

Social Studies 8

State Standard Number	State Standard Area/Description	Unit Name	Course Topic Description
1	The Global Heritage of the American People Prior to 1500		
1.I	History and the Social Sciences: The Study of People		
1.I.1	To understand the social scientific method and techniques used by social scientists to study human cultures		
1.I.2	To understand how the social scientific method and techniques can be applied to a variety of situations and problems		
1.I.3	To formulate social science questions and define social science issues and problems		
1.II	Geographic Factors Influence Culture		
1.II.1	To describe the relationships between people and environments and the connections between people and places		
1.II.2	To describe the reasons for periodizing history in different ways		
1.II.3	To map information about people, places, and environments		

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1.II.4	To identify and compare the physical, human, and cultural characteristics of different regions and people		
1.II.5	To understand the geography of settlement patterns and the development of cultural patterns		
1.III	Iroquoian and Algonquian Cultures on the Atlantic Coast of North America		
1.III.1	To know the social and economic characteristics such as customs, traditions, child-rearing practices, gender roles, foods, and religious and spiritual beliefs that distinguish different cultures and civilizations		
1.III.2	To map information about people, places, and environments		

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1.III.3	To understand the worldview held by native peoples of the Americas and how that worldview developed		
1.III.4	To understand the ways different people view the same event or issues from a variety of perspectives		
1.IV	European Conceptions of the World in 1500		
1.IV.1	To understand the worldview held by Europeans prior to 1500		
1.IV.2	To understand the ways different people view the same event or issues from a variety of perspectives		

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2	European Exploration and Colonization of the Americas	Lesson 1 Lesson 2 Lesson 3	European Exploration Excitement, Expansion, Changing Horizons Spanish Influence and Colonization in the New World
2.1	European Exploration and Settlement	Lesson 4 Lesson 5	Jamestown and the New England Colonies The Middle and Southern Colonies
2.1.1	To understand major turning points, such as the European exploration of and settlement in the Americas, by investigating the causes and other factors that brought about change and the results of these changes	Lessons 1 through 5	European Exploration Excitement, Expansion, Changing Horizons Spanish Influence and Colonization in the New World Jamestown and the New England Colonies The Middle and Southern Colonies
2.1.2	To understand the impacts of European settlement on Native American Indians and Europeans	Lesson 3 Lesson 13	Spanish Influence and Colonization in the New World A New Government, A New Republic
2.1.3	To investigate why people and places are located where they are located and what patterns can be perceived in these locations		

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2.I.4	To understand the ways different people view the same event or issues from a variety of perspectives	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
2.II	Colonial Settlement: Geographic, Political, and Economic Factors	Lesson 4 Lesson 5 Lesson 6	Jamestown and the New England Colonies The Middle and Southern Colonies The Right to Representataion
2.II.1	To investigate the roles and contributions of individuals and groups in relation to key social, political, cultural, and religious practices throughout the colonial period	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
2.II.2	To investigate why people and places are located where they are located and what patterns can be perceived in these locations	Lesson 5 and Throughout the lessons	The Middle and Southern Colonies
2.II.3	To explain how societies and nations attempt to satisfy their basic needs and wants by utilizing scarce capital and natural and human resources		
2.II.4	To analyze how the values of colonial powers affected the guarantee of civil rights and made provisions for human needs	Lesson 6	The Right to Representation
2.III	Life in colonial communities	Lesson 4	Jamestown and the New

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		Lesson 5	England Colonies The Middle and Southern Colonies
2.III.1	To understand how European and other settlers adapted to life in the American colonies	Lesson 4 Lesson 5 Lesson 6	Jamestown and the New England Colonies The Middle and Southern Colonies The Right to Representation (settlement in the back country)
2.III.2	To classify major developments in categories such as social, political, geographic, technological, scientific, cultural, or religious	Lesson 4 Lesson 5 Lesson 6 and Throughout the lessons	Jamestown and the New England Colonies The Middle and Southern Colonies The Right to Representation (settlement in the back country)
2.III.3	To investigate the roles and contributions of individuals and groups in relation to key social, political, cultural, and religious practices throughout the American colonies	Lesson 4 Lesson 5 Lesson 6	Jamestown and the New England Colonies The Middle and Southern Colonies The Right to Representation
2.III.4	To present geographical information in a variety of formats, including maps, tables, graphs, charts, diagrams, and computer-generated models	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
2.III.5	To investigate how people in colonial communities answered the three fundamental economic questions (What goods and services shall be produced and in what quantities? How shall goods and services be produced? For	Lesson 4 Lesson 5 Lesson 6	Jamestown and the New England Colonies The Middle and Southern Colonies The Right to

