



Pearson

Social Studies 4

Semester A Summary:

In this course, the student will explore several historical and geographical themes focused on the United States. Topics include American government, geography, history, citizenship, and economics. The student will also build upon their understanding of the first inhabitants and explorers of the United States, as well as its beginnings as a new nation.

Semester A Outline

1. Course Overview

1. Social Studies 4 A Course Overview

2. United States Geography

1. Constitution Day
 - In this section, you will identify the purpose of the United States Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and symbols that are important to our nation.
2. United States Geography Intro/SEL
3. Land and Regions in the United States
 - In this section, you will describe landforms, regions, and bodies of water in the United States.
 - In this section, you will describe GPS.
4. Weather and Climate
 - In this section, you will explain the difference between climate and weather. You will also describe different climates across the five U.S. regions.
5. Regions and Resources
 - In this section, you will identify and describe different kinds of resources.
6. U.S. Geography Portfolio Day 1
 - In this section, you will describe the region where you live.
7. U.S. Geography Portfolio Day 2
 - In this section, you will create maps that represent your region.
8. People and the Land
 - In this section, you will identify and describe the relationship between people and the environment.
9. United States Geography Unit Review
10. United States Geography Unit Test

3. Our Government

1. Our Government Intro/SEL
2. Principles of Our Government
 - In this section, you will identify the beliefs that shape the U.S. government.

- In this section, you will compare how citizens stayed informed about the government in the 1700s and today.
3. Origin of Rules and Laws
 - In this section, you will examine where rules and laws come from and why we have them.
 - In this section, you will identify causes and effects of having or not having rules and laws.
 - In this section, you will explain the importance of effective reasoning by leaders when making a new law.
 4. Constitution(s)
 - In this section, you will identify goals of the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution and why Article Five is essential.
 - In this section, you will compare your state's Constitution to the Constitution of the United States.
 - In this section, you will examine where important parts of the U.S. Constitution came from and why people added these parts to the Constitution.
 5. Branches of Government
 - In this section, you will identify and describe the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government.
 - In this section, you will describe the interactive skills needed to pass a new law through the government.
 6. Levels of Government
 - In this section, you will compare what people who work to govern cities, states, and the nation are allowed to do.
 - In this section, you will identify functions of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government.
 - In this section, you will compare what people who work to govern cities, states, and the nation are allowed to do.
 7. Analyze Sources Portfolio Day 1
 - In this section, you will explain what compelling questions are, why you should ask them, and how evidence can be used to answer these questions.
 8. Analyze Sources Portfolio Day 2
 - In this section, you will use evidence from many sources to answer compelling questions.
 9. Our Government Unit Review
 10. Our Government Unit Test

4. United States History

1. United States History Intro/SEL
2. America's First Inhabitants
 - In this section, you will explain how geography has affected Native American culture.
 - In this section, you will identify the human characteristics of Native Americans and explain how geography has affected their culture.

3. America's First Explorers
 - In this section, you will describe characteristics of European explorers and colonies in the Americas.
 - In this section, you will create a timeline of European exploration in the Americas.
4. A New Nation
 - In this section, you will identify reasons, ideas, and events that led to American independence from Great Britain.
5. A Nation Grows
 - In this section, you will describe reasons why the United States grew from 1790–1850.
6. A Nation Changes
 - In this section, you will identify causes and effects of the Civil War, including the role slavery played.
7. Becoming a World Power
 - In this section, you will identify reasons why the United States grew from 1850 through the early 1900s.
 - In this section, you will draw an invention to solve a problem.
8. Movements for Rights
 - In this section, you will identify leaders and achievements of several movements after World War II.
 - In this section, you will define people's actions as open-minded or closed-minded as they relate to civil rights.
9. U.S. History Timeline Portfolio Day 1
 - In this section, you will identify and describe important events in American history.
10. U.S. History Timeline Portfolio Day 2
 - In this section, you will create a timeline that puts in order and describes events in American history.
11. United States History Unit Review
12. United States History Unit Test

5. Citizenship

1. Citizenship Intro/SEL
2. Citizenship
 - In this section, you will describe ways in which working together can help people, including working through government, workplaces, voluntary organizations, and families.
3. Civic Virtues
 - In this section, you will explain what civic virtues are. You will also give examples of civic virtues
 - In this section, you will explain three values of our society.
4. Civics in Communities
 - In this section, you will use virtues and beliefs about democracy to solve a problem within a community.

