

IXL Summer Social Studies Activities

Grades 2–5



1. Choose an IXL social studies category from the menu below.
2. Once you have decided on a category, choose at least one skill from that category and complete it. Make sure you choose a skill from the grade you will be in this fall!
3. Apply your learning! Complete the activity to further enhance your understanding.
4. Provide evidence that you completed the activity to your new teacher!

Category: Geography and maps

SKILL NAME	2ND GRADE	3RD GRADE	4TH GRADE	5TH GRADE
Read a map: cardinal directions	A.3	A.3	F.1	A.1
Use lines of latitude and longitude			F.3	A.3

ACTIVITY

Discover the world of geocaching

Did you know that there are more than 2 million geocaches worldwide? (Unfamiliar with geocaching? Learn more [here](#).) There is no better time than summer to get outside and discover the hidden caches in your area! You will need:

- A GPS
- A free geocaching app ([like this one](#))
- Your map knowledge!

EVIDENCE

Keep a log of the map coordinates you visited and the different caches that you found.

Category: American symbols, landmarks, and monuments

SKILL NAME	2ND GRADE	3RD GRADE	4TH GRADE	5TH GRADE
Identify American symbols, landmarks, and monuments	D.1			
Identify American landmarks and monuments: part I		F.2	L.2	L.2
Identify American landmarks and monuments: part II		F.3	L.3	L.3

ACTIVITY

“Visit” an American landmark or monument

- Choose one of the landmarks or monuments you learned about in your IXL skill.
- Using [Google Earth](#), locate and “fly” over the landmark or monument to explore it in more depth.
- Create a 3D replica of the monument or landmark that reflects your learning.
- Bonus! Display your model for Fourth of July.

EVIDENCE

Present your 3D model. Be prepared to share some fun facts.

Category: Government

SKILL NAME	2ND GRADE	3RD GRADE	4TH GRADE	5TH GRADE
Local government	C.2	E.2	K.1	K.1
State government	C.3	E.3	K.2	K.2

ACTIVITY

Take a summer field trip

See for yourself how your local government works! Visit one or more of the following:

- Your state capitol building
- A school board meeting
- A city or council meeting
- A naturalization event

Go a step further!

- Choose a current issue in your local area that you feel strongly about. Write a letter to your state representative expressing your opinion. Don't forget to back up your opinion with reasons and support! (You can find the contact information for your representatives [here](#).)

EVIDENCE

Write a brief synopsis of your field trip. Be sure to include key people connected to the visit and new information that you learned.

Category: Economics

SKILL NAME	2ND GRADE	3RD GRADE	4TH GRADE	5TH GRADE
Goods and services	F.2	H.3		
Producers and consumers	F.3	H.4		
Understand quantity supplied and quantity demanded		I.1	P.1	P.1
Identify shortage and surplus		I.4	P.4	P.4

ACTIVITY

Become an entrepreneur

Provide a good (e.g., a lemonade stand) or a service (e.g., washing cars) for your neighborhood. Consider the following before getting started:

- Location
- Hours of operation
- Supplies
- Costs

EVIDENCE

Write a reflection about your experience. Evaluate supply and demand. Identify shortage and surplus. What changes, if any, would you make for next time?