In Kindergarten, students learn about their families, classmates and neighbors. They begin to distinguish people and events of the past from the present and begin the development of citizenship, thinking skills and participation skills.

The Indiana’s K–8 academic standards for social studies are organized around four content areas. The content area standards and the types of learning experiences they provide to students in Kindergarten are described below. On the pages that follow, age-appropriate concepts are listed for each standard. Skills for thinking, inquiry and participation in a democratic society, including the examination of Individuals, Society and Culture, are integrated throughout. Specific terms are defined and examples are provided when necessary.

Please Note: Examples, when provided, are intended to help illustrate what is meant by the standards. They are only a starting point and are not exclusive. Many additional possibilities exist.

**Standard 1 — History**
Students examine the connections of their own environment with the past, begin to distinguish between events and people of the past and the present, and use a sense of time in classroom planning and participation.

**Standard 2 — Civics and Government**
Students learn that they are citizens of their school, community and the United States; identify symbols of the nation; and understand the importance of being a responsible citizen who knows why rules are needed and follows them.

**Standard 3 — Geography**
Students learn that maps and globes are different representations of the Earth’s surface and begin to explore the physical and human geographic characteristics of their school, neighborhood and community.

**Standard 4 — Economics**
Students explain that people do different jobs and work to meet basic economic wants and needs.

The goal of social studies education is for children to develop thinking and decision-making skills that will prepare them for responsible citizenship in a democratic society. Children begin to acquire these skills at the kindergarten level through learning experiences that allow them to explore their relationships with the immediate environment. This is the time when children begin to develop an understanding of time and space relationships. Kindergarten students are introduced to examples of differences and changes in their surroundings and learn to describe a sequence of events in a day. They also become familiar with geographic relationships, such as location (here, there, over, under) direction (up, down) size (big, little) and shape. Children are given opportunities to discover how people are similar and different and how people live and work together in families around the world.

Kindergarten students should begin to accept responsibility for their behavior in school and to explain why rules are needed in families and at school. Children in kindergarten have the opportunity to use a variety of resources, including technology and electronic and print media, as a means of gathering, organizing, analyzing information, and answering questions. Students should have the opportunity to learn through peer interaction and participation in large and small groups, as well as through individual learning activities.

The Indiana’s K–8 academic standards for social studies are organized around four content areas. The content area standards and the types of learning experiences they provide to students in Kindergarten are described below. On the pages that follow, age-appropriate concepts are listed for each standard. Skills for thinking, inquiry and participation are integrated throughout.
### Standard 1: History

**Students examine the connections of their own environment with the past. They begin to distinguish between events and people of the past and the present, and use a sense of time in classroom planning and participation.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical Knowledge</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K.1.1</td>
<td>K.1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Compare children and families of today with those in the past. (Individuals, Society and Culture)  
  **Example:** Compare clothing, houses and objects of the past with the present. | Compare children and families of today with those from the past.  
  **Example:** Compare clothing, houses, and other objects. |

| K.1.2                | K.1.2                |
| Identify celebrations and holidays as a way of remembering and honoring people, events and America’s ethnic heritage.  
  **Example:** Identify Thanksgiving, Columbus Day, Grandparent’s Day, and birthdays. | Identify people, celebrations, commemorations, and holidays as a way of honoring people, heritage, and events.  
  **Example:** George Washington; Chief Little Turtle; Abraham Lincoln, Harriet Tubman; and Martin Luther King, Jr., Thanksgiving, Columbus Day, Grandparent’s Day, and birthdays. |

| K.1.3                | K.1.3                |
| Listen to and retell stories about people in the past who showed honesty, courage, and responsibility.  
  **Example:** George Washington; Chief Little Turtle; Abraham Lincoln, Harriet Tubman; and Martin Luther King, Jr. |  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chronological Thinking</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K.1.4</td>
<td>K.1.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Identify and order events that take place in a sequence.  
  **Example:** Identify events in the school day as first, next, last, yesterday, today and tomorrow; place school events in order. | Identify and order events that takes place in a sequence.  
  **Example:** Identify events in the school day as first, next, last, yesterday, today and tomorrow; place school events in order. |

| K.1.5                | K.1.5                |
| Explain that calendars are used to represent days of the week and months of the year.  
  **Example:** Use a calendar to identify days of the week and school activities and birthdays. | Explain that calendars are used to represent the days of the week and months of the year.  
  **Example:** Use a calendar to identify days of the week and school activities and birthdays. |
## Standard 2: Civics and Government

