- Explain the importance of school.
- State the importance of rules at school.

Your Neighborhood

- Identify different aspects of their neighborhood.
- Determine the difference between a “need” and a “want.”

The Environment

- Identify strategies to promote a healthy environment.
- Use basic map skills.

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Grade 2

Content

History	Civics/Government	Geography	Economics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community of North Branford & Northford 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Studies (Urban/Suburban Comparison; North Branford or Northford Vs New Haven) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Maps Introduction to Globes & Landforms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currency Careers (town jobs like: merchants, business, farmers, etc) Recycle, Reduce, Reuse in the Community

Upon completion of Grade 2, students will be able to:

Units

Community of North Branford/Northford

- Identify the important elements of a town and explain/demonstrate how these elements interact.
- Analyze and explain the relationship between North Branford/Northford's businesses, government, and residents.

Regional Perspective

- Analyze and explain the differences, similarities, and connections between urban, suburban, and rural communities.
- Determine what a society needs to be successful.
- Determine and explain what makes North Branford/Northford unique within the state of Connecticut.

The Environment (expand learning from grade 1)

- Identify and explain/demonstrate how to promote a healthy environment.
- Use basic map skills to observe and identify directions and locations from various perspectives using a variety of tools (compass, globe, map, software, etc).

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Grade 3

Content

History	Civics/Government	Geography	Economics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Native Americans • Connecticut • Space/time continuum; famous people, symbols; major events, values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut Government • Asian Cultural Study (Japan) • Current Events • Community Service • Citizenship/Respect for Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut Maps (Thematic, Physical, & Political) • Introduction to Asian Geography (Japan) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut • Jobs • Trading (Goods & Services) • Careers

Upon completion of Grade 3, students will be able to:

Units

We Live in Connecticut!

- Understand and explain or demonstrate that where you live affects how you live.
- Determine and explain what makes Connecticut a unique state in which to live.

Native American Studies

- Compare and explain that where the Native Americans lived affected how they lived.
- Determine and explain how different cultures can have similar needs, practices, and beliefs as well as unique needs, practices, and beliefs.

Japan

- Understand and explain that where the Japanese live affects how they live.
- Determine and explain how the Japanese culture is unique.

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Grade 4

Content

History	Civics/Government	Geography	Economics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explorer & Exploration • States' Histories as They Pertain to Regions Under Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Government • Modern Day Cultural Study (Various Middle & South American Countries) • Current Events • Community Service • Citizenship/Respect for Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State & Regional Studies • Introduction to Eastern & Western Hemisphere • Geography of Regions of the United States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money • Jobs • Exports • Imports

Upon completion of Grade 4, students will be able to:

Units

Exploration

- Understand and explain that the quest for change leads to exploration.
- Determine and analyze the major human characteristics of those looking to bring about change.
- Determine and explain how geography impacts the course of history and the way people live.
- Analyze how belief systems influence human action.

Middle/South America

- Compare and explain how where you live affects how they lived.
- Determine and explain what makes the Middle/South American culture unique.

Regions of Our Country

- Understand and explain how where you live affects how you live.
- Determine and explain why geography and resources where people live affect the choices they make.

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Grade 5

Content

History	Civics/Government	Geography	Economics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colonization • Revolutionary War • Introduction to Federal, State, Local Governments (basic information) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Day Cultural Study (various European Countries) • Current Events • Community Service • Citizenship/Respect for Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to European Geography • Geography as it Relates to U. S. History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money • Jobs • Exports • Imports

Upon completion of Grade 4, students will be able to:

Units

Colonization

- Understand and explain how the quest for change led to colonization.
- Analyze and explain how geography, culture, and economy affect how people live.

American Revolution

- Understand and explain how the quest for change led to revolution.
- Analyze and explain what factors contributed to the successful outcome of the war for the colonists.

Modern Europe

- Understand and explain how where you live affects how you live.
- Determine and explain why geography and resources where people live affect the choices they make.