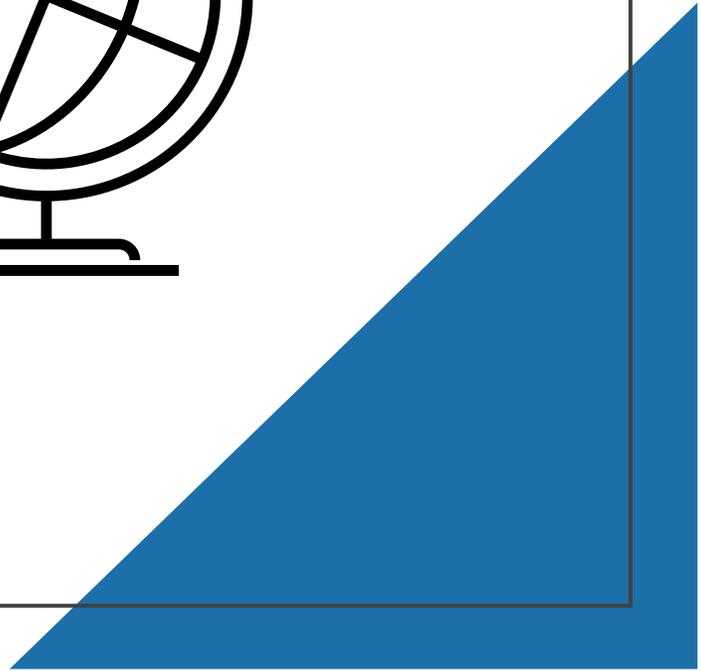
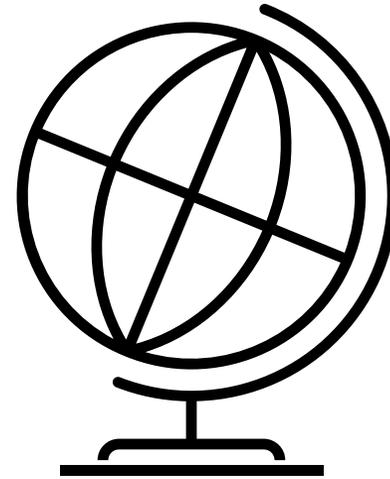


“A general diffusion of knowledge being essential to the preservation of the liberties and rights of the people...”

Kindergarten-Grade 8 Social Studies Standards to Focus on Fundamentals

To provide world-class foundational knowledge
and understanding of history to ensure the future
success of all Texas students



Content advisors recommend organizing the K-3 social studies TEKS around themes

Content Advisor
Consensus
Recommendations,
Recommendation #4

"For grades K–3, concepts should be taught through the lenses of local, state, national, and world experiences."

Framework #1

Kindergarten: Foundation

Grade 1: Local and Global Cultures

Grade 2: Interacting with the World Around Us

Grade 3: Impact of Early Civilizations

Framework #2

Kindergarten: Foundations for Learning

1st Grade: My Family, My Community, My State, and My Country

2nd Grade: Our Diversity and Our Shared Traditions and Heritage

3rd Grade: People Who Left a Mark on Texas, the Nation, and the World

High school TEKS review workgroups recommend moving content to earlier grades

Examples of content currently found in HS they recommend should be in earlier grades:

High School World History

- 8000 BC to 500 BC: the development of agriculture and the development of the river valley civilizations
- 500 BC to AD 600: the development of the classical civilizations of Greece, Rome, Persia, India (Maurya and Gupta), China (Zhou, Qin, and Han), and the development of major world religions
- Roman Catholicism and Eastern Orthodoxy as social and political factors in medieval Europe and the Byzantine Empire
- Development of the political/social system of feudalism and the economic system of manorialism
- Contributions of the Crusades, the Black Death, and the Hundred Years' War to the end of medieval Europe
- Major political, economic, and cultural developments in Tang and Song China and impact on Eastern Asia
- Silk Road and the African gold-salt trade

High School U.S. Government

- significant individuals in the field of government and politics, including John Marshall
- how the federal government serves the purposes set forth in the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution
- constitutional provisions for limiting the role of government, including republicanism, checks and balances, federalism, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, and individual rights

Content advisors recommend introducing more coverage of world history before high school

Framework #1 and #2

Grade 5—

World Geography and History 1 [to about 1400/1450ish]

Grade 6—

World Geography and History 2 [from about 1400/1450ish]

Content Advisor
Consensus
Recommendations,
Recommendation #4

"Students should experience an increasingly complex understanding of the world around them and their place in it."

Content advisors recommend increasing the specificity of the social studies TEKS

Content Advisor Consensus Recommendations, Recommendation #6

"Additionally, we recommend an increase in the specificity of the standards. Teachers should have a clear understanding of what students should know and be able to do at the end of the course."

