
Big Ideas and Social Studies Skills

Examples of Big Ideas of the TEKS: Elementary

	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4 Texas	Grade 5 United States
History	<p>Holidays</p> <p>Historical figures, patriots, and good citizens</p> <p>Chronology</p>	<p>Customs, holidays, and celebrations</p> <p>Historical figures, patriots, and good citizens</p> <p>Time and chronology</p>	<p>Significance of landmarks and celebrations</p> <p>Time and chronology</p> <p>Sources of information</p> <p>Historical figures, patriots, and good citizens</p>	<p>Influence of individuals, events, and ideas</p> <p>Characteristics of communities</p> <p>Time and chronology</p>	<p>Origins, similarities, and differences of American Indian groups</p> <p>Causes and effects of exploration and colonization</p> <p>Texas (revolution, republic, annexation)</p> <p>Changes</p> <p>Issues, events, and individuals</p>	<p>Causes and effects of colonization</p> <p>Conflict (American Revolution)</p> <p>Creation of the U.S. Constitution</p> <p>Changes</p> <p>Issues, events, and individuals</p>
Geography	<p>Location</p> <p>Physical and human characteristics of place</p>	<p>Relative location</p> <p>Maps and globes</p> <p>Physical and Human characteristics of place</p>	<p>Geographic tools</p> <p>Locations and characteristics of places and regions</p> <p>Effects of physical characteristics of place and region on people</p> <p>Use and modification of environment</p>	<p>Humans in the physical Environment</p> <p>Concepts of location, distance, and direction</p>	<p>Geographic tools</p> <p>Regions</p> <p>Location, patterns of settlement, and geographic factors</p> <p>Adaption and modification of the environment</p>	<p>Geographic tools</p> <p>Concept of regions</p> <p>Location, patterns of settlement, and geographic factors</p> <p>Adaptation and modification of the environment</p>

	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4 Texas	Grade 5 United States
Economics	Human needs and wants Value of jobs	Human needs Goods and services Desire for goods and services Value of work	Value of work Roles of producers and consumers	Purpose and use of money Free Enterprise System Businesses	Economic activities of early societies Characteristics and benefits of the Free Enterprise System Patterns of work and economic activities Economic interdependence	Economic patterns of early societies Characteristics and benefits of the Free Enterprise System Impact of supply and demand Patterns of work and economic activities
Government	Purpose of rules Role of authority figures	Purpose of rules and laws Role of authority figures, public officials, and citizens	Purpose of government Role of public officials	Levels of government Ideas in historic documents	Organization of governments Historical documents	Organization of governments Historic documents Framework of government
Citizenship	Symbols, customs, and responsibilities	Characteristics of good citizenship Customs, symbols, and celebrations	Characteristics of good citizenship Customs, symbols, and celebrations	Characteristics of good citizenship Impact of decisions in a constitutional republic	Customs, symbols, and celebrations Participation in the democratic process Leadership	Customs, symbols, celebrations, and landmarks Participation in the democratic process Leadership Constitutional rights of citizens

	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4 Texas	Grade 5 United States
Culture	Similarities and differences among people Family customs and traditions	Family and community beliefs, customs, language, and traditions	Significance of works of art Ethnic and/or cultural celebrations	Ethnic and/or cultural celebrations Role of heroes Importance of writers and artists	Contributions of groups	Relationship between arts and the times Contributions of groups
	Science, Technology, and Society	Use and effects of technology	Effects of science and technology	Effects of science and technology	Creation and invention of new technology	Impact of science and technology
Social Studies Skills	Critical thinking Communication Problem solving and decision making	Critical thinking Communication Problem solving and decision making	Critical thinking Communication Problem solving and decision making	Critical thinking Communication Problem solving and decision making	Critical thinking Communication Problem solving and decision making	Critical thinking Communication Problem solving and decision making

Examples of Big Ideas of the TEKS: Middle School

		Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
History		<p>Historical events</p> <p>Influences of individuals and groups</p>	<p>Historical points of reference</p> <p>Individuals, events, and issues throughout Texas history</p>	<p>Points of reference</p> <p>Causes of exploration and colonization</p> <p>Foundations of representative government</p> <p>Political and economic issues (Revolutionary era)</p> <p>Challenges (early republic and Age of Jackson)</p> <p>Westward expansion (Manifest Destiny)</p> <p>Growth of sectionalism</p> <p>Individuals, issues, and events of the Civil War</p> <p>Effects of Reconstruction</p>
		<p>Geographic tools</p> <p>Characteristics of locations</p> <p>Factors influencing economic development, political relationships, and policies of societies</p> <p>Influence of geographic factors on economic development, political relationships, and policies of society</p> <p>Interactions between people and the physical environment</p>	<p>Geographic tools</p> <p>Location and characteristics of places and regions</p> <p>Effects of interaction between humans and the environment</p> <p>Characteristics, distribution, migration of population</p>	<p>Location and characteristics of places and regions</p> <p>Physical characteristics and how humans adapt and modify the environment</p>
Geography				

