

Prekindergarten Social Studies Curriculum

Unit 1: All About Me

Enduring Understandings

- Each person is unique and has special talents.

Essential Questions:

- What makes me special and unique?

NYS Prekindergarten Learning Standards:

PK.SOC.1. Develops a basic awareness of self as an individual, self within the context of group, and self within the context of community

PK.SOC.1. Indicators:

- a. Identifies self by using characteristics such as eye color, hair color, age
- b. Describes how each person is unique and important

PK.SOC.2. Demonstrates awareness and appreciation of their own culture and other cultures

PK.SOC.2. Indicators:

- a. Talks about and/or shows items related to cultural traditions . (E.g. Describes some of the dances, foods, and special events related to culture)
- b. Describes own community and/or cultural group

PK.SOC.6. Develops an understanding of how people and things change over time and how to relate past events to their present and future activities

PK.SOC.6. Indicators:

- a. Identifies routines and common occurrences in own life
- b. Identifies changes over time in themselves, their families, and in the wider community
- c. Retells important events in sequential order
- d. Demonstrates interest in current events that relate to family, culture, and community
- e. Uses words and phrases that differentiate between events that happen in the past, present and future (e.g., uses phrases like “when I was a baby” or “before I moved to my new house”)

Vocabulary:

same, different, self-portrait body parts (head, eyes, nose, ears, mouth, body, arms, legs, hands, feet), unique, birthday, left, right, feelings (i.e. happy, sad, surprised), growing, student, before, after, special, talent, first, next, last, now, long ago, before, after, morning, afternoon, night, yesterday, today, tomorrow, week, month, day

Knowledge and Skills:

Students will demonstrate increasing awareness and competence in the following areas:

- Identify their birthday
- Recognize individual talents
- Recognize each person is unique and important
- Question why and/or how people are similar and different
- Understand unit vocabulary

- Follow multi-step directions
- Draw a conclusion
- Participate in a discussion
- Demonstrate respect for others
- Make decisions
- Listen to others
- Attend to a story

Unit 2: Families

Enduring Understandings:

- Families are special and unique. Families may be similar and different.

Essential Questions:

- What makes my family special and unique?

NYS Prekindergarten Learning Standards:

PK.SOC.2. Demonstrates awareness and appreciation of their own culture and other cultures

PK.SOC.2. Indicators:

- Talks about and/or shows items related to cultural traditions . (E.g. Describes some of the dances, foods, and special events related to culture)
- Describes own community and/or cultural group

PK.SOC.5 Demonstrates knowledge of the relationship between people, places, and regions

PK.SOC.5. Indicators:

- Identifies features of own home and familiar places
- Names the street, neighborhood, city and/or town where they live
- Uses words that indicate direction, position and relative distance
- Creates representations of topographical features in art work, and/or while playing with blocks, sand or other materials

PK.SOC.6. Develops an understanding of how people and things change over time and how to relate past events to their present and future activities

PK.SOC.6. Indicators:

- Identifies routines and common occurrences in own life
- Identifies changes over time in themselves, their families, and in the wider community
- Retells important events in sequential order
- Demonstrates interest in current events that relate to family, culture, and community
- Uses words and phrases that differentiate between events that happen in the past, present and future (e.g., uses phrases like “when I was a baby” or “before I moved to my new house”)

Vocabulary:

customs, traditions, same, different, unique, feelings (i.e. happy, sad, surprised), growing, before, after, family members (i.e. sibling, brother, sister, parent), community, culture, holidays, celebrate/celebrations, special, first, next, last, now, long ago, before, after, morning, afternoon, night, yesterday, today, tomorrow, week, month, day

Knowledge and Skills:

Students will demonstrate increasing awareness and competence in the following areas:

- Identify family members, family characteristics and functions
- Identify as a member of a family
- Recognize how families are similar and different
- Demonstrate an understanding of similarities and differences between individuals families
- Participate in a discussion
- Understand and define respect
- Make decisions
- Listen to others
- Attend to a story
- Ask questions
- Follow multi-step directions
- Draw a conclusion

Unit 3: My Community

Enduring Understandings:

- A sense of community focuses on respect and caring.
- Good citizens have many responsibilities throughout life.

Essential Questions:

- How can we fit in with people around us?

NYS Prekindergarten Learning Standards:

PK.SOC.3. Demonstrates an understanding of roles, rights, and responsibilities

PK.SOC.3. Indicators:

- a. Recognizes community workers and their roles and responsibilities (e.g., asks questions about and shows an interest in the community jobs)
- b. Recognizes that people depend on community helpers to provide goods and services
- c. Identifies the tools and equipment that correspond to various roles and jobs
- d. Recognizes that all children and adults have roles, rights, and responsibilities at home, school, and the community

PK.SOC.4. Begins to learn basic civic and democratic principles

PK.SOC.4. Indicators:

- a. Expresses that rules are for everyone
- b. Identifies rules that protect themselves and others
- c. Describes possible consequences when rules are not followed
- d. Participates in making group rules and/or rules for daily routines and transitions
- e. Follows rules and may remind others of the rules
- f. Demonstrates preferences and choices by participating when the class votes to make simple decisions

PK.SOC.5 Demonstrates knowledge of the relationship between people, places, and regions

PK.SOC.5. Indicators:

- a. Identifies features of own home and familiar places
- b. Names the street, neighborhood, city and/or town where they live
- c. Uses words that indicate direction, position and relative distance
- d. Creates representations of topographical features in art work, and/or while playing with blocks, sand or other materials

PK.SOC.7. Develops a basic understanding of economic concepts within a community

PK.SOC.7. Indicators:

a. Recognizes that goods and services may be purchased using different forms of payment, (e.g., coins, paper money, checks, electronic payment, credit cards, vouchers, food assistance programs)

Vocabulary:

community, community helpers, roles, rules, jobs/careers, respect, caring, consequences, responsibility, voting, neighborhood

Knowledge and Skills:

Students will demonstrate increasing awareness and competence in the following areas:

- Develop a basic awareness of self within the context of community
- Describe how people within a community are alike and different (i.e. school community, neighborhood)
- Name the neighborhood, city and/or town where they live
- Identify changes over time in their community
- Apply the skills of communication, cooperation, respect and empathy with others
- Uses senses to explore different environments (classroom, playground, field trips)
- Understand the concept of map
- Participate in a discussion
- Make decisions
- Listen to others
- Attend to a story
- Ask questions
- Follow multi-step directions
- Draw a conclusion