

8th Grade US History CURRICULUM

TEKS

UNIT 1

DAYS TO TEACH
5 weeks

Geography/Colonization

Textbook
Chapter(s) 1-4

ESSENTIAL CONTENT AND SUBTOPICS

- I. Introduction to History and Geography
- II. Exploration and Colonization
 - a. Motives for Exploration
 - b. Founding the 13 Colonies
 - c. Settling the Colonies
 - d. Geographic Influences
- III. Representative Government
 - a. Founding Documents
 - b. Colonial Government

(8.1C) I know the significance of 1607.

(8.2A) I can list reasons why Europe explored and settled in North America.

(8.2B) I can explain why England established the 13 colonies.

(8.3A) I can explain why representative government grew during the Colonial Period.

(8.3B) I can explain the importance of the Mayflower Compact, Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, and Virginia House of Burgesses.

(8.3C) I can explain how religion affected the growth of government.

(8.11A) I can identify the New England, Middle, and Southern Colonies.

(8.11B) I can tell how the three colonial regions were different by their geographic characteristics.

(8.11C, 8.13C) I can tell how the three regions affected the way people lived and their interactions with each other.

(8.13B) I can explain why the plantation system and slave trade grew in the South.

(8.21A) I can explain the role of William Penn in developing self-government in colonial America.

ESSENTIAL TERMS

Mercantilism
Charter
Triangular Trade
Colony
Parliament
Columbian Exchange
Representative government
Plantation System
Magna Carta
William Penn
English Bill of Rights
Jamestown - 1607
Virginia House of Burgesses
Mayflower Compact
Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
John Smith
Roger Williams
Quakers
Anne Hutchison
Puritans
James Oglethorpe
Pilgrims

8th Grade US History CURRICULUM

TEKS

Unit Two

3-4 Weeks

American Revolution

Textbook
Chapter(s) 5 - 6

ESSENTIAL CONTENT AND SUBTOPICS

- I. Leading into the Revolutionary War
 - A. Causes
 - B. British Policy Placed on Americans
 - C. Sons of Liberty
 - D. Samuel Adams
- II. Declaration of Independence
 - A. Continental Congress of 1776
 - B. Thomas Jefferson
 - C. "Common Sense" - Thomas Paine
 - D. Militias and Minutemen
 - E. Lexington and Concord
- III. Revolutionary War
 - A. British/American - advantages/disadvantages
 - B. Major events and Individuals
- IV. Results
 - A. Treaty of Paris
 - B. Results of the Revolution

(8.1C) I can explain the importance of 1776.

(8.4A) I can explain why the colonists became upset with British policies after the French and Indian War.

(8.4B) I can explain how leaders like Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Ben Franklin, Marquis de Lafayette, King George III, Von Steuben, Sam Adams and Thomas Paine were important in the American Revolution.

(8.4C) I can explain reasons for independence and the importance of the battles of Lexington/Concord, Saratoga, and Yorktown and how the Declaration of Independence created a new democratic nation.

(8.16C) I can describe the complaints the colonists listed in the Declaration of Independence.

(8.20A) I can define the unalienable rights and give examples.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. What were the causes of the American Revolution?
2. What roles did Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, King George III, and Thomas Paine play during the American Revolution?
3. Describe the differences between the American soldiers and British army.
4. Why were Lexington and Concord important points of attack for the British military?
5. Why is the Battle of Saratoga considered to be the turning point in the American Revolution for the Americans?

ESSENTIAL TERMS

Unalienable Rights	Samuel Adams
Revolution	John Adams
Declaration of Independence	Ben Franklin
King George III	Grievance
Lexington	George Washington
Concord	Patriot
Saratoga	Loyalist
Yorktown	Petition
Treaty of Paris of 1783	Boston Massacre
Thomas Jefferson	Tea Act
Marquis de Lafayette	Stamp Act
Thomas Paine	Coercive Act
George Washington	Sugar Act
Proclamation of 1763	Quartering Act
Mercantilism	Taxation
Representation	Republic
Consent of the Governed	Mercenary
Debts	Strategy
Foreign Ally	