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Children’s Book Council: http://www.cbcbooks.org/

Public Library of Charlotte-Mecklenburg County: http://www.bookhive.org/

Notable Social Studies Books for Young People compiled by NCSS with help from the American Library Association: http://www.socialstudies.org/

Curriculum Development Websites

Understanding by Design (UbD) provides an approach to developing curriculum, which is powerful and important to use when developing curriculum in social studies and other areas. UbD recommends building curriculum using “backwards design,” where teachers determine: first, the end results to be obtained through instruction; next, what constitutes evidence that those results have been obtained; and finally, how they would teach to accomplish those results. The official Understanding by Design website is http://www.ubdexchange.org/. Check the resources section in the website to learn more about UbD. For full access to the website with all the resources it offers, including model, downloadable units, there is a reasonable subscription fee or $49 per year for an individual, with higher fees for schools and districts that vary by size.

The following website, produced by the Governors Academy for Technology in Teaching and Learning in South Dakota, also has useful information on Understanding by Design: http://www.sdttl.com/2002/ubd.htm.

The Social Studies Center for Educational Development in Texas has a website which builds upon Understanding by Design. It is worth examining to see how Understanding by Design may be used in the area of social studies: http://www.tea.state.tx.us/

Virginia’s History and Social Science Standards of Learning Curriculum Framework, developed in 2001, also builds upon the Understanding by Design approach. To see how that state has applied Understanding by Design’s approach to curriculum to social studies, see this website: http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Instruction/History/hist_ss_framework.html

Educational Organizations

Education Week: Education Week has compiled an excellent website on educational organizations, including State Departments of Education: http://www.edweek.org/

Encyclopedias, Almanacs, Etc.

Biography.com: A website focused on biographies: http://www.biography.com/


Information Please Almanac: An almanac website from Information Please: http://www.infoplease.com/

Thesaurus.com: A Thesaurus Website: http://www.thesaurus.com/
General Websites for Schools and for Students

AOL@School: This frequently updated website provides information on many topics for students, teachers, and administrators: http://school.aol.com/. The website addresses all levels of education and different subjects.

BBC On-Line: This is an excellent website to find many topics from a UK vantage point: http://www.bbc.co.uk/. This website has activities for teachers and parents to use with students from preschool through high school: http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/. Check out geography and history.

EduHound: The “EduHound website, with lots of good information for teachers, other educators, and kids, links to schools and classroom, and clip art. Elementary teachers might use this website to find “Martin’s Fourth Grade,” which is in Lee’s Summit and which has links to Missouri history topics and to topics pertaining to trails west. The site is fun to explore: http://www.eduhound.com/

Family Education.com: This website provides reference links and information of children, parents, and teachers, including activities for social studies for various grade levels: http://www.familyeducation.com/home/

Lycos Website for Kids: A Lycos website for kids to help them with homework: http://www.lycoszone.com/homework.html

Middle School Website: A website for middle school education, which has a section on lesson plans including those in social studies: http://www.middleschool.com/

Motivating Students: This website deals with motivating students. Some ideas in the website strike me as being like bribery, but the site includes some interesting links http://www.education-world.com/a_curr/curr301.shtml

Smithsonian Website: http://educate.si.edu/.

SuccessLink Website for Schools: The SuccessLink website with lessons for all subjects keyed to the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP): http://www.successlink.org/

Glossary of Educational Terms

Education Week: Education Week newspaper has a glossary of educational terms, which should be of interest to teachers and other educators: http://www.edweek.org/

Government Websites

First Government for Kids: A general reference website made for students on homework and on many social studies related topics and topics related to other subjects: http://www.kids.gov/


U.S. Federal Government Compilation of Websites for Educators and Students: Teachers, parents, students, & others are invited to search FREE for teaching & learning resources from more than 40 federal organizations: http://www.ed.gov/free/
GetNetWise: GetNetWise is a project of the Internet Education Foundation helping to ensure that families have safe, constructive, and educational or entertaining online experiences. The GetNetWise coalition attempts to provide the resources that family and educators need to make informed decisions about young peoples' use of the Internet. This site includes popular resources, including sites relevant to social studies. The site’s address is [http://www.getnetwise.org/](http://www.getnetwise.org/).

Library Websites.


Awesome Library: A website with 14,000 links in many areas, including social studies: [http://www.awesomelibrary.org/](http://www.awesomelibrary.org/).

