

ELEMENTARY SOCIAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER

**AUG-SEP
2025**



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SEPTEMBER SOCIAL STUDIES IDEAS

Remember that September is the month when Utah recognizes the Constitution and Founding documents. So take some time this month to teach about the Constitution and Founding Fathers. Here are some other dates that may be of interest.

Sep 2 The 80th anniversary of the end of WW2 with Japan

Sep 9 California became a state in 1850

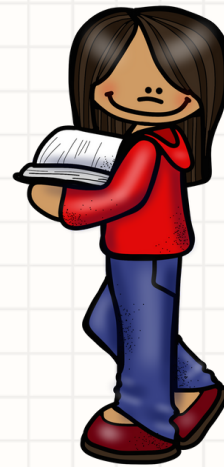
Sep 1846 The Smithsonian Institute opened.

Sep 11 The first comic strip was published.

Sep 14 Anniversary of the Star Spangled Banner being written

Sep 17 Constitution Day

Sep 21 International Peace Day



DRAWING: WIN A SOCIAL STUDIES PICTURE BOOK

Each month I will hold a drawing to win one of the picture books that are mentioned in the lesson ideas in this newsletter. Make sure to sign up so that you can have a new book to add to your classroom library and use for a social studies lesson! Last months winners:

Sign up here: [Drawing Form](#)

INFORMATIONAL TEXTS

Past Informational Texts

1st Grade: Maps

The new standards asks teachers to teach about Geography. This text can help explain what maps are. It is 170 Lexile.

Maps



2nd Grade: States

The new Utah Social Studies Standards ask us to teach about Geography. This reading can help students understand what a state is. This reading is 250 Lexile.

States

4th Grade: Regions

This reading can give your students an introduction to the concept of what a Region is before you start teaching them about Utah's three regions. This reading is 510 Lexile.

Regions

3rd Grade: International Peace Day

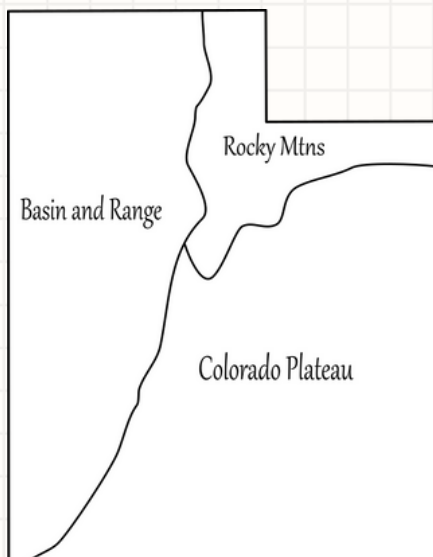
This month is International Peace Day. It is a good time to talk about being kind and also begin to introduce students to the term international as well as other countries around the world. This reading is 430 Lexile.

International Peace Day

5th Grade: Smithsonian Institute

This month is the anniversary of the start of the Smithsonian Institute. You could use this reading in your Walk to Read Groups and help you students learn about the impact of these museums. This reading is 660 Lexile.

Smithsonian Institute



6th Grade: Japan in WW2

This month is the 80th anniversary Japan surrendering in World War 2. This reading gives some history of Japan in the war. This text has a 850 Lexile.

Japan in WW2

Digital Social Studies Books

As part of the district push to increase literacy in younger grades, you should have more time in your daily schedule to get students reading books at the appropriate Lexile Level. To help you integrate this time with social studies, I will be working on creating digital books that your students can read during this time. They are based off of your grade social studies standards.

1st Grade Books

These books have a Lexile Level of 150-200.

- 150 The Flag at School (1st Grade Standard 1.3.4)
- 150 James Madison Helps (1st Grade Standard 1.1.2)
- 160 Max Learns About Rules (1st Grade Standard 1.3.1)
- 160 A Visit to Independence Hall (1st Grade Standard 1.3.4)
- 170 Anna's Class Goal (1st Grade Standard 1.3.2)

2nd Grade Books

These books have a Lexile Level of 200-250.

- 210 The Old Picture (2nd Grade Standard 2.1.2)
 - 210 Dan and Molly's Seasons in Willow Town (2nd Grade Standard 2.2.4)
 - 210 Firefighter Finn Saves the Day! (2nd Grade Standard 2.2.4)
 - 220 The Liberty Bell (2nd Grade Standard 2.1.4)
 - 220 Constitution Day (2nd Grade Standard 2.3.6)
 - 250 Officer Lee Helps the Town (2nd Grade Standard 2.3.4)
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Math/Social Studies

As the year progresses I am going to try to create ways that you can integrate your math and social studies content. There are some full lessons and some simple switches that you can do to integrate social studies into your math curriculum.

Kindergarten Unit 1 Ideas

1st Grade Unit 1 Ideas

2nd Grade Unit 1 Ideas

3rd Grade Unit 1 Ideas

4th Grade Unit 1 Ideas

5th Grade Unit 1 Ideas

6th Grade Unit 1 Ideas

Pacing Guide

This year the new elementary social studies standards should be implemented. Here are the Jordan District Scope and Sequence for each grade level. There are several lessons that are tied to Witt and Wisdom for most grade and there will be more added throughout the year. These will guide you throughout the year.

[Kindergarten Pacing Guide](#)

[1st Grade Pacing Guide](#)

[2nd Grade Pacing Guide](#)

[3rd Grade Pacing Guide](#)

[4th Grade Pacing Guide](#)

[5th Grade Pacing Guide](#)

[6th Grade Pacing Guide](#)

[6th Grade Option 2 Pacing Guide](#)