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	whom shall goods and services be produced?) and solved their economic problems		Representation (settlement in the back country)
2.III.6	To analyze how values of a people affect the guarantee of civil rights and make provision for human needs	Lesson 6 Lesson 7	The Right to Representation Irresolvable Differences
3	A Nation is Created	Lesson 9	We Are the United States of America
3.I	Background Causes of the American Revolution	Lesson 6 Lesson 7	The Right to Representation Irresolvable Differences
3.I.1	To understand the economic, political, and social causes of the American Revolution	Lesson 6 Lesson 7	The Right to Representation Irresolvable Differences
3.I.2	To compare and contrast different interpretations of key events and issues in New York State and United States history and explain reasons for these different accounts	Lesson 5 Lesson 18	The Middle and Southern Colonies State Web Quest
3.I.3	To investigate how people in the United States and throughout the world answer the three fundamental economic questions and solve basic economic problems		
3.I.4	To consider the nature and evolution of a constitutional democracy	Lesson 9 Lesson 10	We Are the United States of America Your Government, Your Rights, Your Turn
3.II	The Shift From Protest to Separation	Lesson 7 Lesson 8	Irresolvable Differences The American Revolution
3.II.1	To understand how colonists' concerns regarding political and economic issues resulted in the movement for independence	Lesson 7 Lesson 8	Irresolvable Differences The American Revolution
3.II.2	To compare and contrast different interpretations of key events and issues in New York State and United States history and explain	Lesson 18	State Web Quest

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	reasons for these different accounts		
3.II.3	To consider the nature and evolution of constitutional democracies		
3.III	Early Attempts to Govern the Newly Independent States		
3.III.1	To understand how the colonists attempted to establish new forms of self-government		
3.III.2	To investigate key turning points in New York State and United States history and explain why these events or developments are significant		
3.III.3	To compare and contrast different interpretations of key events and issues in New York State and United States history and explain reasons for these different accounts		
3.III.4	To describe how ordinary people and famous historic figures in the local community, State, and the United States have advanced the fundamental democratic values, beliefs, and traditions expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the New York State and United States constitutions, the Bill of Rights, and other important historic documents	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
3.IV	Military and Political Aspects of the Revolution	Lesson 8	The American Revolution
3.IV.1	To understand how the colonists were able to unite against British power to win a major military and political victory	Lesson 8	The American Revolution
3.IV.2	To understand how events on the national level influenced and affected New Yorkers		
3.IV.3	To complete well-documented and historically accurate case studies about individuals and groups who represent different ethnic, national, and religious groups		
3.IV.4	To explain how societies and nations attempt to satisfy their		

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	basic needs and wants by utilizing capital, natural, and human resources		
3.V	Economic, Political, and Social Changes Brought About by the American Revolution		
3.V.1	To understand how a revolution can have a profound effect on the economic, political, and social fabric of a nation		
3.V.2	To analyze how the values of a nation affect the guarantee of human rights and make provisions for human needs	Lesson 11	You Have Rights
3.V.3	To present information by using media and other appropriate visuals such as tables, charts, and graphs to communicate ideas and conclusions	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
3.V.4	To understand how different experiences, beliefs, values, traditions, and motives cause individuals and groups to interpret historic events and issues from different perspectives		
3.V.5	To explain how societies and nations attempt to satisfy their basic needs and wants by utilizing capital, natural, and human resources		
4	Experiments in Government		
4.I	The Articles of Confederation and the Critical Period	Lesson 9	We Are the United States of America
4.I.1	To understand the earliest formal structure of the United States government as expressed in the Articles of Confederation	Lesson 9	We Are the United States of America
4.I.2	To consider the nature and evolution of constitutional democracies		
4.II	The New York State Constitution of 1777		
4.II.1	To understand the earliest formal structure of the New York State government, as expressed in the first New York State Constitution		
4.II.2	To compare and contrast the development and evolution of the		

