

CONTENT STANDARD 5: UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT

Students will apply knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, how the U.S system of government works and how the rule of law and the values of liberty and equality have an impact on individual, local state and national decisions.

Performance Standard 1: Explain the purposes of laws and the ideas and principles that make just laws.

KINDERGARTEN

Grade Level Statement

The kindergarten students will:

- explain the purpose of classroom rules

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss classroom rules
- explain their purpose
- draw

GRADE 1

Grade Level Statement

The grade one students will:

- explain the purpose of classroom rules

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- create classroom rules
- discuss classroom rules
- explain their purpose
- explain what makes rules fair

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- explain the purpose of classroom rules

Content Standard 5: United States Constitution and Government (Cont'd)
Performance Standard 1 (Cont'd)

Grade 2 (Cont'd)

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss classroom rules
- explain their purpose
- explain what makes rules fair
- formulate a class constitution

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- explain the purpose of classroom rules

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss classroom rules
- explain their purpose
- explain what makes rules fair
- formulate a class constitution

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- study selected specific laws (Bike helmet law)

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- role play the purpose of the law
- discuss whether the law is just (fair)
- write a letter to their legislator about suggested changes to the bike helmet law

Performance Standard 2: Explain that individuals have rights and responsibilities to follow the law.

KINDERGARTEN

Grade Level Statement

The kindergarten students will:

- explain why they must follow rules and laws

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss the reasons for following rules
- discuss what happens when people don't follow classroom rules

GRADE 1

Grade Level Statement

The grade one students will:

- explain why they must follow rules and laws

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss the reasons for following rules
- discuss what happens when people don't follow classroom and school rules

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- explain why they must follow rules and laws

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss the reasons for following rules
- discuss what happens when people don't follow classroom and school rules
- discuss what happens when people don't follow the rules of their community

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- explain why they must follow rules and laws

Content Standard 5: United States Constitution and Government (Cont'd)
Performance Standard 2 (Cont'd)

Grade 3 (Cont'd)

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss the reasons for following rules
- discuss what happens when people don't follow classroom and school rules
- discuss what happens when people don't follow the rules of their community and state

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- explain why they must follow rules and laws

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss the reasons for following rules
- discuss what happens when people don't follow classroom and school rules
- discuss what happens when people don't follow the rules of their community, state and nation
- (the above is a possible journal topic)

Performance Standard 3: Recognize the Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, as an important document that guides our country and limits the power of the government.

***** For this objective, the committee recommends that each classroom have a framed copy of the Constitution prominently on display. *****

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- recognize that the United States has a constitution

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- listen to “We the People” by Peter Spier
- discuss the above book

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- read and demonstrate meaning of the preamble to the Constitution

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- chorally read the preamble
- create flipbooks of information

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- demonstrate meaning of the Constitution

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- listen to(New book)
- discuss the above book
- illustrate a personally meaningful portion of the Constitution
- listen to “A more Perfect Union” by Betsy and Giulio Maestro
- discuss the above book

Performance Standard 4: Identify services provided by national, state and local governments and how we pay for them through taxation.

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- explain the role of the East Haddam Tax Collector

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- visit the office of the East Haddam Tax Collector
- create a chart of the services paid for with local taxes

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement:

The grade four students will:

- identify services provided by national, state and local governments
- explain that government services are paid for by taxes

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- explore various websites
- complete activities at websites
- (see K. Nowak)

Performance Standard 5: Apply the process of how leaders are selected and how people monitor and influence decisions of their government.

GRADE 1

Grade Level Statement

The grade one students will:

- explain the concept of voting

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss the meaning and purpose of an election
- participate in the election of Student Leaders

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- explain what makes a good leader
- explain different ways of voting

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss the meaning and purpose of an election
- discuss the qualities and purpose of candidates
- participate in the election of Student Leaders
- participate in other classroom voting activities
- (explore options for different ways of voting)

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- explain local elections
- explain the difference between elected and appointed officials

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- visit town hall and the Registrar of voters
- discuss how local elections are conducted
- explain how an appointed official gets their position
- discuss all local officials and which are elected vs. appointed
- create a flow chart showing the process from registering through actual voting

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- explain how people influence the decisions of their government

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- explain how ideas are brought forth in Student leader meetings
- explain the purpose and influence of the Food Council
- explore how to contact local state and national officials
- vote on a local, state, or national issue to influence
- contact at least one official on that issue

Performance Standard 6: Identify the location of seats of government at the local, state and national levels.

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will

- identify the White House as being in Washington, DC

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- view and discuss the video Arthur Meets the President

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- identify the local seat of Government

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- draw town hall
- visit town hall
- discuss the business that takes place at town hall

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- identify the state and national seats of government

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- visit the State Capitol
- discuss the business that takes place at the state capitol
- create graphic organizer labeling capitol, 3 branches of State Government and their subdivisions
- compare Hartford to Washington D. C. (both seats of Government)
- compare the State Capitol Building to the US Capital Building
- (need to create website with photos for comparison)

Performance Standard 7: Apply the concepts of liberty, tolerance and majority rule and how they relate to individual rights.

GRADE 1

Grade Level Statement

The grade one students will:

- explain the concept of majority rules

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- see 5.5
- discuss that the winners of elections are determined by majority vote

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- explain the concept of majority rules

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- see 5.5
- discuss that the winners of elections are determined by majority vote

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- explain that tolerance is a freedom and a responsibility and an important aspect of our country's beliefs
- explain the concept of tolerance

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- discuss that we tolerate different religions, ideas, viewpoints and cultures in the US
- write how tolerance relates to the culture of the Southwest (Cinco de Mayo, Day of the Dead, Las Posadas)

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- explain our freedoms as they are tempered by our rights and responsibilities: speech, voting, assembly, religion, trial

Content Standard 5: United States Constitution and Government (Cont'd)
Performance Standard 7 (Cont'd)

Grade 4 (Cont'd)

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- prior to reading about Harriet Tubman, students will write a short paragraph describing what freedom means to them
- share their writing
- participate in class discussion of our freedoms as they are tempered by our rights and responsibilities (speech, voting, assembly, religion, trial)