

Instructional Materials Evaluation Criteria----*Social Studies*

<i>Curriculum Coverage</i>	3	2	1	0	Rating
Meets Core Standards and Objectives	80%+ of the state core objectives are covered. Objectives are clearly stated with measurable outcomes.	60%+of the state core standards are covered. Objectives are usually stated clearly with many measurable outcomes.	50%+ of the state core standards are covered. Objectives are sometimes stated clearly with few measurable outcomes.	Less than half of the state core objectives are covered. Objectives are rarely stated. Measurable outcomes are not present.	
Content Accuracy	Accurate information is consistently presented. Content bias is not present.	Important information is generally presented. Some content bias is present.	Inaccuracies are found in the information presented. Significant content bias is present.	Most of the information presented is inaccurate. Content bias is present.	
Contains Process Skills	Materials consistently encourage students to use social studies skills (e.g., mapping, timelines, cause and effect, prediction)	Materials generally provide a range of activities with set outcomes.	Materials sometimes provide a set of explicit step-by-step instructions.	Rarely are hands-on activities included in the materials.	
Age Appropriate	Consistently a wide range of activities to accommodate various developmental levels at a reasonable pace and depth of coverage are included. Always Includes age appropriate cross-curricular references (e.g., literature, science, arts, etc.) Content is consistently organized in development of skills, easy to complex.	Activities are generally adaptable to the appropriate age level. Frequently cross-curricular activities are given. Frequently attention is given to prerequisite skills and knowledge.	Limited developmentally appropriate activities are given. Prerequisite skills and prior knowledge are not sufficiently developed before more complex concepts are introduced.	Age appropriate issues are not addressed. Rarely are activities based on appropriate levels of development.	
Pedagogically Sound	Always facilitates a wide range of teacher and student activities that reflect various learning styles and individual needs of students. Consistently includes a wide variety of strategies for flexible grouping.	Generally encourages and assists teachers in addressing learning styles and individual needs of students. Frequently includes various strategies for flexible grouping.	Sometimes addresses differences in learning and teaching. Includes some pedagogical strategies for flexible grouping.	Hinders effective pedagogy. Rarely reflects strategies for flexible grouping.	
Physical Qualities					
Durability	Materials are securely bound and reinforced.	Materials are adequately bound.	Materials have secure binding.	Materials have inferior binding.	
Print size legibility for intended grade level	Consistently appropriate use of font size and format for intended grade level. Key words or phrases are always bold faced and/or italicized.	Generally the font size is adequate for intended grade level. Frequently key words or phrases are boldfaced and/or italicized.	The font size and format is too small or too large for age group. Highlighting was used inappropriately; too much, too little.	The font size is inconsistent. No key words or phrases are boldfaced or italicized.	

