Grade 5 Social Studies

Nine	Big Ideas	Enduring Understandings	Essential Concepts	
Weeks	examples	examples	examples	
1 st	Relationships	Students understand that early exploration and	Exploration	
	Patterns	encounters shape the development of a country.	Navigation	
			Cultures	
		Students understand that conflict can produce both	Conflict	
		negative and positive results	Diplomacy	
			Leadership	
		Students understand that structure is only as good as	Colonization/ colonies	
		its foundation and organization.	Cultures of early North America	
			Important European explorers	
		Students understand that the movement of goods,	Immigration	
		ideas and people can affect a region's development	Triangular trade – slavery	
		and its diversity.	Louisiana Purchase, Manifest Destiny	
			Literature – folk tales, mythology of NA	
		Students understand that interactions between	Trail of Tears/1830 Indian Removal Act	
		different cultural groups are influenced by perception.	Water cycle	
			Evaporation, transpiration, condensation,	
		Students understand that written accounts of the same	precipitation	
		event differ because of the point of view of the	Run-off	
		author.	Weather systems	
			Solar radiation	
		Students understand that the universe is made up of	Measurement conversions	
		matter and energy and it is continually being changed	Temperature, wind speed and direction	
		and transferred throughout the earth and the universe.	Matter	
			Energy	
		Students understand that patterns and cycles help us	Universe	
		to explain and to predict events in the natural world.	Reservoirs	
			Jet stream, Gulf stream	
		Students understand that changes in matter also	La Nina/ El Nino	
		change its uses.	Air pressure	
			Humidity	
			Latitude/longitude	
			Hemisphere	
			Thermometer, barometer, anemometer,	
			wind vane, rain gauge	

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			Density,
			Data
			Absorb, bend, reflect
and			
2 nd	Adaptation	Students understand that current societies reflect the	colonization
	Diversity	results of early colonization and other historical	colonists
	Systems	events.	settlement
	Interdependence		settlement patterns
		Students understand that the type of government a	development
		country chooses reflects its principles, values and	reconstruction
		history.	progress
			change
		Students understand that knowledge of the past helps	adaptation
		one understand the present and plan for the future.	social classes
			immigration
		Students understand that wars often result in	immigrants
		compromises and transform a society.	systems of transportation
			contributions
		Students understand that different cultural beliefs	cultural narratives
		result in conflict as well as diversity.	historical speeches and documents
			heredity
		Students understand that heredity determines	genes
		commonalities and diversity in groups of organisms.	food chain
			food webs
		Students understand that ecosystems are ever-	energy pyramid
		changing because of the forces acting within and	ecosystem
		upon them.	natural resources
		1	habitat
		Students understand that progress requires adaptation	life cycles
		progress requires analytical	communities
		Students understand that various factors influence the	population
		movement of people, goods, and ideas	evolution
		movement of people, goods, and ideas	CVOIULIOII

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		Students understand the patterns of settlement affect	
		where and how we live today	
3 rd	Systems	Students understand that systems manage conflict and	Government
	Interdependence	create order.	Legislative branch
	Diversity		Judicial branch
		Students understand that knowledge of the past helps	Executive branch
		one understand the present and make decisions for the	Reconstruction
		future.	"Founding Fathers"
			Democracy
		Students understand that human activity affects the	Technology
		environment negatively as well as positively.	Migration
			Immigration
		Students understand that movement of peoples	Minorities
		changes a society, its government and its institutions.	Historical speeches and documents:
			Heredity
			Cells
			Body systems
4 th	Conflict	Students understand that perspective affects ones	Reconstruction.
	Values	values	Battle of Gettysburg
	Perspective		The American Civil War.
	System	Students understand that the responsibilities of	Technological innovations.
	Change	citizens help a system run and have a direct impact on	Historical speeches and documents:
		progress.	Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln's
			Second Inaugural Address
		Students understand that change in force or mass	
		affects motion.	Gravity
			Friction
		Students understand that social, economic and	Matter
		political changes create conflict and consensus that	reaction
		again often result in progress and change.	Pailroads steam
			Railroads, steam Manufacturing
		Students understand that financial decisions require	Communication
			Communication

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consideration of cost vs. benefit as well as alternatives and consequences.	Industrial Revolution Specialization/ division of labor
	Civic responsibility Common good