Second Grade
Colorado Academic Standards
Social Studies Standards

"Teaching social studies powerfully and authentically begins with a deep knowledge and understanding of the subject and its unique goals. Social studies programs prepare students to identify, understand, and work to solve the challenges facing our diverse nation in an increasingly interdependent world. Education for citizenship should help students acquire and learn to use the skills, knowledge, and attitudes that will prepare them to be competent and responsible citizens throughout their lives. Competent and responsible citizens are informed and thoughtful, participate in their communities, are involved politically, and exhibit moral and civic virtues."

A Vision of Powerful Teaching and Learning in the Social Studies:
Building Social Understanding and Civic Efficacy (NCSS, 2008)

Preparing students for the 21st century cannot be accomplished without a strong and sustaining emphasis on the social studies. The social studies provide cornerstone skills that are the key to opening doors for a more diverse, competitive workforce and responsible citizenry. Students use critical thinking, self-assessment, reasoning, problem-solving, collaboration, research, and investigation to make connections in new and innovative ways as they progress through social studies education. These standards outline the knowledge and skills needed to help young people develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world.

Social studies is essential to understanding the complexity of the world. It provides the context and understanding of how humans interact with each other and with the environment over time. It offers the crucial knowledge needed to create a framework for understanding the systems of society.

Colorado's social studies standards lay out a vision of these vitally important disciplines and describe what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level through eighth grade, and through high school. The authors of this document are educators in preschool through twelfth grade, higher education professors, business and military representatives, and community members. The group developed a set of competencies starting with "the end in mind." What concepts and skills would a "prepared graduate" in the 21st century possess after completing high school? The answers to this question framed the work that led to the development of four standards in social studies for grades P-12.
Standards Organization and Construction

As the subcommittee began the revision process to improve the existing standards, it became evident that the way the standards information was organized, defined, and constructed needed to change from the existing documents. The new design is intended to provide more clarity and direction for teachers, and to show how 21st century skills and the elements of school readiness and postsecondary and workforce readiness indicators give depth and context to essential learning.

The “Continuum of State Standards Definitions” section that follows shows the hierarchical order of the standards components. The “Standards Template” section demonstrates how this continuum is put into practice.

The elements of the revised standards are:

**Prepared Graduate Competencies:** The preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

**Standard:** The topical organization of an academic content area.

**High School Expectations:** The articulation of the concepts and skills of a standard that indicates a student is making progress toward being a prepared graduate. *What do students need to know in high school?*

**Grade Level Expectations:** The articulation (at each grade level), concepts, and skills of a standard that indicate a student is making progress toward being ready for high school. *What do students need to know from preschool through eighth grade?*

**Evidence Outcomes:** The indication that a student is meeting an expectation at the mastery level. *How do we know that a student can do it?*

**21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies:** Includes the following:

- **Inquiry Questions:**
  Sample questions are intended to promote deeper thinking, reflection and refined understandings precisely related to the grade level expectation.

- **Relevance and Application:**
  Examples of how the grade level expectation is applied at home, on the job or in a real-world, relevant context.

- **Nature of the Discipline:**
  The characteristics and viewpoint one keeps as a result of mastering the grade level expectation.
Continuum of State Standards Definitions

**Prepared Graduate Competency**
Prepared graduate competencies are the P-12 concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

**Standards**
Standards are the topical organization of an academic content area.

**P-8**

**Grade Level Expectations**
Expectations articulate at each grade level the knowledge and skills that indicate a student is making progress toward being ready for high school.

*What do students need to know?*

**Evidence Outcomes**
Evidence outcomes are the indication that a student is meeting an expectation at the mastery level.

*How do we know that a student can do it?*

**21st Century and PWR Skills**

**Inquiry Questions:** Sample questions intended to promote deeper thinking, reflection and refined understandings precisely related to the grade level expectation.

**Relevance and Application:** Examples of how the grade level expectation is applied at home, on the job or in a real-world, relevant context.

**Nature of the Discipline:** The characteristics and viewpoint one keeps as a result of mastering the grade level expectation.

**High School**

**High School Expectations**
Expectations articulate the knowledge and skills that indicate a student is making progress toward being a prepared graduate.

*What do students need to know?*

**Evidence Outcomes**
Evidence outcomes are the indication that a student is meeting an expectation at the mastery level.

*How do we know that a student can do it?*

**21st Century and PWR Skills**

**Inquiry Questions:** Sample questions intended to promote deeper thinking, reflection and refined understandings precisely related to the grade level expectation.

**Relevance and Application:** Examples of how the grade level expectation is applied at home, on the job or in a real-world, relevant context.