Students learn that they are citizens of their school, community and the United States; identify symbols of the nation; and understand the importance of being a responsible citizen who knows why rules are needed and follows them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten 2007</th>
<th>Kindergarten 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foundations of Government</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>K.2.1 Give examples of people who are community helpers and leaders and describe how they help us. (Individuals, Society and Culture)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example</strong>: Parents, teachers, school principal, bus drivers and policemen</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>K.2.2 Identify and explain that the President of the United States is the leader of our country and that the American flag is a symbol of the United States.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Functions of Government</strong></td>
<td><strong>Functions of Government</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K.2.3 Give examples of classroom and school rules and explain how each helps us.</td>
<td>K.2.3 Give examples of classroom and school rules and explain the importance of following these rules to ensure order and safety.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roles of Citizens</strong></td>
<td><strong>Roles of Citizens</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K.2.4 Give examples of how to be a responsible family member and member of a group. (Individuals, Society and Culture)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example</strong>: Respecting the property and rights of others, being honest and truthful, and respecting authority*</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>K.2.5 Identify the role of students in the classroom and the importance of following school rules to ensure order and safety.</td>
<td><strong>authority</strong>: power that people have the right to use because of custom or law</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*authority: power that people have the right to use because of custom or law*
### KINDERGARTEN 2007

#### Standard 3  Geography

Students learn that maps and globes are different representations of the Earth’s surface and begin to explore the physical and human geographic characteristics of their school, neighborhood and community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The World in Spatial Terms</th>
<th>STANDARD 3: Geography</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| K.3.1                     | Use words related to location, direction and distance, including here/there, over/under, left/right, above/below, forward/backward and between.  
**Example:** Give and follow simple navigational directions such as walk forward ten steps, turn right and walk between the desks. |

K.3.2 Identify maps* and globes* as ways of representing Earth and understand the basic difference between a map and globe.

- **map:** a map is flat and can represent only a part of Earth’s surface
- **globe:** a globe is round and can show the entire Earth

#### Places and Regions

 Locate and describe places in the school and community.  
**Example:** Cafeteria, library, office, restrooms, gym and the fire station

K.3.4 Identify and describe the address and location of home and school.

#### Physical Systems

Describe and give examples of seasonal weather changes and illustrate how weather affects people and the environment.  
**Example:** In different seasons, people wear different kinds of clothing.

#### Human Systems

Identify and compare similarities and differences in families, classmates, neighbors and neighborhoods, and ethnic and cultural groups. (Individuals, Society and Culture)  
**Example:** Use newspapers, yearbooks, local Web sites and photographs to show the similarities and differences in family customs and celebrations, clothing, houses, work, and cultural and ethnic heritage.

#### Environment and Society

Recommend ways that people can improve their environment at home, in school and in the neighborhood.

### KINDERGARTEN 2014

#### STANDARD 3: Geography

Students understand that maps and globes are different representations of the Earth’s surface and begin to explore the physical and human geographic characteristics of their school, neighborhood and community.

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| K.3.1                     | Use words related to location, direction and distance, including here/there, over/under, left/right, above/below, forward/backward and between.  
**Example:** Give and follow simple navigational directions such as walk forward ten steps, turn right and walk between the desks. |

K.3.2 Identify maps and globes as ways of representing Earth and understand the basic difference between a map and globe.

#### Places and Regions

 Locate and describe places in the school and community.  
**Example:** Cafeteria, library, office, restrooms, gym and the fire station

K.3.4 Identify and describe the address and location of home and school; understand the importance of an address.

#### Physical Systems

Describe and give examples of seasonal weather changes and illustrate how weather affects people and the environment.  
**Example:** In different seasons, people wear different kinds of clothing.

#### Human Systems

Identify and compare similarities and differences in families, classmates, neighbors and neighborhoods, and ethnic and cultural groups. (Individuals, Society and Culture)  
**Example:** Use newspapers, yearbooks, local Web sites and photographs to show the similarities and differences in family customs and celebrations, clothing, houses, work, and cultural and ethnic heritage.

#### Environment and Society

Recommend ways that people can improve their environment at home, in school, and in the neighborhood.
### Standard 4: Economics

**Students explain that people do different jobs and work to meet basic economic wants.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>K.4.1</th>
<th>Explain that people work to earn money to buy the things they want.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| K.4.2 | Identify and describe different kinds of jobs that people do and the tools or equipment used in these jobs.  
  **Example:** Use picture books, stories and software programs to illustrate and identify different types of jobs, as well as tools and materials used in different jobs. |
| K.4.3 | Explain why people in a community choose different jobs.  
  **Example:** People may have different types of jobs because they like doing different things or because they are better at doing one particular type of job. |
| K.4.4 | Give examples of work activities that people do at home. |

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### STANDARD 4: Economics

**Students explain that people do different jobs and work to meet basic economic wants and needs.**

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</thead>
</table>
| K.4.2 | Identify and describe different kinds of jobs that people do and the tools or equipment used in these jobs.  
  **Example:** Use picture books, stories and software programs/games to illustrate and identify different types of jobs, as well as tools and materials used in different jobs. |
| K.4.3 | Explain why people in a community choose different jobs.  
  **Example:** People may have different types of jobs because they like doing different things or because they are better at doing one particular type of job. |
| K.4.4 | Give examples of work activities that people do at home. |