5. Participation in Government
 - In this section, you will identify the beliefs, perspectives, and values that explain why you think about civic issues the way that you do.
6. Community Issues Discussion Day 1
 - In this section, you will identify how and why personal beliefs and experiences lead citizens to participate in community issues
7. Community Issues Discussion Day 2
 - In this section, you will explain how people work to change rules and laws to help society.
8. Community Issues Discussion
9. Citizenship Online Practice
10. Citizenship Unit Review
11. Citizenship Unit Test

6. Economics Basics

1. Economics Basics Intro/SEL
2. Choices
 - In this section, you will compare how the choices people make could be helpful and how these choices can also come with a cost.
3. Incentives
 - In this section, you will define the term incentives. You will also describe examples of incentives.
4. Factors of Production
 - In this section, you will identify what land labor and capital are. You will also explain how they are used to produce goods and services.
5. Stock Market
 - In this section, you will explain the role the stock market plays in our lives. You will also identify how investing in the stock market can be helpful to people.
6. Exchange
 - In this section, you will explain what exchange is and how it affects our lives.
7. Financial Institutions
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast how banks and other items affect the national and global economy.
8. Economics and the Government
 - In this section, you will explain how the government pays for the goods and services it gives to people.
9. Create a Business Portfolio
 - In this section, you will create a business and identify how your business works within a community.
10. Economics Basics Unit Review
11. Economic Basics Unit Test

Semester B Summary:

In this course, the student will examine several aspects of all five geographic regions of the United States. These include the northeast, southeast, midwest, southwest, and west. The student will also delve into topics specific to their particular state.

Semester B Outline

1. Course Overview

1. Social Studies 4 B Course Overview

2. Regions: The Northeast

1. Regions: The Northeast Intro/SEL
2. Land of the Northeast
 - In this section, you will identify and describe landforms, bodies of water, and physical characteristics in the Northeast.
3. Resources in the Northeast
 - In this section, you will describe landforms, bodies of water, and physical characteristics in the Northeast.
4. Birthplace of a Nation
 - In this section, you will identify and describe problems faced by Native Americans, African Americans, and women over time. You will also explain the effects these struggles had on the United States.
5. Growth and Change in the Northeast
 - In this section, you will describe the effects of immigration and industrialization in the Northeast.
6. Regions: The Northeast Portfolio Day 1
 - In this section, you will gather information from different sources to describe the life of a famous immigrant, woman, or Black or Indigenous person of color who contributed to the founding of this nation.
7. Regions: The Northeast Day 2 Apply
 - In this section, you will describe the effects that a famous immigrant had on the world.
8. The Northeast Today
 - In this section, you will identify what life is like in different parts of the Northeast.
9. Regions: The Northeast Review
10. Regions: The Northeast Unit Test

3. Regions: The Southeast

1. Regions: The Southeast Intro/SEL
2. Land and Water of the Southeast
 - In this section, you will identify and describe landforms, bodies of water, and physical characteristics in the Southeast.
 - In this section, you will describe wildlife refuges in the Southeast.
3. Climate of the Southeast
 - In this section, you describe features of the weather and climate of the Southeast region.
4. A Land of Many Resources

- In this section, you will identify resources that people in the Southeast can find and use.
 - In this section, you will identify problems solved by the Tennessee Valley Authority.
5. Settling the Southeast
 - In this section, you will describe different groups of people who settled in the Southeast.
 6. Southern Life
 - In this section, you will identify important parts of Southeastern culture, including traditions, social and economic conditions, and characteristics of major cities.
 7. Regions: The Southeast Day 1 Portfolio Apply
 - In this section, you will identify characteristics of the climate, places, people, and resources of the Southeast region of the United States.
 8. Regions: The Southeast Day 2 Portfolio Apply
 - In this section, you will create a presentation celebrating the climate, places, peoples, and resources of the Southeast region of the United States.
 9. Regions: The Southeast Review
 10. Regions: The Southeast Unit Test

