

New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Social Studies

Introduction

Note: Brackets [] indicate deletions. **Bolding** indicates revisions and/or additions.

Social Studies

The ever-changing landscape of information and communication technologies have transformed the roles and responsibilities of the next generation of **learners**.¹ Inquiry-based learning in social studies prepares students to produce and critically consume information in our global society. This document outlines social studies practices, disciplinary concepts, core ideas, and related performance expectations in a manner that promote learning experiences in which students actively explore the past, present, and future of the world through the study of history, economics, civics, and geography.

Mission

Social studies education provides learners with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and perspectives needed to become active, informed, and contributing members of local, state, national, and global communities.

Vision

An education in social studies fosters a population that:

- Is civic-minded, globally aware, and socially responsible;
- Exemplifies fundamental values of democracy and human rights through active participation in local, **state, national**, and global communities;²
- Makes informed decisions about local, state, national, and global events based on inquiry and analysis;
- Considers multiple perspectives, values diversity, and promotes cultural understanding;
- Recognizes the relationships between people, places, and resources as well as the implications of an interconnected global economy;
- Applies an understanding of critical media literacy skills when utilizing technology to learn, communicate, and collaborate with diverse people around the world; and
- Discerns fact from falsehood and critically analyzes information for validity and relevance.

¹Added “of learners” to end of sentence.

² Added “state, nation” to second bullet.