Pictures, maps, tables, and graphics	Consistently appropriate and varied pictures, maps, and graphics are used.	A substantial and varied amount of pictures, maps and graphics are used.	Limited pictures, maps, tables, and graphics are used.	Rarely are pictures, maps, tables, and graphics used.	
Table of Contents, glossaries, and index	Thorough table of contents, glossaries, and indices.	Substantial table of contents, glossaries, and indices.	Partial table of contents, glossaries, and indices.	Inadequate table of contents, glossaries, and indices.	
Ancillary Materials					
Teacher Materials	Lesson plans are complete and easy to understand and implement. Social Studies background, terms and academic vocabulary are appropriately used. Consistently offers integration suggestions to other curriculum areas.	Most Lesson plans are easy to understand and implement. Social Studies background, terms and academic vocabulary are generally used. Frequently offers suggestions to other curriculum areas.	Some lesson plans are easy to understand and implement. Some Social Studies background, terms, and vocabulary are used. Sometimes suggestions for integration are given.	Lesson plans are difficult to understand and present. There is a lack of Social Studies background, terms, and vocabulary used. Rarely are suggestions for integration given.	
Student Materials	Consistently activities engage students in highly effective learning. Activities consistently develop higher thinking skills. The materials will always instruct students to use highly effective research skills processes. The materials consistently engage students in civic dialogue.	Generally activities engage students in effective learning. Activities frequently develop higher thinking skills. The materials will generally instruct students to use effective research skills processes. The materials generally engage students in civic dialogue.	Sometimes activities engage students in effective learning. Activities occasionally develop higher thinking skills. The materials sometimes instruct students to use moderately effective research skills processes. The materials sometimes engage students in civic dialogue.	Rarely activities engage students in effective learning. Activities rarely develop higher thinking skills. The materials rarely instruct students to use research skills processes effectively. The materials rarely engage students in civic dialogue.	
Parent Materials	Homework assignments always support classroom learning and are easily used by parents/guardians. Consistently introduces ideas to extend concepts in the real world. Always includes ESL strategies, materials, and home helps.	Homework assignments frequently support classroom learning and can be used by parents/guardians. Frequently introduces ideas to extend concepts in the real world. Usually includes ESL strategies, materials, and home helps.	Homework assignments sometimes support classroom learning. Occasionally introduces ideas to extend concepts in the real world. Sometimes includes ESL strategies, materials, and home helps.	Homework assignments rarely support classroom learning. Rarely introduces ideas to extend concepts in the real world. Rarely includes ESL strategies, materials, and home helps.	
Assessment	Assessment provides 80% + coverage of core objectives. Provides a thorough variety of assessment options. Provides highly effective scoring tools and rubrics. Always assesses for understanding.	Assessment provides 65% + coverage of core objectives. Provides a substantial variety of assessment options. Provides effective scoring tools and rubrics. Generally assesses for understanding.	Assessment provides 50% + coverage of core objectives. Provides a partial variety of assessment options. Provides partially effective scoring tools and rubrics. Sometimes assesses for understanding.	Assessment provides less than 50% of core objectives. Provides few assessment options. Rarely provides effective scoring tools and rubrics. Rarely assesses for understanding.	

Technology	Menus and manuals are consistently easy to read and use. Consistently enhances the learning experience by adding depth and diversity. Information is current and up-to-date. High quality audio and visuals are correct and contribute to the overall effectiveness of the program.	Menus and manuals are generally easy to read and use. Generally enhances the learning experience by adding depth and diversity. Information is current. Audio and visuals are of good quality and compliment the program effectiveness.	Menus and manuals are sometimes easy to read and use. Sometimes enhances the learning experience by adding depth and diversity. Information is mostly current. Audio and visuals are acceptable and align with the program content.	Menus and manuals are rarely easy to read and use. Rarely enhances the learning experience by adding depth and diversity. Information is out of date. Audio and visual defects are apparent and distract from the program content.	
<i>Universal access</i>					
Content reflects diverse population	Consistently provides ways to adapt curriculum for ALL students (e.g., special needs, ESL, advanced learners.) Always accurately portrays cultural, racial, and religious diversity in society. Materials consistently align to promote a knowledge and understanding of ethnic groups.	Generally provides ways to adapt curriculum for ALL students. Generally portrays cultural, racial, and religious diversity in society. Materials frequently align to promote a knowledge and understanding of ethnic groups.	Occasionally provides ways to adapt curriculum for ALL students. Sometimes portrays cultural, racial, and religious diversity in society. Materials occasionally align to promote a knowledge and understanding of ethnic groups.	Rarely provides ways to adapt curriculum for ALL students. Rarely portrays cultural, racial, and religious diversity in society. Materials rarely align to promote a knowledge and understanding of ethnic groups.	
Provides for the development of healthy attitudes and values	Consistently helps students develop skills for healthy attitudes and interests. Consistently provides collaborative activities for students.	Generally helps students develop skills for healthy attitudes and interests. Frequently provides collaborative activities for students.	Occasionally helps students develop skills for healthy attitudes and interests. Sometimes provides collaborative activities for students.	Rarely helps students develop skills for healthy attitudes and interests. Rarely provides collaborative activities for students.	