4. Regions: The Midwest

1. Regions: The Midwest Intro/SEL
2. In the Heart of the Nation
 - In this section, you will describe important landforms, bodies of water, weather, climate, and plant and animal life in the Midwest.
3. Resources and Farming
 - In this section, you will describe resources that people in the Midwest can find and use.
 - In this section, you will provide suggestions for solving problems caused by climate and land use.
4. Settling in the Midwest
 - In this section, you will identify the history of how different groups of people settled in the Midwest, including characteristics of the groups of people native to the Midwest, and forced and unforced migration.
 - In this section, you will learn about the Midwest settlement.
 - In this section, you will learn about settling the Midwest.
5. Developing the Midwest
 - In this section, you will identify and describe how people began to make a living and build cities in the Midwest.
 - In this section, you will identify and describe the growth of industry in the Midwest.
 - In this section, you will learn how to identify and describe this growth in the Midwest.
6. Regions: The Midwest Day 1 Portfolio Apply

- In this section, you will identify the things a particular group of people in the Midwest do each day.
7. Regions: The Midwest Day 2 Portfolio Apply
 - In this section, you will explain how the environment affects the things a particular group of people in the Midwest do.
 8. The Midwest on the Move
 - In this section, you will describe how the economy works in the Midwest, including the connections between trade, transportation, and tourism.
 9. Regions: The Midwest Review
 10. Regions: The Midwest Unit Test

5. Regions: The Southwest

1. Regions: The Southwest Intro/SEL
2. Southwestern Land and Water
 - In this section, you will identify and describe different kinds of resources in the Southwest.
3. Climate of the Southwest
 - In this section, you will describe the climate of the Southwest, including effects on plant and animal life and effects of elevation.
4. The Southwest's Past
 - In this section, you will identify things that happened while people were colonizing the Southwest, including effects of Spanish exploration, and cultural impacts.
 - In this section, you will summarize what you learned about storytelling and the Southwest culture.
5. Growth of the Southwest
 - In this section, you will identify and describe reasons why the Southwest has grown over time.
6. Life in a Dry Land
 - In this section, you will explain reasons that the Southwest needs water and the effects the water supply has on life in the Southwest.
7. Regions: The Southwest Discussion Day 1
 - In this section, you will discuss the characteristics that make the Southwest region different from any other place with your peer.
8. Regions: The Southwest Discussion Day 2
 - In this section, you will discuss the characteristics that make the Southwest region different from any other place with your peer.
9. Apply: Regions: The Southwest Discussion Day 2
10. Regions: The Southwest Online Practice
11. Regions: The Southwest Unit Review
12. Regions: The Southwest Unit Test

6. Regions: The West

1. Regions: The West Intro/SEL
2. A Varied Land

- In this section, you will identify landforms, bodies of water, and ways the land changes over time in the West.
3. Climate of the West
 - In this section, you will describe the different climates in the West and effects of these climates on plant and animal life in these places.
 4. Locating the West
 - In this section, you will identify latitude and longitude to find locations on maps and globes, including the Western region of the United States.
 5. Western Resources
 - In this section, you will describe the important natural resources in the West and how these resources affect life.
 6. Growth of the West
 - In this section, you will identify of how different groups of people settled in the West, including characteristics of native peoples, effects of Spanish exploration, and growth of cities.
 7. Statehood
 - In this section, you will describe Alaska and Hawaii's road to statehood.
 8. The West Today
 - In this section, you will identify important parts of the economy in the West today, including the importance of trade, main ports, and current and future challenges.
 9. Comparison of Regions Apply
 - In this section, you will compare the characteristics of two regions in the United States.
 - 10.Regions: The West Review
 - 11.Regions: The West Unit Test