Ohio's Learning Standards for Social Studies





Kindergarten–Grade 8

July 2026



Department of Education & Workforce

Organizational Note: In the 2018 standards, the skills statements were part of each of the strands of history, economics, geography, and government. The update has added a new strand call social studies skills. The change elevates the disciplinary literacy skills of social studies and the skills should be practiced many times throughout the academic year with the different content strands.

Kindergarten

Strand: Social Studies Skills

TOPIC: HISTORICAL THINKING

1. Time can be measured.
2. Photographs, videos, artifacts, and books can be used to learn about the past.

TOPIC: SPATIAL THINKING

3. Landmarks and directions can be used to talk about the relative location of familiar places.

TOPIC: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

4. Individuals work toward the achievement of common goals in schools and communities.

Strand: History

TOPIC: OHIO – PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

5. Ohio's communities reflect many traditions and customs. A community's culture is shown through the arts, celebrations, festivals, and language.
6. Ohio is a state in the United States. Both Ohio and the United States have symbols and practices that represent the state and country.

Strand: Geography

TOPIC: HUMAN SYSTEMS

7. Humans use natural resources found in the physical environment for food, clothing, and shelter.
8. Individuals are unique but share common characteristics of multiple groups.

Strand: Government

TOPIC: RULES AND LAWS

9. Individuals contribute to the community by following rules to keep everyone safe. Authority figures enforce rules to maintain order, security, and safety at school and in the community.

Strand: Economics

TOPIC: PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

10. Individuals use goods and services throughout their daily lives.