Kindergarten: Social Studies Practices

A. Gathering, Interpreting and Using Evidence
   1. Ask questions.
   2. Recognize forms of evidence used to make meaning in social studies.
   3. Identify the author or creator of a book or map.
   4. Identify opinions expressed by others.

B. Chronological Reasoning and Causation
   1. Retell an important life event in sequential order.
   2. Understand the concept of time measurements, including days and weeks.
   3. Identify causes and effects, using an example from his/her family life.
   4. Identify change over time in his/her life.
   5. Identify events of the past, present, and future in his/her life.
   6. Identify routines and common occurrences in his/her life.

C. Comparison and Contextualization
   1. Identify similarities and differences between home and school.
   2. Identify similarities and differences between him/her and others.
   3. Describe an event in his/her life.

D. Geographic Reasoning
   1. Ask geographic questions about where places are located and why they are located there, using location terms and geographic representations, such as maps, photographs, satellite images, and models.
   2. Identify natural events or physical features, such as land, water, air, and wind.
   3. Describe how environment affects his/her activities.
4. Identify a pattern.
5. Identify a human activity that changed a place.

E. Economics and Economic Systems
   1. Identify examples of scarcity and choices made due to scarcity.
   2. Identify examples of goods and services.
   3. Identify what money is and how it is used in society.

F. Civic Participation
   1. Demonstrate respect for the rights of others.
   2. Participate in activities that focus on a classroom or school issue or problem.
   3. Identify the role of the individual in classroom participation.
   4. Show respect in issues involving difference and conflict.
   5. Identify situations in which social actions are required.
   6. Identify the school principal and his/her role within the school.
   7. Identify and follow rules in the classroom and school.
Themes with Context

1. Individual Development and Cultural Identity
   - Role of social, political, and cultural interactions in the development of identity
   - Personal identity as a function of an individual’s culture, time, place, geography, interaction with groups, influences from institutions, and lived experiences

2. Development, Movement, and Interaction of Cultures
   - Role of diversity within and among cultures
   - Aspects of culture such as belief systems, religious faith, or political ideals as influences on other parts of a culture, such as its institutions or literature, music, and art
   - Cultural diffusion and change over time as facilitating different ideas and beliefs

3. Time, Continuity, and Change
   - History as a formal study that applies research methods
   - Reading, reconstructing, and interpreting events
   - Analyzing causes and consequences of events and developments
   - Considering competing interpretations of events

4. Geography, Humans, and the Environment
   - Relationship between human populations and the physical world (people, places, and environments)
   - Effect of human activities on the environment
   - Interactions between regions, locations, places, people, and environments
   - Spatial patterns of place and location

5. Development and Transformation of Social Structures
   - Role of social class, systems of stratification, social groups, and institutions
• Role of gender, race, ethnicity, education, class, age, and religion in defining social structures within a culture
• Social and political inequalities
• Expansion and access of rights through concepts of justice and human rights

6. Power, Authority, and Governance
• Purposes, characteristics, and functions of various governance systems as they are practiced
• Individual rights and responsibilities as protected and challenged within the context of majority rule
• Fundamental principles and values of constitutional democracy
• Origins, uses, and abuses of power
• Conflict, diplomacy, and war

7. Civic Ideals and Practices
• Basic freedoms and rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic republic
• Role of the citizen in the community and nation and as a member of the global community
• Civic participation and engagement
• Respect for diversity Introduction Page 11
• Civic ideals and practices in countries other than our democratic republic
• Struggle for rights, access to citizenship rights, and universal human rights

8. Creation, Expansion, and Interaction of Economic Systems
• Production, distribution, and consumption
• Scarcity of resources and the challenges of meeting wants and needs
• Supply/demand and the coordination of individual choices
• Economic systems Trade, interdependence, and globalization
• Role of government in the economy
• Personal finance

9. Science, Technology, and Innovation
• Scientific and intellectual theories, findings, discoveries, and philosophies
• Applications of science and innovations in transportation, communication, military technology, navigation, agriculture, and industrialization
• Relationship between science, technology, and innovation and social, cultural, and economic change

10. Global Connections and Exchange
• Past, current, and likely future global connections and interactions
• Cultural diffusion; the spread of ideas, beliefs, technology, and goods
• Role of technology
• Benefits/consequences of global interdependence (social, political, economic)
• Causes and patterns of migration
• Tension between national interests and global priorities