

Social Studies Skill Table

Essential Question: What are effective strategies for accessing various sources of information and historical evidence, determining their validity, and using them to solve a problem or find a solution to a public policy question?			
Social Studies Skill	K-4	5-8	9-12
Chronological Thinking	<p>Place key historical events and people in historical eras using timelines.</p> <p>Explain how the present is connected to the past.</p>	<p>Construct timelines of the events during major eras.</p> <p>Explain how major events are related to one another in time</p>	<p>Compare present and past events to evaluate the consequences of past decisions and to apply lessons learned.</p> <p>Analyze how change occurs through time due to shifting values and beliefs as well as technological advancements and changes in the political and economic landscape.</p>
Spatial Thinking	<p>Determine locations of places and interpret information available on maps and globes.</p> <p>Use thematic maps and other geographic representations to compare information about people, places regions, and environments.</p>	<p>Select and use various geographic representations to compare information about people, places, regions, and environments.</p> <p>Use maps and other documents to explain the historical migration of people, expansion and disintegration of empires, and growth of economic and political systems.</p>	<p>Construct various forces of geographic representations to show the spatial patterns of physical and human phenomena.</p> <p>Relate current events to the physical and human characteristics of places and regions.</p>
Critical Thinking	<p>Distinguish fact from fiction.</p> <p>Identify and use a variety of primary and secondary sources for reconstructing the past (i.e. documents, letters, diaries, maps, photos, etc.)</p>	<p>Compare and contrast differing interpretations of current and historical events.</p> <p>Assess the credibility of sources by identifying bias and prejudice in documents, media, and computer-generated information.</p>	<p>Distinguish valid arguments from false arguments when interpreting current and historical events</p> <p>Evaluate sources for validity and credibility and to detect propaganda, censorship, and bias.</p>
Presentational Skills	<p>Use evidence to support an idea in a written and/or oral format.</p>	<p>Select and analyze information from a variety of sources to present a reasoned argument or position in a written and/or oral format.</p>	<p>Take a position on a current public policy issue and support it with historical evidence, reasoning, and constitutional analysis in a written and/or oral format.</p>