



Parents' Guide to Student Success in *Social Studies*

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. Standards provide an important first step

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Basic concepts of geography
Rules
Character traits of good citizens
Basic economic concepts



Keeping the Conversation Focused:

When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything instead keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In Kindergarten, these include:

- History
- Geography
- Economics
- Civics & Government

Try to create a quiet place for your child to study and carve out time every day when your child can concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics. Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

Read to and/or with your child daily quality text that is aligned to the curriculum topics.

Discuss the diversity in the American culture and communities by explaining family celebrations and customs.

Discuss how rules are made and why rules should be followed.

Explain how money is used to purchase goods and services and people must learn to make choices because they cannot have everything that they want.

Resource: <http://www.pta.org/parents/>



Nine Week Checkpoints for Parents and Students

Students should know and be able to:

- Identify and describe the purpose of national holidays (Labor Day)
- Identify American symbols (Pledge of Allegiance, Star Spangled Banner) and explain their meaning
- Explain how rules are made and why they should be followed
- Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens (honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, self)

