Social Studies Curriculum Review

Earlier this year Bay District Schools asked Moms for Liberty to be a part of the curriculum reviews for Math and Social Studies. We had 3 people sit in the views and the committees narrowed the curriculum choices to 3 companies for each age group and subject to purchase for the 2023-2024 school year.

After the initial reviews and a more in-depth look at the content, our choices are:

Elementary School: Studies Weekly, Middle School: Florida Transformative, High School: Florida Transformative.

Elementary School Social Studies

Studies Weekly link did not open. From our earlier review this is a weekly newspaper the kids use and can take home. The sample we saw looked great.

Gallopade introduces kindergarteners to concepts like black oppression and climate change. Police brutality and segregation are complex topics for 2nd grade. The text highlights what makes us all different instead of what Americans have in common. There is also a big emphasis on Walt Disney World.

Let's Learn About the Past History is what happened in the past. We can research historical topics to learn about the past. We can use the media center to answer questions about the past. We can use computers and cell phones to research past events. We can also visit museums and historical sites to learn about the past. For example, in Washington, D.C., we have the National Smithsonian museums. They have exhibits and historical artifacts for people to see. You can go to their website to find information and answer your questions about history. Henry, an 11-ton African elephant, has been on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History since 1959. di Cont **Research It** 80 Use a media center or technology to find answers to questions about a famous historical event. Examples include: · George Washington became president. Walt Disney World opened. Florida became a state. 1. Event I choose to research; Q Page 19 / 98 + 2. When did it happen? **Assess Your Understanding** Here is a part of Dr. King's speech at the March on Washington. Use the word bank to fill in the blanks. Then answer the question 1. "I have a ____ _____ that my four little children will one day live in a ____ where they will not be judged of their by the _____ but by the content of their character." - Martin Luther King Jr. Word Bank skin natio color dream 2. Is this speech a primary source? ъ. nó 4. 101 a 64 98

Presidents' Day

The U.S. president is our country's leader. Many different presidents have led our country over time. We honor all American presidents on **Presidents' Day**. Presidents' Day is in February.

President's Day is also called George Washington's Birthday. George Washington was our country's first president.

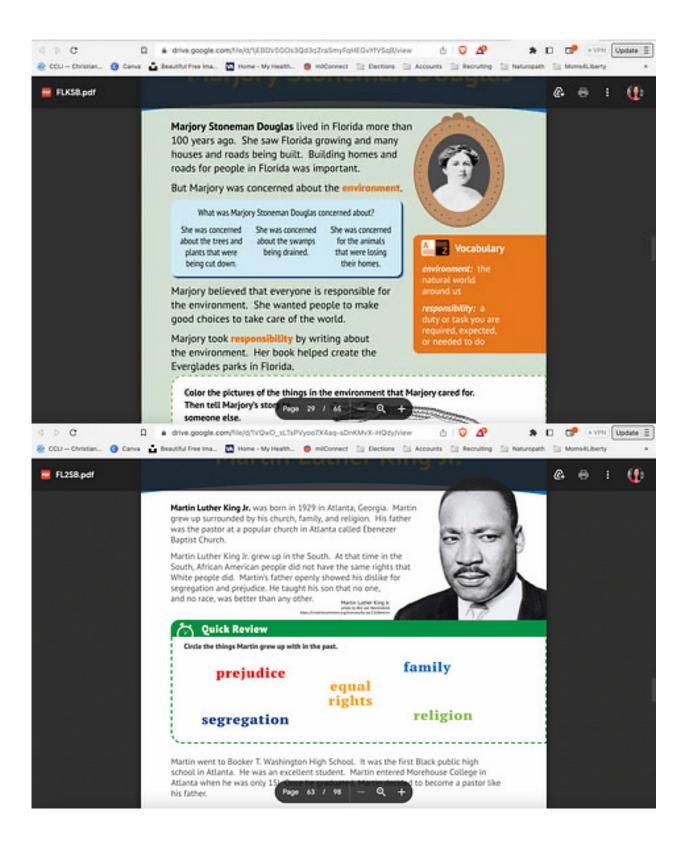
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Who is the president of the United States today?