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Economics	<p>Factors of production</p> <p>Organization of economic systems</p> <p>Economic activities and data</p>	<p>Factors that caused change (agrarian to urban)</p> <p>Interdependence</p>	<p>Patterns of economic activity</p> <p>Economic forces in the Industrial Revolution</p> <p>Origins and development of the Free Enterprise System</p>
Government	<p>Limited and unlimited government</p> <p>Organization of governments</p>	<p>Basic principles reflected in the Texas Constitution</p> <p>Structure and functions of government</p>	<p>Historic documents</p> <p>Process of changing the U.S. Constitution</p> <p>Federal system</p> <p>Impact of Supreme Court cases</p>
Citizenship	<p>Nature of citizenship</p> <p>Representative governments</p>	<p>Rights and responsibilities</p> <p>Points of view</p> <p>Effective leadership</p>	<p>Rights and responsibilities of citizens</p> <p>Participation in the democratic process</p> <p>Points of view in a constitutional republic</p> <p>Leadership in a constitutional republic</p>

		Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Culture		<p>Similarities and differences of cultures</p> <p>Institutions within societies</p> <p>Relationships among world cultures</p> <p>Relationship between the arts and societies</p> <p>Relationships (religion, philosophy, and culture)</p>	Diversity	<p>Relationships among groups</p> <p>Reform movement</p> <p>Impact of religion</p> <p>Relationship between the arts and the times</p>
	Science, Technology, and Society	Influences of science and technology	Impact of scientific discoveries and technological innovations	<p>Impact of science and technology on economic development</p> <p>Impact of discoveries and technological innovations</p>
Social Studies Skills		<p>Critical thinking</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Problem solving and decision making</p>	<p>Critical thinking</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Problem solving and decision making</p>	<p>Critical thinking</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Problem solving and decision making</p>

Examples of Big Ideas of the TEKS: High School

	US History	World History	Government	World Geography
History	Celebrate Freedom Week	Historical points of reference	Influence on constitutional government	Spatial exchange (diffusion)
	Historical points of reference	Development of civilizations	Roles in the political system	Change and its effects
	Changes (1877-1898): political, social, and economic	Contributions and influence of classical civilizations		
	Emergence of U.S. as a world power	Evolution and expansion of systems		
	Effects of reform and third party movements	Causes, characteristics, and impact of the Renaissance and Reformation		
	Individuals, events, and issues	Characteristics and impact of the Maya, Inca, and Aztec civilizations		
	U.S. participation in World War II	Causes and impact of European expansion		
	Impact of the Cold War on the United States	Causes and global impact of the Industrial Revolution and Imperialism		
	American Civil Rights Movement	Causes and effects of political revolutions		
	Impact of U.S. role in world	Causes and impact of World War I		
Emerging issues	Causes and impact of global economic depression			
	Causes and impact of World War II			
	Impact of the Cold War and independence movements			
	Development of radical Islamic Fundamentalism			

	US History	World History	Government	World Geography
Geography	<p>Impact of geographic factors on events</p> <p>Causes and effects of migration and immigration</p> <p>Relationship between population growth and modernization on the physical environment</p>	<p>Geographic skills and tools</p> <p>Impact of geographic factors on events and processes</p>	<p>Geographic influences of U.S. political divisions and policies</p> <p>Importance of places and regions</p>	<p>Physical processes and the physical environment</p> <p>Landforms, climates and ecosystems</p> <p>Processes, cultural patterns, and characteristics</p> <p>Settlement</p> <p>Growth, distribution, movement, and characteristics of world population</p> <p>Interdependence of people, places, and environments</p> <p>Concept of regions</p>
Economics	<p>Domestic and foreign issues of growth</p> <p>Developments between World War I and World War II</p> <p>Effects of World War II and the Cold War</p> <p>Effects of worldwide interdependence</p>	<p>Impact of Neolithic, Industrial revolutions, and globalization</p> <p>Origins of economic systems and the benefits of free enterprise</p>	<p>Roles played by governments in the Free Enterprise System</p> <p>Relationship between government policies and the economy</p>	<p>Distribution, characteristics, and interactions of economic systems</p> <p>Geographic influences on economic activities</p> <p>Importance of location and management of resources</p>

	US History	World History	Government	World Geography
Government	Changes in role of government Relationships among the three branches of government Impact of constitutional issues	Characteristics of political systems Development of contemporary political systems	American beliefs and principles Structure and functions of government Federalism Public offices Role of political parties Similarities and differences of political systems	Spatial characteristics of global political units Influence of processes
	Citizenship	American exceptionalism Democratic process Effective leadership in a constitutional republic	Political choices and decisions Development of legal and political concepts	Understanding rights Differences in personal and civic responsibilities Participation in the constitutional republic Expressing points of view
Culture		Relationship between the arts and the times Contributions of groups to national identity	History and relevance of traditions (religious and philosophical) Roles of women, children, and families Influence of the development of ideas on institutions and societies Relationship between the arts and the times	Relationship between government policies and culture

		US History	World History	Government	World Geography
Science, Technology, and Society		<p>Impact of science, technology, and the Free Enterprise System on economic development</p> <p>Influence of scientific discoveries, technological innovations, and the Free Enterprise System</p>	<p>Effects of scientific discoveries and technological innovations</p>	<p>Role of government that influences discoveries and innovations</p> <p>Impact of advances</p>	<p>Impact of technology and human modifications on the physical environment</p> <p>Effects of technology on human interaction</p>
	Social Studies Skills	<p>Critical thinking</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Geographic tools</p> <p>Problem solving and decision making</p>	<p>Critical thinking</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Problem solving and decision making</p>	<p>Critical thinking</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Problem solving and decision making</p>	<p>Critical thinking</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Problem solving and decision making</p>