Internet Public Library of the University of Michigan: The Internet Public Library is an educational initiative of the University of Michigan School of Information providing library services to the Internet community. Professional librarians staff the IPL with assistance from students and volunteer librarians from around the world. The library maintains a collection of online ready reference works; responds to reference questions; creates web resources; evaluates and categorizes resources on the Internet; and provides a space for exhibits. The site address is [http://www.ipl.org/](http://www.ipl.org/).

THE WWW Virtual Library: This website provides many links about many topics related to social studies: [http://vlib.org/](http://vlib.org/).

Missouri-Related Websites.

Learning Opportunities in Missouri: This website from “Missouri Families” provides lots of information on various websites pertaining to places to visit in Missouri: [http://missourifamilies.org/learnadventure.htm](http://missourifamilies.org/learnadventure.htm).

Missouri’s MAP Testing Program and Websites on Testing Issues.

Hazelwood School District’s MAP Attack: Hazelwood School District (St. Louis County) has developed excellent lessons to help students learn content and skills pertinent to the MAP Test: [http://www.hazelwood.k12.mo.us/~cdavis01/map2000/](http://www.hazelwood.k12.mo.us/~cdavis01/map2000/).

Newspapers in Education.

Many local newspapers have “Newspapers in Education” programs, which offer lesson plans and other resources for teachers on how to use newspapers as an instructional tool. Be sure to check to see if your local newspaper(s) have such programs. Following are some examples of NIE programs, which provide on-line lesson ideas for teachers:

Online Projects

Following sites for online projects were suggested by Odvard Egil Dyrli in the magazine The District Administrator:

- Discovery.com Expedition Adventures: [http://dsc.discovery.com](http://dsc.discovery.com)
- The Global Schoolhouse: [http://www.qsn.org](http://www.qsn.org)
- Intercultural E-Mail Classroom Connections: [http://www.iecc.org](http://www.iecc.org)
- The Jason Project, which relates to geography: [http://www.jason.org](http://www.jason.org)
- NASA Quest: [http://quest.arc.nasa.gov](http://quest.arc.nasa.gov)
- The WebQuest Page: [http://edweb.sdsu.edu/webquest/](http://edweb.sdsu.edu/webquest/)
- World Trek Odyssey: [http://www.worldtrek.org](http://www.worldtrek.org)

Rubrics for Scoring Guides

The following are rubrics called to my attention by Mary Ann Shields, Middle School Teacher from Oak Grove School District in an article she wrote for Horizon, the newsletter of the Missouri Council for the Social Studies:

- Rubrics 4 Teachers website, which has links to many other websites of interest to teachers, such as a website dealing with discipline-related problems: [http://www.rubrics4teachers.com](http://www.rubrics4teachers.com)
- Rubistar rubrics creation website: [http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php](http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php)

Search Engines

Ask Jeeves: A useful search engine, where questions are submitted as simple sentences: [http://askjeeves.com](http://askjeeves.com)

About.com: A useful search engine: [http://about.com](http://about.com)

Geniusfind: Another useful search engine called Geniusfind: [http://www.geniusfind.com](http://www.geniusfind.com)

Google: A useful search engine, where one may type in the topic of a search and many
HotBot: This is a useful search engine for teachers, which has no specific kid-friendly features. [http://www.hotbot.lycos.com](http://www.hotbot.lycos.com).

Internet Oracle: Following is a website that provides linkages to many other reference websites: [http://www.InternetOracle.com/encyclop.htm](http://www.InternetOracle.com/encyclop.htm).

KidsClick: This website presents appropriate educational content compiled by librarians. One may also click on a feature called "Through a Librarian's Eyes" to obtain a catalog of sites organized by the Dewey Decimal System. [http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/KidsClick/](http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/KidsClick/).

**Study Skills.**


Study Skills Ideas from University of Vermont: A website from the University of Vermont with all sorts of study skill tips listed under the category of “Self-Help Information”: [http://www.ucc.vt.edu/stdysk/stdyhilp.html](http://www.ucc.vt.edu/stdysk/stdyhilp.html).

**Writing and Reading across the Curriculum.**


**Social Studies.**


Council of State Social Studies Specialists: This is the organization to which social studies specialists from all states that have them belong. The website may be used to find such information as what social studies and social studies testing are required in the states (click on "National Survey"). The website address is [http://www.cs4online.org/](http://www.cs4online.org/).

International Education Consortium in St. Louis: The website of St. Louis’s International Education Consortium, which has excellent links for many areas of social studies: [http://info.csd.org/](http://info.csd.org/).