Juneteenth

Juneteenth National Independence Day celebrates the end of slavery in the United States. We celebrate Juneteenth on June 19. African Americans celebrated the first Juneteenth more than 150 years ago! Slavery ended in Florida on May 20, 1865. Floridians celebrate this day of freedom, too!

Color the Juneteenth flag.



influenced by contributions from many ethnic groups.

Native American contributions: Native Americans made significant contributions to modern-American Language. For example, the states of

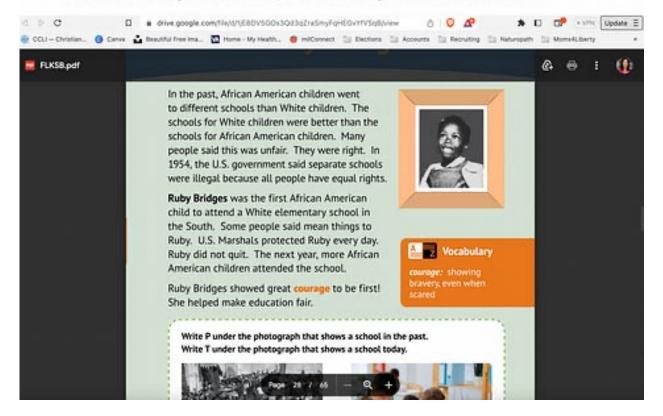
Delaware, Iowa, Illinois, and Alabama are all named after Native American tribes. The words chipmunk, moose, raccoon, skunk, moccasin, and potato are also words adopted from Native American language. Perhaps the most important contribution made by Native American culture is inspiring the American government. It is said that our founding fathers modeled our government after those created by Native Americans, especially the Iroquois Confederacy.

Hispanic/Latino contributions: One of the greatest influences Hispanic/Latino culture had on modern-American culture is related to food. Spaniard settlers planted citrus and nut orchards in Florida and through the southwest. Today, Americans enjoy tortillas, salsa, chips, chili, burritos, and tacos-all foods from Hispanic/Latino culture. In addition to food, the Hispanic culture has contributed to the languages spoken in America. Today, Spanish is spoken in 41 million American homes. It is also the second most studied language in our schools.

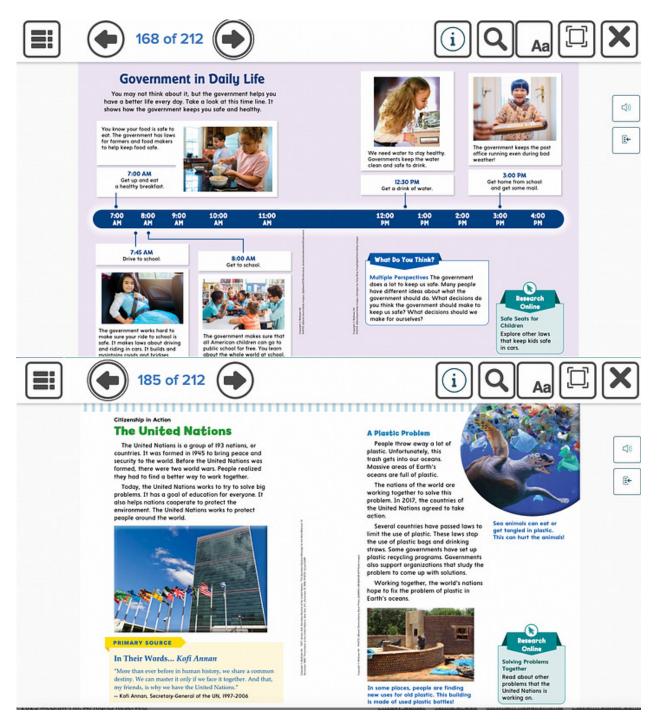
African contributions: From religious practices, to food, to language, African culture has contributed a great deal to modern-day American culture. One of the main contributions is African music, especially the blues, which can also be heard in jazz, rock, country, rhythm and blues, and classical music.