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	United States and New York State constitutions		
4.II.3	To understand how the United States and New York State constitutions support majority rule but also protect the rights of the minority		
4.III	The Writing, Structure, and Adoption of the United States Constitution	Lesson 10	Your Government, Your Rights, Your Turn
4.III.1	To understand the importance of the events that took place during the writing and adoption of the United States Constitution and to recognize their significance beyond their time and place	Lesson 10	Your Government, Your Rights, Your Turn
4.III.2	To explain what citizenship means in a democratic society, how citizenship is defined in the Constitution and other laws of the land, and how the definition of citizenship has changed in the United States and New York State over time	Lesson 12	Citizenship
4.III.3	To understand that the New York State Constitution, along with other documents, served as a model for the development of the United States Constitution		
4.III.4	To compare and contrast the development and evolution of the constitutions of the United States and New York State		
4.III.5	To define federalism and describe the powers granted to the national and state governments by the United States Constitution	Lesson 10	Your Government, Your Rights, Your Turn
5	Life in the New Nation		
5.I	New Government in Operation		
5.I.1	To understand how the new nation established itself and began to operate		
5.I.2	To understand how political parties emerged in response to concerns at the local, State, and national levels	Lesson 13 Lesson 16	A New Government, A New Republic The Transformation Continues
5.I.3	To understand how civic values		

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	reflected in the United States and New York State constitutions have been implemented through law and practice		
5.I.4	To understand the relationship between and the relative importance of United States domestic and foreign policies over time	Lesson 13 Lesson 14 and Throughout other lessons	A New Government, A New Republic Jefferson Wins
5.I.5	To analyze the role played by the United States in international politics, past and present	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
5.I.6	To explain how societies and nations attempt to satisfy their basic needs and wants by utilizing scarce capital, natural, and human resources		
5.I.7	To investigate how people in the United States solve the three fundamental economic questions and solve basic economic problems		
5.I.8	To complete well-documented and historically correct case studies about individuals and groups who represent different ethnic, national, and religious groups, including Native American Indians in New York State and the United States		
5.II	The Age of Jackson	Lesson 16	The Transformation Continues
5.II.1	To understand how an American consciousness began to develop during Jackson's administration	Lesson 16	The Transformation Continues
5.II.2	To complete well-documented and historically accurate case studies about individuals and groups who represent different ethnic, national, and religious groups, including Native American Indians, in New York State and the United States at different times and in different locations		
5.II.3	To describe how ordinary people and famous historic figures in the local community, the State, and the	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons

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	United States have advanced the fundamental democratic values, beliefs, and traditions expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the New York State and United States constitutions, the Bill of Rights, and other important historic documents		
5.II.4	To gather and organize information about the important achievements and contributions of individuals and groups living in New York State and the United States		
5.II.5	To develop conclusions about economic issues and problems by creating broad statements that summarize findings and solutions		
5.III	Preindustrial Age: 1790-1860s	Lesson 15	War and Its Legacy, Technology and Industry, Slavery Flourishes
5.III.1	To understand the way of life of an agrarian society		
5.III.2	To understand the nature and effect of changes on society and individuals as the United States began to move from an agrarian to an industrial economy		
5.III.3	To describe historic events through the eyes and experiences of those who were there		
5.III.4	To explore the meaning of American culture by identifying the key ideas, beliefs, patterns of behavior, and traditions that help define it and unite all Americans	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
5.III.5	To define basic economic concepts such as scarcity, supply and demand, markets, resources, and economic systems	Lesson 25	Real Life in the West
5.III.6	To understand how scarcity requires people and nations to make choices that involve costs and future considerations		
5.III.7	To develop conclusions about economic issues and problems by creating broad statements that summarize findings and solutions		

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5.III.8	To describe the relationships between people and environments and the connections between people and places		
5.III.9	To use a number of research skills (e.g., computer databases, periodicals, census reports, maps, standard reference works, interviews, surveys) to locate and gather geographical information about issues and problems	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
6	Division and Reunion	Lesson 19	How Do we Change and Grow Now?
		Lesson 20	A Nation About to Break
6.I	Underlying Causes of the Civil War	Lesson 19	How Do we Change and Grow Now?
		Lesson 20	A Nation About to Break
6.I.1	To understand the series of events and resulting conditions that led to the American Civil War	Lesson 19	How Do we Change and Grow Now?
		Lesson 20	A Nation About to Break
6.I.2	To understand how different experiences, beliefs, values, traditions, and motives cause individuals and groups to interpret historic events and issues from different perspectives	Lesson 19	How Do we Change and Grow Now?
		Lesson 20	A Nation About to Break
6.I.3	To participate in a negotiating and compromising role-playing activity that mirrors the attempts at political compromise in the 1850s	Lesson 20	A Nation About to Break
6.II	The Civil War Breaks Out	Lesson 22	A Long War and its Legacy
6.II.1	To understand the development and progress of the Civil War	Lesson 20	A Nation About to Break
6.II.2	To investigate key turning points in the Civil War in New York State and United States history and explain why these events or developments are significant		
6.II.3	To map information about people, places, and environments	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
6.II.4	To describe the relationships between people and environments and the connections between people and places	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons

