

Grade 8
Social Studies

History	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
• Interpret the past using a variety of data	I	D	D	P
Interpret the past using charts, graphs, timelines, and political cartoons	I	D	D	P
Evaluate and interpret the credibility of sources		I	D	D
• Describe relationships between causes and consequences		I	D	D
Use cause and effect arguments to understand cause/consequence		I	D	
Describe relationships between significant events	I	D	D	P
• Analyze, determine, support a position about important political values		I	D	P
• Describe relationships among significant events in U.S., world history	I	D	D	P
• Describe how history can be organized and analyzed	I	D	D	P
Determine various criteria to group people and events	I	D	P	
Categorize according to chronology, geography, themes, and by issues	I	D	P	
• Identify major scientific and technological discoveries		I	D	P
List contributions of inventors and innovators		I	D	P
Describe social and economics effects of inventions and discoveries		I	D	P
Identify laws and policies that regulate science and technology			I	D
• Analyze examples of conflict, cooperation, and interdependence among groups, societies, and nations	I	D	D	P
Geography				
• Use a variety of geographic representations to gather and compare information about the U.S.	I	D	D	P
Construct maps from memory			I	D
Estimate distance and calculate scale	I	D	D	P
Interpret and create time lines, charts, and graphs	I	D	D	P
• Understand the interaction of humans with the environment	I	D	D	P
Trace routes of westward expansion to the Pacific Ocean		I	D	P
Identify changing boundaries of the U.S.		I	D	P
Name major land acquisitions, such as the Louisiana Purchase		I	D	P
Recognize that physical environment has both aided and challenged the Development of the U.S.		I	D	P
• Explain the movement of people, ideas, products, diseases in the world	I	D	D	P
Evaluate successive waves of immigrants and refugees to U.S.			I	D
Identify migration patterns within the U.S.		I	D	P
Determine the impact of science and technology on U.S. regions		I	D	P
• Research the causes and consequences of current global issues		I	D	D
Behavioral Science				
• Describe and explain how various factors influence individual identity	I	D	D	D
Identify gender, ethnic origin, socioeconomic status in society	I	D	D	P
Show relationships of these to development and interaction of people	I	D	D	P
• Interpret effects of cultural contributions on U.S. history	I	D	D	P
Describe the ways local, regional, and ethnic cultures influence lives	I	D	D	P
Give examples of cultural contributions of racial, ethnic groups in U.S.		I	D	P
• Analyze cultural conflicts in U.S. history		I	D	P
Explain how bias, prejudice, and stereotyping contribute to conflict		I	D	P
Give examples of how media may influence behavior and decisions		I	D	P
Explain how beliefs and practices, such as Manifest Destiny or the role Of the U.S. in the world may lead to conflict		I	D	P

Give examples that have and have not been resolved			I	D
Understand conflict, cooperation, and interdependence among groups, States, and nations	I	D	D	P
Political Science/Citizenship				
• Identify and discuss important political documents	I	D	P	
Differentiate among articles of the Constitution		IDP		
Recite or memorize the Preamble		IDP		
Explain the Bill of Rights, especially the First Amendment		IDP		
Analyze and respond to landmark Supreme Court decisions		I	D	P
• Identify and explain the basic principles of democracy		I	D	P
Give examples the common good, equal opportunity, majority rule		I	D	P
Compare democracy to other forms of government			I	D
Discriminate between rights and responsibilities in a democracy		I	D	P
• Explain how laws are developed, changed, and enforced		IDP		
Describe the process of creating laws		IDP		
Compare how laws are made with how they are carried out		IDP		
Discuss the level of government regulation in society		I	D	P
Analyze how powers of government are acquired and may be abused		I	D	P
• Describe how federal system separates powers of federal, state, and local government		I	D	P
Explain the separation of federal legislative, executive, judicial power		IDP		
Describe which issues and powers are significant at the state level		I	D	
Distinguish issues and powers predominant at the local level		I	D	
• Locate, organize, and use relevant information to understand issues	I	D	D	P
Read and analyze newspapers and magazines that comment on issues	I	D	D	P
Take a position on an issue of public concern in a debate or letter		I	D	
• Describe the role of international organizations		I	D	D
Evaluate the effects of political alliances, especially during war		I	D	D
Recognize the role of the League of Nations, UN, NATO, and NAFTA		I	D	D
Economics				
• Identify basic economic principles and give examples of			I	D
Supply and demand			I	D
Production, exchange, and consumption			I	D
Labor, wages, and capital			I	D
Inflation and deflation			I	D
Public and private goods and services			I	D
Market economy and command economy			I	D
• Understand personal roles and responsibilities in economics			I	D
Know how investments in human and physical capital, including new technology, affect standards of living			I	D
Explain how personal decisions can impact on national issues		I	D	D
• Give examples of government role in maintaining fair market economy			I	D
Explain various economic issues, such as national debt			I	D
Explain role of various institutions, such as Federal Reserve System				I
List ways government provides for national defense, or health		I	D	D
Describe how natural resources shape economic patterns		I	D	P

Peace and Justice				
• Use conflict resolution skills	I	D	D	P
• Identify abuses of human dignity found in American society	I	D	D	P
• Researches 20 th and 21 st century people who have fought for justice			I	D
• Articulate the importance of intrinsic values			I	D
• Give examples of basic rights, responsibilities of workers in various jobs		I	D	D
• Display an awareness of responsibility to others in the world	I	D	D	P
• Display individual and group actions to protect, preserve environment				I

I=INTRODUCED SKILL

D=DEVELOPING SKILL

P=PROFICIENT SKILL