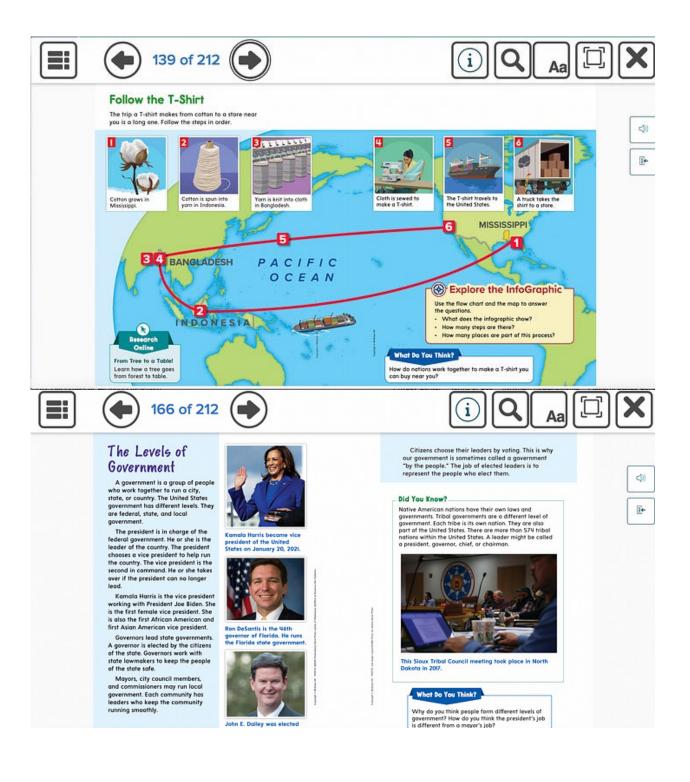
Asian contributions: One of the most important contributions Asians have made to American culture has been in the advancement of science and technology. In the 1940s and 1950s, Chineseborn physicist Chein-Shiung Wu played a key role in developing the field of atomic science. Other meaningful contributions made by Asians in America include service in the United States military and help constructing the Transcontinental Railroad.

European contributions: European contributions to American culture are significant. One of the largest churches in America is the Catholic church, which has its roots in Rome, Italy. The Europeans also introduced America to guns, iron tools, weapons, Roman Law, sugarcane, wheat, horses, and cattle.



McGraw Hill - This series points out the importance of government and how we are global citizens. It also emphasizes races as very important.





Middle School Social Studies

My Choice is **Florida Transformative**, it explains things well and is easy to read.

Gallopade. Nice graphics and easy to follow for a Middle School aged child. It does put Western Civilization on the same level all world civilizations. Since our country was founded on Western Civilization and Christianity, I would have emphasized it more in the book.

The **SAVVAS** curriculum is partnered with NBC Learn and the Constitutional Right Foundation which both have a progressive bias. It emphasizes Democracy, Republics and Empires. It sets the stage for global citizens.

E.

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SAVVAS

REVIEWERS

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PROGRAM PARTNERS



NBC Learn, the educational arm of NBC News, develops original stories for use in the classroom and makes archival NBC news stories, images, and primary source documents available on demand to teachers, students, and parents. NBC Learn partneed with Savvas to produce the topic opening videos that support this program.



Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools is a coalition of over 70 national civic learning, education, civic engagement, and business groups committed to improving the quality and quantity of civic learning in American schools.



Constitutional Rights Foundation is a nonproft, nonpartisan, community-based organization focused on educating students about the importance of civic participation in a democratic society. The Constitutional Rights Foundation is the lead contributor to the development of the Civic Discussion Quests for this



Program Partners v

Savvas would like to extend a special thank you to all of the teachers who holped guide the development of this program. We gratefully acknowledge your efforts to realize Next Generation Social Studies teaching and learning that will prepare American students for college, careers, and active citizenship.

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Pace, R.

program

Teachers Curriculum Institute. I do not recommend this curriculum. The link took me to the same curriculum used for High School. See my review below in the High School section.

High School Social Studies

My choice is **Florida Transformative**. This curriculum is fact based and is a clear explanation of history and that is divided up and easy to understand. It gives the good and the bad of world history, US history and social issues. It does not go into the gender identity discussion.

McGraw Hill. This curriculum addresses Gender Identity in the political section. It does not mention the larger issues of Marxism and Socialism. It also has a section on how to coordinate a response to "stop the spread." This does not incorporate important lessons learned from the COVID pandemic response.