University of Missouri-St. Louis Powerful Learning Center: The website of the University of Missouri-St. Louis Powerful Learning Center: [http://www.umsl.edu/~pwrfllng/](http://www.umsl.edu/~pwrfllng/).

Vermont Social Studies Alliance: This website was developed by the Vermont Social Studies Alliance for Vermont social studies teachers: [http://www.vermontsocialstudies.org/](http://www.vermontsocialstudies.org/).

**Activities for Social Studies (See also Resources for Social Studies below)**

Columbia Education Center: These websites of the Columbia Education Center have links
to lesson plans in all subjects including social studies:  http://www.col-ed.org/cur/ and http://youth.net/cec/cec.html

Interact (Simulation Activities): This website from Interact lists simulations the Interact company sells. I have listed the website here because the website also includes 138 free activities of interest to social studies teachers from elementary through high school: http://www.teachinteract.com

“Social Studies on the Web”: This website, entitled “Social Studies on the Web,” developed by Ellis Batson when working on his masters degree, has links to the various social studies disciplines and current events and to lesson plans for social studies: http://members.aye.net/~ellisb/socialstudies/index.html.

WebQuests: A set of WebQuest activities on a variety of topics: http://curry.edschool.virginia.edu/go/workshop98/sessions/webquest/list.html

Curriculum for Social Studies

Evergreen Social Studies Curriculum from Saskatchewan: http://www.sasked.gov.sk.ca/

California History-Social Science Course Models Online: This website presents model lessons tied to the California History-Social Science Curriculum for grades K-8, with links to many subjects: http://www.history.ctaponline.org.

“The Awesome Library website: A website with all sorts of information related to social studies and other subjects: http://www.awesomelibrary.org/

“Blue Highway website”: This “Blue Highway” website, developed by Ray Schroeder of the University of Illinois at Springfield, consists of a “Teacher’s Page” with useful links for social studies and for other references and resources: http://www.uis.edu/%7Eschroede/school/ 

“Blue Web’n” from Pacific Bell: This website from Pacific Bell, called “Blue Web’n,” is a library of links to “Blue Ribbon websites” in all subjects, including social studies and history and for all grades. Because the listing is annotated, one can save a lot of time in finding good websites by using this one. http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/bluewebn/#table

Federal Government Website for Teachers: Federal government website for teachers: http://www.ed.gov/free/index.html. (This site includes information on the various disciplines that comprise social studies as well. The specific website for social studies is http://wdcrobcopol01.ed.gov/cfapps/free/displaysubject.cfm?sid=9)

Marco Polo Website (An outstanding website): The Marco Polo website is an excellent website that provides access to outstanding websites in the areas of history and humanities, geography, economics, mathematics, the arts, and sciences. http://www.wcom.com/marcopolo

New York Times Website for Teachers: This website has activities for social studies teachers related to the news and historical news items: http://www.nytimes.com/learning/index.html

“Scholar’s Guide to the WWW,” developed by emeritus professor of history Richard Jensen of the University of Chicago focuses on the humanities and social sciences with lots of links: http://tigger.uic.edu/~rjensen/.

Social Studies Teachers Lin and Don Donn: This Web site developed by two certificated social studies teachers, Lin and Don Donn, offers a wealth of information for social
studies teachers. [http://members.aol.com/donnandlee/SiteIndex.html#History]

“Teachers Helping Teachers” website of Scott Mandel: This website developed by Dr. Scott Mandel that is entitled “Teachers Helping Teachers,” has lessons plans teachers have developed for all subjects including social studies: [http://www.pacificnet.net/~mandel/index.html]

Website of Tony Ambrose, University of Missouri-St. Louis: The website with links developed by Anthony Ambrose, Teacher, Curriculum Director, Ed. Tech Consultant at the University of Missouri-St. Louis: [http://www.umsl.edu/~sahambr]

**Activities from Public Television & Cable Television Stations**

C-SPAN: The website of C-SPAN developed with the teacher in mind: [http://www.c-spanclassroom.org/]

Kathy Schrock’s Website from the Discovery Channel: Social studies activities from Discovery Channel: [http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/]

PBS Website: PBS website for teachers: [http://www.pbs.org/teachersource]

“The Teacher’s Source” from PBS: A special website from PBS called “The Teacher’s Source,” where on this specific web page one may link to lesson plans pertaining to different facets of history, government and other aspects of social studies: [http://www.pbs.org/teachersource/soc_stud.htm]