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6.II.5	To identify and collect economic information related to the Civil War from standard reference works, newspapers, periodicals, computer databases, textbooks, and other primary and secondary sources		
6.III	Results of the Civil War	Lesson 22	A Long War and its Legacy
6.III.1	To understand how the Civil War affected the development of the postwar United States and influenced other countries		
6.III.2	To describe how ordinary people and famous historic figures in the local community, the State, and the United States have advanced fundamental democratic values, beliefs, and traditions expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the New York State and United States constitutions, the Bill of Rights, and other important historic documents	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
6.III.3	To consider the sources of historic documents, narratives, or artifacts and evaluate their reliability	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
6.III.4	To value the principles, ideals, and core values of the American democratic system based upon the premises of human dignity, liberty, justice, and equality	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
6.III.5	To analyze the role played by the United States in international politics, past and present		
7	An Industrial Society	Lesson 15	Technology and Industry
7.1	The Maturing of an Industrial Society in the Second Half of the 19th Century	Lesson 26 Lesson 27	Web Quest – The Industrial Revolution Continues The Growth of Industry
7.1.1	To understand how industrialization led to significant changes in the economic patterns for producing, distributing, and consuming goods and services	Lesson 26 Lesson 27	Web Quest – The Industrial Revolution Continues The Growth of Industry
7.1.2	To explain how societies and nations attempt to satisfy their basic needs and wants by utilizing		

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	scarce capital, natural, and human resources		
7.I.3	To define basic economic concepts such as scarcity, supply and demand, markets, resources, and economic growth	Lesson 25	Real Life in the West
7.I.4	To understand how scarcity requires people and nations to make choices that involve costs and future considerations		
7.I.5	To understand how people in the United States and throughout the world are both producers and consumers of goods and services	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
7.II	Changes in the Social Structure Altered the American Scene	Lesson 23	Reconstruction – The South Rebuilds
7.II.1	To understand how industrialization altered the traditional social pattern of American society and created a need for reform	Lesson 26 Lesson 27 Lesson 28 Lesson 29	Web Quest – Industrial Revolution Continues The Growth of Industry Change and Challenge – Cause and Effect Progressivism
7.II.2	To investigate key turning points in New York State and United States history and explain why these events or developments are significant		
7.II.3	To complete well-documented and historically accurate case studies about individuals and groups who represent different ethnic, national, and religious groups, including Native American Indians, in New York State and the United States at different times and in different locations		
7.II.4	To consider the sources of historic documents, narratives, or artifacts and evaluate their reliability		
7.II.5	To describe historic events through the eyes and experiences of those who were there		
7.II.6	To understand how scarcity		

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	requires people and nations to make choices that involve costs and future considerations		
7.III	The Progressive Movement, 1900-1920: Efforts to Reform the New Society	Lesson 29	Progressivism
7.III.1	To understand how industrialization led to a need for reevaluating and changing the traditional role of government in relation to the economy and social conditions	Lesson 26 Lesson 27 Lesson 28	Web Quest – Industrial Revolution Continues The Growth of Industry Change and Challenge – Cause and Effect
7.III.2	To investigate key turning points in New York State and United States history and explain why these events or developments are significant		
7.III.3	To gather and organize information about the important achievements and contributions of individuals and groups living in New York State and the United States		
7.III.4	To classify major developments into categories such as social, political, economic, geographic, technological, scientific, cultural, or religious	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
7.III.5	To describe historic events through the eyes and experiences of those who were there		
8	The United States as an Independent Nation in an Increasingly Interdependent World		
8.I	The United States Expands its Territories and Builds an Overseas Empire	Lesson 30 Lesson 31	The World Outside America – Web Quest How Can the United States Expand Even More?
8.I.1	To understand how and why the United States grew during the 19th century		
8.I.2	To recognize that American territorial and economic growth had widespread economic, political, and social impacts both at home and		

