SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM – GRADE 3

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS	CONTENT & CONCEPTS	SKILL	RESOURCES & TEXT ALIGNMENT	ASSESSMENT
	Culture Civilizations	• Investigate cultural elements of groups of		Constructed Response:
What is a culture?		people: ideas, beliefs, customs, traditions,	Social Studies Trade Books:	http://www.edteck.com/dbq/
		holidays, language, science/technology	http://downloads.ncss.org	testing/const_resp.htm
What is a civilization?	<i>Empathy</i> Communities Around		/notable/notable2007.pdf	
	the World	Recognize that people in world communities		Library Research
Where do people settle and why?	Identity	have different interpretations about important	Learning Centers	
		issues and historic events		Choose a nation and present the
		• List ways that communities celebrate their	Maps, globes	nation's culture, history geography
How do cultures around the world		accomplishments: holidays and symbols	Teaching with Decompositor	and arts.
		• Explain similarities/differences among cultures	Teaching with Documents: http://www.edteck.com/dbg/	Graphic Organizers:
depend on each other?		and families in world communities	<u>http://www.edieck.com/dbq/</u>	Graphic Organizers for Content
How do different world		• Investigate how history can be obtained from	http://free.ed.gov/	Instruction
communities meet their basic	Change	those who were there through the use of	<u>http://free.ed.gov/</u>	instruction
needs and wants?		historical documents, literature or personal		Use a graphic organizer to
needs and wants.		narrative	http://www.pbs.org/	compare and contrast two different
What is it to be a citizen in a		• Apply terms for large units/measures of time:	teachers/socialstudies/	types of government.
democracy?		years, decades, centuries, millennia, BC, AD		
		• Use a time line to record important events and	http://www.teach-nology.com/teachers/	
What are our national holidays?		eras	lesson_plans/history/k3/	http://school.discoveryeducation.c
2		• Recognize that all people need to learn and they learn in different ways		om /schrockguide/assess.html
	Places and Regions Location of	learn in different ways	www.geography4kids.com	
What tools can you use to find	World Communities	• Read and interpret various types of maps		
location on a map?		 Identify and locates continents and ocean 		
		 Identify and locate various world communities 	http://www.internet4classrooms.com/k121	
What are the environmental and		on maps and globes using longitude, latitude,	<u>inks.htm</u>	
cultural influences that affect life		continents, directional terms and scale		
style in world communities?		 List geographic representations that can be used 		
		to locate world communities		
How do world communities meet		 List environmental factors influencing life styles, 		
their needs and wants?		economy and development of regions/countries		
then needs and wants.	Human Systems Characteristics of			
	World Communities	• Describe the various causes and effects of human		
How are government officials	Environment and Society Physical Systems	migration in world regions: physical, human and		
elected?		cultural characteristics		
		• Relate lifestyles and development in world		
		communities to environmental and geographic		

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What are our national holidays		factors
and symbols?		
	Economics Systems Economic	• Recognize and describe how people in different
	Decisions	world communities meet basic needs/wants
		• List what goods/services should be produced,
How does the system of supply		and in what quantity, in a community researched
and demand work globally?		• Demonstrate the understanding that people in
		different communities depend upon others to
		meet basic needs/wants
		• Define production, distribution, exchange,
		consumption
		• Discuss how economic decisions affect a society
		• Define and categorize a variety of resources:
		human, capital, natural
	Factors of Production	Identify and locate major natural resources
		locally, regionally, nationally
	Interdependence	• Describe how resources contribute to economic
		growth in world communities
	Symbols of	• Identify national symbols and holidays
	Citizenship	
	Civic Values Nation State Government	
	Decision Making	• Describe the necessity of rules and laws
	Decision making	Discuss the management of conflict
		• Discuss the concept of civil rights and
		citizenship
		• Explain how governments in world communities develop and enforce rules and laws
		Describe the processes by which leaders are selected
		List functions that governments provide for their citizens
		CITIZETIS

In grade 3 students study about communities throughout the world. They study Western and non-Western examples from a variety of geographic areas. Students locate world communities and learn how different communities meet their basic needs and wants. They begin to compare roles of citizens and the kinds of governments found in various world communities.