

GRADE 4

CONCEPTUAL STRANDS	ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS
PLACES and ENVIRONMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Climate is affected by seasons, weather, patterns and location. ▪ Needs and wants affect patterns of settlement. ▪ People immigrate for many reasons. ▪ Transportation improvements influence patterns of settlements. ▪ Natural resources affect the migration of people. ▪ Natural resources influence culture. ▪ Resource depletion alters economic development. ▪ Migration can be used to improve the lives of people. ▪ Not everyone migrates of his/her free will. ▪ Natural features and human changes distinguish one state/region from another. ▪ Geographic features distinguish regions in the US. ▪ Maps and globes emphasize geographic characteristics.
INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, and INSTITUTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transportation links people. ▪ People work together to solve problems. ▪ Regions of the country help each other. ▪ People can learn to appreciate other cultures.
POWER, AUTHORITY, and GOVERNANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Laws are enforced to ensure justice. ▪ Governments have process to create laws. ▪ People use voting to make choices, express opinions and create change. ▪ Government responsibilities are divided. ▪ People work together to solve problems.
PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, and DISTRIBUTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regions of the United States cooperate through trade in an attempt to meet people's needs and wants. ▪ Income limits choices. ▪ Employment opportunities are affected by the environment in which people live. ▪ Different regions produce different goods and demand different services. ▪ Different modes of transportation move goods around the United States.
SOCIETY, SCIENCE, and TECHNOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Governments outline areas that are protected from the effects of growth and technology. ▪ Recycling reduces waste and demand on natural resources. ▪ The pollution of one region can affect other regions.
CITIZENSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The characteristics of a democratic society include roles, rights and responsibilities. ▪ Volunteerism is a valued component of citizenship. ▪ United States symbols represent freedom.
GLOBAL CONNECTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transportation links people. ▪ Geographic features affect economic development. ▪ Business and industry can import and export products. ▪ People immigrate for many reasons. ▪ Native groups to the US were here when immigrants arrived.