

Course Description

Course Title: 1st grade Social Studies
Course length: Full Year

Class Meetings (Per Week): 30 min. 2x weekly
Textbook: My America
 A Beka Publishing Co.
 Map Skills For Today, Weekly Reader

General Course Description: The purpose of My America is to stimulate the students' interest in their country through a study of important symbols, history, and places of interest in the United States. Supplemental curriculum includes using Maps/Weekly Reader students are helped to relate specific map skills to real events and to apply specific map skills in interactive follow up activities. Students will focus on the five themes of geography: location, movement, human/environmental interactions, place, and region.

Biblical Principles:

God has a plan He is carrying to completion and history records the progress of that plan. (Matthew 5:17-18, Luke 24:27)

God expects us to learn for knowledge of history. (Deuteronomy 4:32-34, I Corinthians 10:11)

We are to keep written records of eye witness accounts. (Luke 1:1-4, Revelation 1:11)

General Course Description:

1st Quarter:

This is my America
 My America's Flag
 My America's Freedoms
 Symbols of My America
 Great People of America:
 Pilgrims
 George Washington

2nd Quarter:

Great People of America:
 Paul Revere
 Benjamin Franklin
 Abraham Lincoln
 My America Grows
 My America Talks
 My America Travels
 My America is Beautiful

3rd Quarter:

My America is Beautiful continue
 My America Sings
 Martin Luther King, Jr.
 Black History Unit

4th Quarter:

What is a Map?
 What does the Earth Look Like?
 Map Symbols

Using and following map symbols
 Near or far
 Left or right
 Forming directions
 Four main directions
 Visit Buddy's neighborhood
 Following the routes
 Land and Water on a map
 Our World
 Our Continent
 Our Country
 A visit to California, Virginia, Canada, and Mexico

Related Objectives/Learner Outcomes:

The student will learn:

1. To describe the country in which we live
2. To demonstrate the use of maps
3. To locate our home state on a US map
4. To recognize the number 50 as in the number of states
5. To identify which ocean lies to the east of the United States and which lies to the west
6. To recite the Pledge Allegiance and state what it means to be true to our country
7. To identify America's freedoms
8. To identify the number of Stars and Stripes on a flag and tell what they stand for
9. To identify the importance of laws
10. To define freedom of worship and freedom of speech
11. To define freedom of the press and freedom of assembly
12. To identify a symbol i.e.: the Great Seal, an eagle, the Flag of the U.S., the Statue of Liberty, and the White House
13. To identify the symbol Uncle Sam and tell what he stands for
14. To explain why the Declaration of Independence, and the Bill of Rights are important
15. To be able to tell what is written on every United States coin ("In God We Trust" and "Liberty") and why it is important
16. To identify what a patriot is
17. To recognize George Washington as the Father of our country and the first President of the United States
 To identify great people of America such as Paul Revere and Benjamin Franklin and list what ways they helped our country grow strong
18. To recognize that Benjamin Franklin signed two important documents-the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution
19. To identify Abraham Lincoln as a great leader, the sixteenth President of the United States and list the ways he helped our country grow strong
20. To identify the name of the army from the North in the War of 1865
21. To identify the name of the army from the South in the War of 1865
22. To define communication as the way we get messages to one another
23. To identify Francis Scott Key as writer of our National Anthem; also date written (1812)
24. To locate Washington D.C. on a map

25. To recognize the Capital Building, Washington Monument, the White House, the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials are located in Washington, D.C.
26. To locate where Massachusetts is on a map (the landing place of the Pilgrims)
27. To identify the reasons the Pilgrims left England
28. To define pilgrim
29. To identify the name of the ship that brought Pilgrims to America
30. To identify the date of the first Thanksgiving (1621)
31. To identify and use maps of the interior and exterior spaces to locate things and trace pathways
32. To use a compass rose to find relative directions on a map of Washington, D.C.
33. To use a map to learn cardinal directions and to analyze and interpret data using a globe
34. To use maps of special places to locate specific items
35. To identify some of our great leaders during Black History Month such as George Washington Carver and Harriet Tubman
36. To identify places of interest such as Plymouth Rock, Niagra Falls, Fort McHenry, Grand Canyon and tell their significance to our history
37. To locate places of interest in America on a map ie: Mount Rushmore, Yellowstone National Park, The Grand Tetons, Rocky Mountain National park, etc.

Presentation Methods:

Teacher Instruction
 Individual reading
 Class Discussions
 Visual aids
 Tapes/Videos

Evaluation and Grading Methods:

Individual projects completed
 Group activities
 Participation in discussions, supplementary reading and exploratory materials.

Grading Scale:

E = Exceeds Expectations	+ = Commendable
M=Meets Expectations	√ = Acceptable
N =Needs Further Development	— = Area of Concern

Enrichment Resources or Special Activities:

Using Maps in your Home Workbooks
 School/Weekly Reader Instructional Materials
 Compare symbols of America with symbols of God.
 Highlighting geography of America and environments.
 Observe Black History month with a focus on important African-Americans who played a significant role in shaping America