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	abroad		
8.I.3	To describe the reasons for periodizing history in different ways		
8.I.4	To understand the relative importance of United States domestic and foreign policies over time		
8.I.5	To analyze the role played by the United States in international politics, past and present	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
8.I.6	To compare and contrast different interpretations of key events and issues in New York State and United States history and offer reasons for these different accounts		
8.II	The United States Begins to Take a Role in Global Politics		
8.II.1	To understand how American relations with other nations developed between the end of the Civil War and the end of World War I		
8.II.2	To describe the reasons for periodizing history in different ways		
8.II.3	To understand the relative importance of United States domestic and foreign policies over time	Lesson 30 Lesson 31	The World Outside America - Web Quest How Can the United States Expand Even More?
8.II.4	To analyze the role played by the United States in international politics, past and present	Lesson 30 Lesson 31	The World Outside America – Web Quest How Can the United States Expand Even More?
8.II.5	To describe the relationships between people and environments and the connections between people and places		
9	The United States Between the Wars		
9.I	The Roaring Twenties Reflected the Spirit of the Postwar Period	Lesson 33	Life in the Twenties
9.I.1	To understand the economic, social, and political development of America in the period between	Lesson 33	Life in the Twenties

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	World War I and World War II		
9.I.2	To understand the relative importance of United States domestic and foreign policies over time		
9.I.3	To analyze the role played by the United States in international politics, past and present	Lesson 31	How Can the United States Expand Even More?
9.I.4	To classify major developments into categories such as social, political, economic, geographic, technological, scientific, cultural, or religious		
9.I.5	To understand how people in the United States and throughout the world are both producers and consumers of goods and services		
9.II	The Great Depression	Lesson 34	Web Quest
9.II.1	To understand the economic, political, and social impacts of the Great Depression on the United States	Lesson 34	Web Quest
9.II.2	To understand the economic, political, and social changes that took place in the world during the 1930s		
9.II.3	To explain how societies and nations attempt to satisfy their basic needs and wants by utilizing scarce capital, natural, and human resources		
9.II.4	To understand how scarcity requires people and nations to make choices that involve costs and future considerations	Lesson 34	Web Quest
9.II.5	To evaluate economic data by differentiating fact from opinion and identifying frames of reference	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
9.II.6	To develop conclusions about economic issues and problems by creating broad statements that summarize findings and solutions	Lesson 34	Web Quest
10	The United States Assumes Worldwide Responsibilities	Lesson 32	World War I
10.I	World War II	Lesson 35	World War II
10.I.1	To understand why World War II began and how it changed the lives	Lesson 35	World War II

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	of millions of people		
10.I.2	To be aware of the much different world left as a legacy of World War II		
10.I.3	To investigate key turning points in New York State and United States history and explain why these events or developments are significant		
10.I.4	To understand the relative importance of United States domestic and foreign policies over time		
10.I.5	To analyze the role played by the United States in international politics, past and present		
10.I.6	To describe historic events through the eyes and experiences of those who were there		
10.II	The United States as Leader of the Free World		
10.II.1	To understand why the United States assumed a leadership role in the post-World War II world		
10.II.2	To appreciate the historical background for the formation of United States foreign policy of this era		
10.II.3	To understand the relative importance of United States domestic and foreign policies over time		
10.II.4	To analyze the role played by the United States in international politics, past and present		
10.III	The United States in the Post-Cold War World		
10.III.1	To understand the historic, political, and social context in which United States foreign policy has evolved during the post-Cold War era		
10.III.2	To understand the relative importance of United States domestic and foreign policy over time	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons
10.III.3	To analyze the role played by the United States in international politics, past and present	Throughout the lessons	Throughout the lessons

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11	The Changing Nature of the American People From World War II to the Present		
11.I	Postwar Society Characterized by Prosperity and Optimism		
11.I.1	To understand that the period immediately following World War II was a prolonged period of prosperity with a high level of public confidence in the United States		
11.I.2	To investigate key turning points in New York State and United States history and explain why these events or developments are significant		
11.I.3	To compare and contrast different interpretations of key events and issues in New York State and United States history and explain reasons for these different accounts		
11.II	The United States Begins a New Century		
11.II.1	To understand the economic, social, and political trends that shaped the end of the 20th century and point to the 21st century		
11.II.2	To investigate problems and opportunities the United States faces in its immediate future		