



# Southmoreland School District

## 1st Grade Social Studies Curriculum Overview

### **Overview:**

At this level, it is expected that students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the purposes of rules, laws, and responsibilities within the school and the local community. Students will recognize the importance of various community jobs and their duties. They will also be able to decipher between wants and needs. They will be able to properly connect how and why maps are used. Students will be able to identify physical characteristics of places; such as, landforms, climate, natural resources, and bodies of water. Students will describe Pennsylvania and US history in instances of people, leaders, holidays and important events. They will be able to decipher between the past, present, and future.

### **Module Titles:**

**Module 1: Civics and Government**

**Module 2: How Government Works**

**Module 3: Economics & Transportation**

**Module 4: Maps & Geography**

**Module 5: History & Culture**

### **Module Overviews:**

**Module 1: Civics and Government**

Students will be able to explain the purposes of rules in the classroom and school community. Students will be able to explain the importance of being a good member of our school and community. Students will identify rules and laws that establish order, provide security, and manage conflict. Students will exhibit greater independence and take on more responsibility when it comes to caring for themselves and finding things or places. Also, importance on understanding and following classroom rules as they begin to view their classroom as a small society where individuals have their own rights and opinions.

**Module 2: How Government Works**

Students will identify the roles of local government (fire, police, etc.) and identify the services of local government. Students will identify the value of community helpers, such as firefighters, police officers and emergency workers in the community. They can identify and explain behaviors for responsible classroom citizens and possible consequences for inappropriate action.



# Southmoreland School District

## 1st Grade Social Studies Curriculum Overview

### **Module 3: Economics and Transportation**

Students will identify classroom wants and needs, as well as wants and needs within their homes and communities. Students will identify choices based on needs versus wants and will identify ways to earn money, concepts of economy, such as goods and services, buying and selling, and consumers and producers, and the need to save money. Students will understand why families make choices about the need for buying groceries based on cost, availability, family or cultural customs, and personal taste.

Students will identify why families make choices about moving, a new home is gained and an old neighborhood is given up. They will identify businesses and their corresponding goods and services. Students will describe the components of various jobs and identify what types of jobs need to be done within a community.

### **Module 4: Maps and Geography**

Students will identify geographic tools, such as maps. Students can describe places in geographic reference in reference to physical features. Students will identify physical characteristics in the community and region. Students will identify different continents of the world, maps and how to interpret them, and cardinal directions. Students will understand the way families' lives are shaped by the environment such as how climate and physical features of an area determine the types of homes in which people live. Students will identify and describe the physical characteristics of places such as landforms, bodies of water, natural resources, and weather.

### **Module 5: History and Culture**

Students will identify Pennsylvania symbols, slogans, or mottos that are representative of the state. Students can identify holiday and cultural celebrations in a community and why they are celebrated. Students will identify Americans who played a significant role in American history, and will identify American landmarks and recognize their significance. Students will understand the concepts of past, present, and future. First graders explore topics such as important events in United States history, symbols and their meanings, national holidays, and other cultures and time periods. Students will compare their family to others and point out examples of diversity in the community as they begin to spot differences in people and groups.