

4th Grade: Unit 1 United States Geography OVERVIEW

Big Ideas:

1. Understand the five strands of geography.
2. Use a map that includes the United States in relation to other countries, continent, oceans and tectonics plates.
3. Identify national symbols and their importance

Essential Student Questions:

1. Where is the United States in relation to the world?
2. What is geography?
3. What unique symbols represent the United States of America and how do they define us?

Literacy Standards	Content Standards
LA.RI.4.1 Locate explicit information in the text to explain what the text says explicitly and to support inferences drawn from the text.	GY.A.3 Understand how and why maps are changing documents.
LA.RI.4.4 Determine the meaning of general academic and domain specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade four topic or subject area.	GY.A.5 Evaluate the importance of the locations of human and physical features in interpreting geographic patterns.
LA.RI.4.7 Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g. in charts, graphs, on diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.	GY.B.5 Describe and demonstrate how places and regions serve as cultural symbols, such as the Statue of Liberty.
	H.A.6 Know that cultural elements, including language, literature, the arts, customs, and belief systems, reflect the ideas and attitudes of a specific time and know how the cultural elements influence human interaction.
	H.B.2 Human communities and their relationships with climate, subsistence base, resources, geography, and technology.
	CS.B.1 Acquire insights from other cultures without diminishing the integrity of their own.