Interactive Student eBook: Chapter 17: Political Parties

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		Q	Aa	
Imagine that there has been an outbrea	k of a highly infectious and potentially deadly			[
	nic in 2020–2021. Doctors and scientists have			-
	isease is mostly clustered in an area of the			
country where three states share borde	rs. Many people live in one state, work in			
another, and cross state lines on public	transportation daily. However, hospitals in			
neighboring states have also reported in	ncidents and the disease seems to be			
spreading quickly.				
Imagine you are the governor of one of	the states at the center of the outbreak. You			
know you need a coordinated response	to stop its spread. You decide to arrange a			
	e who can help. Who would you want to be			
	esponse to the crisis? These people or groups			
	y have a stake in making sure the policies			
work and are quickly.				
A. Work with two other classmates to b	rainstorm a list of stakeholders you want to invite to			
	rainstorm a list of stakeholders you want to invite to whom you will collaborate to make a plan to deal			
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the meeting. These are people with with this problem.	-			
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A number of states, cities, and towns have passed laws that provide some legal protection from discrimination for LGBTQ people. These laws vary and may protect individuals in the areas of employment, housing, education, family matters, and public accommodation.

In June 2015, the Supreme Court ruled in *Obergefell* v. *Hodges* that the fundamental right to marry was guaranteed to same-sex couples, legalizing same-sex marriages nationwide. Some people oppose legal recognition of same-sex couples, arguing that it is inconsistent with the country's mainstream religious teachings and core traditions. Others see the protection of LGBTQ people from discrimination as a moral issue and as part of the long history of civil rights movements. In *Bostock* v. *Clayton* (2020), the Supreme Court ruled that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protected LGBTQ workers from

SAVVAS - This book says it has a "young transgender person" on the front cover and uses NBC news media video through out the curriculum. The Academy in Port Charlotte was a reviewer. This school still advocates students get the COVID Vaccine. <u>https://www.yourcharlotteschools.net/domain/5541</u>



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Welcome Florida Educators!

Social studies is more than dots on a map or dates on a timeline. It's where we've been and where we're poing. It's stories from around the world and close to boose. And in today's fast paced, interconnected world, it's essential.

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Social Studies Reimagined

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National Geographic Cengage Learning has beautiful graphics and timelines, however, it has a progressive liberal bias.



 CRITICAL VIEWING Voters wait to cast their ballots at the Police Training Academy in Richmond, Virginia. What do details in this photograph reveal about this unique polling place?

75



Learning and Teaching Bruce returned to a deeply divided United States. U.S. citizens were becoming increasingly angry and distrustful of those in the opposing political party, and the 2016 presidential campaign was strengthening these divisions. In response to these strains, Our Democracy aims to empower people to tell their own stories and to help bridge the divides that separate U.S. citizens from each other. Bruce's experiences as a conflict photographer fuel her passion to get people thinking and talking about democracy. Civic engagement and a real understanding of the basis of our government are ess disapp happer Beginn commu by write Lorrain town ha potluck The loc includir New Ha

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ed to a deeply are becoming ose in the presidential risions. In racy aims pries and to J.S. citizens as a conflict eople thinking gagement and r government are essential, in her view. "I've seen democracies disappear in other countries," she says, "and it happens faster than you think."

Beginning in January 2017, Bruce visited a community in a different state every month. Joined by writer Rebecca Lee Sanchez and videographer Lorraine Ustaris, she spoke with people at schools, town hall meetings, knitting circles, hunting clubs, potluck dinners, and countless other gatherings. The locations are as diverse as the country including San Francisco, California; Manchester, New Hampshire; Welch, West Virginia; and the

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Voters Like You

When you turn 18, you'll be joining one of the most active and influential groups of citizens in U.S. history-today's young voters. In 2020, people between the ages of 18 and 29 turned out to vote in powerful numbers. Some estimates suggest that youth voter turnout in 2020 broke historical records.