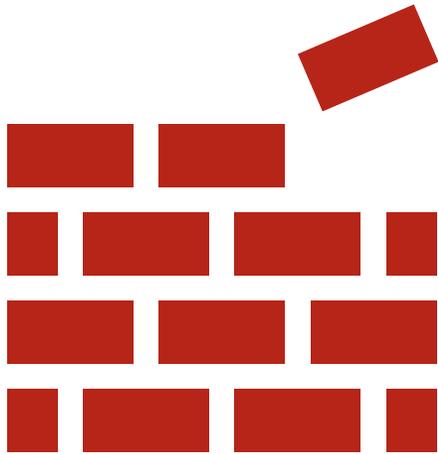
Student Expectations in Current Kindergarten TEKS

- Locate places on the school campus and describe their relative locations
- Identify contributions of historical figures, including Stephen F. Austin, George Washington, Christopher Columbus, and José Antonio Navarro, who helped to shape the state and nation

More Specific Student Expectations

- Locate on a world map or globe the continents and oceans
- Identify George Washington and Stephen F. Austin and explain why cities are named after them, based on texts read or read aloud

A reorganized K-8 social studies framework can increase historical understanding among students, by:



1. Adding more content knowledge in kindergarten-grade 2 will result in the following:
 - less emphasis on broad concepts
 - more emphasis on historical facts
 - stories of key people, places, events, and ideas
 - exposure in K-2 helps better establish memories when studying those people, places, events, and ideas in more depth in later grades
2. Coherently covering key people, events, and ideas in Texas, U.S., and world history across grades 3-8 will result in the following:
3. elimination of content that is disconnected by geography and time
4. more content organized chronologically (and geographically)
 - About 7000 years of world, U.S., and Texas history covered in ways that more fully establish the causes and effects relate to major historical people, events, and ideas by covering topics in linear order and connected to geography
 - constantly spiraling and deepening memories formed on each topic, coherently across grades 3-8

Reorganized K-8 social studies TEKS could feature a “3 year – 6 year” framework

K

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Three years of foundational knowledge building in Texas, U.S., and world history

- Thematically based
- Stories of key events, people, and ideas that lend themselves to high-quality, engaging, and challenging grade-level texts

A six-year cycle through Texas, U.S., and world history

World History,
approx. 5000 BC – AD 1500

Texas & U.S. History,
approx. 1500 – present

Approximate timeframes are examples

- Chronologically and regionally based
- Key people, events, ideas, patterns, and connections enable students to be informed, successful responsible citizens
- Study of world history in early grades prepares students for fuller understanding of Texas and U.S. history and civics in later grades

This coherent approach is consistent with research on memory formation from the cognitive sciences, to facilitate instructional materials that better incorporate retrieval practice and interleaving.

Possible New Structure Compared with Current TEKS

Current TEKS

Rules and communities

Families, leaders, & communities

Communities and citizenship Individuals

& communities past and present Texas

history survey

U.S. history survey

World cultures

Texas history survey

U.S. history to 1877

K-2 themes are examples

Kindergarten

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

Grade 8

Focus on Fundamentals

People and events from Texas, U.S., and the world

Cultures of Texas, U.S., and the world

Movement and migration in Texas, U.S. and the world

Ancient and classical civilizations, 5000 BC–AD 500s

Civilizations in transition, 400s–1400s

Early modern world, 1300s-1500s

Texas and the U.S., 1400s–1800

Texas and the U.S., 1800–1900

Texas and the U.S., 1900–today

3-8 timeframes are examples

Kindergarten – Grade 2

Possible Foundational Knowledge Building Themes and Illustrative Examples

Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
Theme: People & Events	Theme: Culture	Theme: Movement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Geography• Ancient Egypt, Middle East & Mediterranean Peoples• American Historical Figures• Texas Historical Figures• American History Events• Texas History Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early Human Culture• Agricultural Revolution• Ancient Greek Culture• World Religions• Ancient Maya Culture• Native Americans of Texas• English and Spanish Colonial Cultures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Empire of Alexander the Great• Marvels of Roman Engineering• Ancient China: Grand Canal, Silk Road, Great Wall• First Peoples Arrive in Americas• European Exploration of Americas• American Indian Removal• Migration to Texas and the West

Bulleted lists are illustrative examples. SBOE work groups will make specific recommendations.

Grades 3 – 8

Possible Grade Level Chronology & Regional Focus Areas for History of the World, United States, and Texas

Grades 3 – 5

World History

Gr 3: Ancient & Classical Civilizations, 5000 BC to AD 500s—Middle East, Egypt, Greece, Rome, world religions, India, China

Gr 4: Civilizations in Transition, 400s to 1400s—Byzantine Empire, Medieval Europe, Muslim Empires & the Crusades, African States, Mongols, Ming China

Gr 5: Early Modern World, 1300s to 1500s—Renaissance, Reformation, absolutism, British history, Ottoman Empire, American Indians

Grades 6 – 8

Texas & U.S. History

Gr 6: Texas & U.S. History, 1400s to 1800—Age of Exploration, Spanish Texas, 13 colonies, French & Indian War, American Revolution, U.S. Constitution

Gr 7: Texas & U.S. History, 1800 to 1900—War of 1812, Westward expansion, Texas Revolution & Republic, slavery, sectionalism, Civil War & Reconstruction in Texas and U.S., Industrial Age, Progressive Era

Gr 8: Texas & U.S. History, 1900 to today—World War I, Great Depression, World War II, Texas's contributions in World War II, Cold War, Civil Rights Movement in Texas and the U.S., Texas energy boom, 9/11

Topics are illustrative examples. SBOE work groups will make specific recommendations.

To follow the TEKS review process and view drafts throughout the process, visit the 2021-2022 Social Studies TEKS Review webpage at

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/curriculum-standards/teks-review/2021-2022-social-studies-teks-review>