**Current Event and News Websites** (See also News and Current Events Websites in the websites for Civics/Government)

Newseum: This is the interactive website of the Newseum, the nation’s news museum found in Rosslyn, VA, which explores news issues of past and present and explores the role of the press in American life. Unfortunately, some of the pictures on the website took a long time to download on my computer. [http://www.newseum.org]

New York Times Website for Teachers: This website has activities for social studies teachers related to the news and historical news items: [http://www.nytimes.com/learning/index.html]

Time Magazine: Time Magazine offers an on-line version of "News for Kids". You'll find grade-level appropriate stories, games and other activities. [http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/]

USA Today: USA TODAY created this website for educators. Each day, teachers receive the latest news from USA TODAY and can find lesson plans to assist teaching current events. [http://www.usatoday.com/educate/home.htm]

Washington Post Website for Kids of Elementary and Middle School Levels: This news site offers a look at what's going on in the world. Articles are appropriate for upper elementary and middle school students. [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/education/kidspost/]

**Special Topics**

Art & Social Studies: Following are websites pertaining to works of art and how they may be interpreted. Analysis of works of art may be useful when teaching history, geography, and cultural studies:
• How to Read a Painting (http://www.kcsd.k12.pa.us/~projects/critic/index.html)

• The website of the St. Louis Art museum: http://www.slam.org/

• The Getty Arts Education website: http://www.getty.edu/artsednet/

• This Smithsonian website, entitled “Landscape Paintings: Artists Who Loved the Land, includes reproductions of landscape paintings and lesson plans: http://smithsoniameducation.org/


• The Kennedy Center has a website called “Arts Edge,” which includes lessons and activities for social studies: http://artsendge.kennedy-center.org/teaching_materials/curricula/curricula.cfm?subject_id=SOC.


• Museum stuff: http://www.museumstuff.com/

Ethical Dilemmas: A website of the Institute of Global Issues focused on right-versus-right issues or ethical dilemmas: http://www.globalethics.org/

Holocaust: Following is the website from the Facing History and Ourselves Program. This program, which deals with the Holocaust, by dealing with an historical topic, could be categorized as a history website. At the same time, the program deals with civic responsibility and group membership, which makes it appropriate to the study of civics/government and sociology. Here is the site’s address: http://www.facing.org/

Issues (Choices for the 21st Century Project): This is the website of the Choices of the 21st Century Project, which has produced inexpensive units pertaining to current issues and U.S. and world history: http://www.choices.edu and http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Watson_Institute/Choices/index.html

Prejudice: The Anti-Defamation League has a website dealing with resources for teaching about prejudice: http://www.adl.org/main_education.asp

Prejudice and Hate: Helping students learn about bias and hate, their consequences and how to deal with these problems: http://www.partnersagainsthate.org/

Refugee Issues: This website from the UN Refugee Agency provides online lesson plans pertaining to refugee issues that tie into civic, geography, and history education: http://www.unhcr.ch/

**Standards for Social Studies and Other Disciplines**

**National Standards**

To find national standards for all subjects, including civics, economics, geography, and history (but not social studies), using a single website, see the following website from McREL: http://www.mcrel.org/compendium/browse.asp or see this website from
California’s State Department of Education: http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/standards.html
(then click on National Standards for History, Economics, Civics, and Geography)

Following are websites for each of the specific social studies-related standards:

Civics: National Civics Standards developed by the Center for Civic Education: http://www.mcrel.org/compendium/Standard.asp?SubjectID=14


Geography: National Geography Standards, which were developed by the Geography Education Standards Project on behalf of the American Geographical Society, the National Council for Geographic Education, the Association of American Geographers, and the National Geographic Society: http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/standards/matrix.html.

For activities related to the geography standards, see this National Geographic website: http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/activities/matrix.html

History: National History Standards, which were developed by the National Center for History in the Schools: http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/nchs/standards/

Psychology: National Standards for the Teaching of Psychology were developed by the American Psychological Association. These are standards that may be used by high school teachers who teach courses in psychology: http://www.apa.org/ed/hscontents.html

Assessment Related to Standards

The Issue of Testing, Teaching, and Learning from PBS: The following website explores issues of testing from many perspectives: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/schools/testing/.

State Standards

Virginia Framework and Standards: http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Instruction/History/hist_ss_framework.html

Standards of Other Nations