Young people are not just voting, they're actively engaging in election processes. One 2020 poll found that 84 percent of young voters believe they have the power to change the country, and 76 percent believe that "people like them" should participate in decisions that affect the country. Take a look at the activities in the "Youth Voters Are Involved" graph, and you'll notice a key fact: you don't have to be old enough to vote to take part in any of them.

A Vote for Every Citizen

Many of us wouldn't have been allowed to vote in the first presidential election in 1788–1789. In most states, only white men could vote, and in a few, they also had to own property. Women, Native Americans, and the enslaved had no voice at the polls.

It wasn't until 1870, after the Civil War, that formerly enslaved men gained the right to vote. Women gained the right to vote in 1920, when the 19th Amendment was ratified. Native Americans were not considered citizens of the United States until 1924, Today, it doesn't matter what you look like or where your ancestors were borm—the Constitution guarantees your right to vote if you are a U.S. citizen over the age of 18.

Federal law has ruled on who can vote, but the states determine when, where, and how we vote. The act of denying people their legal right to vote is called voter suppression. In 1965, facing strong pressure from the civil rights movement, Congress enacted the Voting Rights Act. This law outlawed states' discriminatory voting rules. Today, voting laws continue to be a source of debate and conflict, especially following the 2020 presidential election.

Between January 1 and May 14, 2021, at least 14 states enacted 22 laws that posed new limits on mail-in voting, registration, or the availability of polling places. For example, Florida passed laws that limit the use of drop boxes where voters can deposit ballots. The state also imposed new ID requirements

	Have Done It Might Do It in the Future
Talk to friend	ls about politics and elections
66%	11%
Try to convin	ce others to vote
45%	23%
Attend a mar	ch or demonstration
29%	31%
Donate mone	ey to a campaign
24%	28%
Register othe	ers to vote
23%	34%
/olunteer for	a political campaign
14%	31%
	rce: CIRCLE/Tisch College 2020 Post-Election Youth Survey

for people requesting mail-in ballots, among other changes. Several other states passed similar new laws. In contrast, states including Illinois, Indiana, and California passed laws that make mail-in voting easier and expand access to drop boxes.

Critics point out that voting restrictions fall more heavily on lower-income and minority voters. These groups tend to have less access to cars or other easy transportation for getting to polling places during voting hours. Lower-income people are also less likely to have official state ID cards. Those opposing the voting laws say they are a new form of voter suppression aimed at African Americans and other minorities who voted in large numbers in 2020.

Supporters of the new laws claim they will help maintain the integrity, or honesty, of the system by cutting down the chance of fraud. They argue that citizens have greater trust in the government when they believe the voting system is honest and free of fraud.

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So You're Going to Be a Voter 79

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Teachers' Curriculum Institute

I feel there is a progressive world view bias based on the structure of the lessons, highlighted biographies, and games. This curriculum introduces gender identity and racism. Bella Abzug is a social activist. Mahershala Ali is an actor and social activist.

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Lesson Gam

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The organization of societies is also a key theme. In prehistoric times, people formed social groups to meet their need for food, shelter, and security. Over time, these social groups banded together to form societies. By coming together, these groups were more capable of meeting their needs than they had been as individuals. Each society developed its own rules and customs to govern behavior within the society and help it function.

Societies developed in different places, creating distinct cultures with many differences. One such difference is how different cultures recognize gender and the roles they assign to a specific gender. For example, most Western societies developed a social structure that acknowledged only two genders: male and female. Other parts of the world have or have had different gender systems. Parts of South Asia, for instance, recognize third genders, including one known as *hijra. Hijras* do not fit into Western understandings of male or female, but instead have a different gender entirely.

Although these social structures vary from culture to culture, they also had many things in common. Women in many places traditionally take the surname of their husbands when they marry men. In many societies, people also treat ethnic and racial minorities less favorably than they do the dominant racial or ethnic group. By examining and comparing social structures throughout history, we can get a better understanding of human life.

Jane Austen was an English novelist whose books were published in the early 1800s. Her writing offers modern audiences insight into the roles of class and gender in British society during the late 1700s.

Among the topics covered by this theme are:

- gender_roles and relations, including the place of women in society
- · customs relating to family and kinship
- · racial and ethnic differences and their impact on society
- · division of society into social and economic classes

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Write two example of social structures.					

