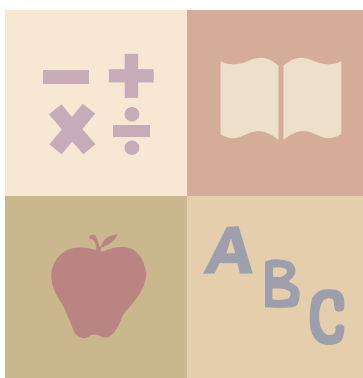


# Harford County Public Schools

## Meeting the Maryland State Department Voluntary State Curriculum Standards for Second Grade Social Studies



### Second Grade

The social studies is an exciting field of study comprising many social science subjects, including: History, Political Science, Geography, and Economics. The Voluntary State Curriculum also provides information on skill development and multicultural education associated with the social studies. In second grade, students learn about life in a democratic society and the development of community; describe how people lived differently in the past; define and apply the concepts of goods and services; and classify places and regions using geographic vocabulary.

Jacqueline C. Haas, Ed.D.,  
Superintendent

### Second Grade

#### Political Science

To understand the historical development and current status of the democratic principles and development of skills and attitudes necessary to become a responsible citizen, students will:

- explain how rules and laws are made and necessary to maintain order and protect citizens
- explain how democratic skills and attitudes are associated with being a responsible citizen
- explain how contributions and events are important to the American political system
- describe the rights and responsibilities of being a participating member of the school and the community



#### Peoples of the Nations and World

To understand the diversity and commonality, human interdependence, and global cooperation of the people of Maryland, the United States, and the World through a multicultural and a historic perspective, students will:

- analyze elements of two different cultures and how each meets their human needs and contributes to the community
- explain that individuals and groups share and borrow from other cultures to form a community
- analyze ways in which people interact

#### History

To understand significant ideas, beliefs, and themes; to organize patterns and events; and analyze how individuals and societies have changed over time in Maryland and the United States, students will:

- examine differences between past and present time
- describe people, places, and artifacts of today and long ago

#### Geography

To understand geographic concepts and processes to examine the role of culture, technology, and the environment in the location and distribution of human activities and spatial connections throughout time, students will:

- use geographic tools to locate and describe places on Earth
- classify places and regions in an environment using geographic characteristics
- explain how transportation and communication link places by the movement of people, goods, and ideas
- explain how people modify, protect, and adapt to their environment



#### Economics

To understand the development of economic reasoning and the historical development and current status of economic principles, institutions, and processes needed to be effective citizens, consumers, and workers participating in local communities, the nation, and the world, students will:

- explain why people have to make economic choices about goods and services
- explain the production process
- examine how technology affects the way people live, work, and play
- describe different types of markets
- describe how consumers acquire goods and services

#### Social Studies Skills

To understand reading, writing, and thinking processes and skills; to gain knowledge and understanding of political, historical, and current events using chronological and spatial thinking, economic reasoning, and historical interpretation; and framing and evaluating questions from primary and secondary sources, students will:

- develop and apply social studies vocabulary through exposure to a variety of text and portions of text
- use strategies to prepare for reading (before reading)
- use strategies to monitor understanding and derive meaning from text and portions of text (during reading)
- use strategies to demonstrate understanding of the text (after reading)
- compose oral, written, and visual presentations that express personal ideas, inform, and persuade
- locate, retrieve, and use information from various sources to accomplish a purpose
- identify a topic/situation/problem that requires further study
- identify primary and secondary sources of information that relate to the topic/situation/problem being studied
- engage in field work that relates to the topic/situation/problem being studied
- organize information from print and non-print sources
- interpret information from secondary sources including pictures, graphics, maps, atlases, and timelines
- describe how the community has changed over time and how people have contributed to its change, drawing from maps, photographs, newspapers, and other sources

