

**Department:** History

**Course Name:** Fourth Grade Social Studies

**Course Description:**

The fourth-grade history curriculum looks at the historical timeline of major events through the lens of early settlement to modern day Virginians. The student will begin the year with an exploration of Virginia's geographical regions, physical features, and native peoples. With this knowledge, the student will engage in the study of the structure, cultures, conflict, and economy of Virginia's earliest colonies and tribes. The major wars of the United States' history will be studied through a critical analysis of their effects on Virginia's socio-economic state. The student will engage in discussion about the laws and practices that have built a system of oppression burdened upon people of color in our nation. The student will be challenged to recognize the systems and the cause and effects of these practices today in order to understand equality advocacy of minority groups. The student will read primary and secondary documents critically and compare historical events to modern times. Finally, the student will study Virginia's modern era with empathic reflection of the historical consequences on today's world.

**Content:**

Virginia's Geography and Native Peoples  
Colonization and Conflict  
Growth and Expansion  
Civil War and Post-War Eras  
Virginia in Modern Times  
Virginia Today

**Skills:**

Identify different types of landforms  
Analyze passages of founding documents  
Demonstrate knowledge of the first permanent English settlement in America  
Develop open-mindedness regarding the values and traditions of others  
Understand the history of the United States beginning with Jamestown  
Demonstrate knowledge of twentieth- and twenty-first century Virginia  
Demonstrate knowledge of government, geography, and economics

**Text and Materials:**

Banks, Colleary, Greenow, et.al., Virginia Studies (Macmillan/McGraw-Hill, 1<sup>st</sup> ed., 2011)  
McStotts, The Gettysburg Address (Learning A-Z, 1<sup>st</sup> ed.)  
United States and World Maps  
Founding documents

**Methods of Instruction:**

Lecture  
Projects  
Textbook  
Map/Globe Study  
Worksheets  
Research Papers

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Tests  
Quizzes  
Class projects  
Homework  
Classwork  
Class participation

