

CoAlt Fourth Grade Social Studies Performance Level Descriptors



Students demonstrate social studies concepts and skills aligned to the Grade Level Expectations and Extended Evidence Outcomes contained in the Colorado Academic Standards at various performance levels. The performance level descriptors are organized in a manner that assumes students demonstrating higher levels of command can also demonstrate the concepts and skills within the lower levels. For example, a student in the Approaching Target level can also demonstrate the concepts and skills included in the Emerging performance level.

With appropriate support, students who are At Target can typically:

- Compare sources and ideas about eras and events in Colorado history to events in United States history.
- Determine how the people and cultures who have lived in Colorado affected the development of Colorado.
- Review Colorado history using historical tools visual and text sources about the physical environment and human activities, such as migration.
- Use maps and geographic tools to understand how people adapt to the physical environment, and how places in Colorado have changed over time.
- Answer questions about Colorado in relation to other places and examine the connections.
- Explain how the natural, human, and capital resources of Colorado have influenced the types of goods and services produced.
- Examine opportunity costs and risk to make decisions.
- Compare multiple views of an issue or problem and examine solutions.
- Understand how Colorado’s governmental structure developed, including the Colorado Constitution.
- Explain the structure and functions of the Colorado government and its relationship with local and federal governments.

With appropriate support, students who are Approaching Target can typically:

- Review interactions among various people and points of view to understand the history of Colorado.
- Recognize how the people and cultures who have lived in Colorado have interacted with each other during various periods in Colorado history.
- Determine how new technology affected the history of Colorado and the United States.
- Use maps, grids, and other geographic tools to answer complex questions about Colorado.
- Answer questions about environmental opportunities for and environmental limits on human activities.
- Identify types of economic incentives, choices, opportunity costs, and risks that individuals face.
- Connect Colorado goods and services produced to economic incentives.
- Determine how public policy affects people’s lives.
- Recognize the roles and responsibilities of citizens and government officials.

With appropriate support, students who are Emerging can typically:

- Identify individuals, groups, ideas and events in Colorado history.
- Identify environmental features and answer basic questions about Colorado geography.
- Describe the ideas of opportunity cost, positive incentives, and negative incentives.
- Describe the origins of the Colorado government.
- Identify goods and services produced in Colorado.
- Describe the state services that Colorado provides.