**Nature of the Discipline:** The characteristics and viewpoint one keeps as a result of mastering the grade level expectation.
STANDARDS TEMPLATE

**Content Area: NAME OF CONTENT AREA**

**Standard:** The topical organization of an academic content area.

**Prepared Graduates:**
- The P-12 concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting

---

**High School and Grade Level Expectations**

**Concepts and skills students master:**

High School Expectations: The articulation of the concepts and skills that indicate a student is making progress toward being a prepared graduate.

Grade Level Expectations: The articulation at each grade level of the concepts and skills that indicate a student is making progress toward being ready for high school.

**What do students need to know?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence Outcomes</th>
<th>21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students can:</td>
<td>Inquiry Questions: Sample questions intended to promote deeper thinking, reflection and refined understandings precisely related to the grade level expectation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Relevance and Application: Examples of how the grade level expectation is applied at home, on the job or in a real-world, relevant context.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nature of the Discipline: The characteristics and viewpoint one keeps as a result of mastering the grade level expectation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How do we know that a student can do it?**

Evidence outcomes are the indication that a student is meeting an expectation at the mastery level.
Prepared Graduate Competencies in Social Studies

The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

Prepared graduates in social studies:
1. Use the tools, thinking, and practices of history, geography, economics, and civics to:
   a. Solve problems, make decisions and analyze issues from multiple perspectives as a responsible member of society
   b. Read, write, and communicate ideas

Prepared graduates in history:
1. Develop an understanding of how people view, construct, and interpret history
2. Analyze key historical periods and patterns of change over time within and across nations and cultures

Prepared graduates in geography:
1. Develop spatial understanding, perspectives, and personal connections to the world
2. Examine places and regions and the connections among them

Prepared graduates in economics:
1. Understand the allocation of scarce resources in societies through analysis of individual choice, market interaction, and public policy
2. Acquire the knowledge and economic reasoning skills to make sound financial decisions (PFL)

Prepared graduates in civics:
1. Analyze and practice rights, roles, and responsibilities of citizens
2. Analyze the origins, structure, and functions of governments and their impacts on societies and citizens
Colorado Academic Standards
Social Studies

Standards are the topical organization of an academic content area. The four standards of social studies are:

1. **History**
   History develops moral understanding, defines identity and creates an appreciation of how things change while building skills in judgment and decision-making. History enhances the ability to read varied sources and develop the skills to analyze, interpret and communicate.

2. **Geography**
   Geography provides students with an understanding of spatial perspectives and technologies for spatial analysis, awareness of interdependence of world regions and resources and how places are connected at local, national and global scales.

3. **Economics**
   Economics teaches how society manages its scarce resources, how people make decisions, how people interact in the domestic and international markets, and how forces and trends affect the economy as a whole. Personal financial literacy applies the economic way of thinking to help individuals understand how to manage their own scarce resources using a logical decision-making process of prioritization based on analysis of the costs and benefits of every choice.

4. **Civics**
   Civics teaches the complexity of the origins, structure, and functions of governments; the rights, roles and responsibilities of ethical citizenship; the importance of law; and the skills necessary to participate in all levels of government.
## Social Studies

### Grade Level Expectations at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Grade Level Expectation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Second Grade</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1. History | 1. Identify historical sources and utilize the tools of a historian  
2. People in the past influenced the history of neighborhoods and communities |
| 2. Geography | 1. Use geographic terms and tools to describe space and place  
2. People in communities manage, modify, and depend on their environment |
| 3. Economics | 1. The scarcity of resources affects the choices of individuals and communities  
2. Apply decision-making processes to financial decision making (PFL) |
| 4. Civics | 1. Responsible community members advocate for their ideas  
2. People use multiple ways to resolve conflicts or differences |
21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies in Social Studies

The social studies subcommittees embedded 21st century skills, school readiness, and postsecondary and workforce readiness skills into the draft revised standards utilizing descriptions developed by Coloradans and vetted by educators, policymakers, and citizens.

**Colorado's description of 21st century skills**

The 21st century skills are the synthesis of the essential abilities students must apply in our rapidly changing world. Today's students need a repertoire of knowledge and skills that are more diverse, complex, and integrated than any previous generation. Social studies is inherently demonstrated in each of Colorado 21st century skills, as follows:

**Critical Thinking and Reasoning** – Social studies is a discipline grounded in critical thinking and reasoning. Doing history, geography, civics and economics involves recognizing patterns and relationships across time and space. Social studies provide the structure that makes it possible to describe patterns that exist in nature and society.

**Information Literacy** – The disciplines of social studies equip students with tools and mental habits to organize and interpret a multitude of resources. A social studies student with information literacy skills can effectively analyze primary and secondary sources, detect bias, use learning tools, including technology, and clearly communicate thoughts using sound reasoning.

**Collaboration** – The content areas of social studies involve the give and take of ideas. In the course of understanding social studies, students offer ideas, strategies, solutions, justifications, and proofs for others to evaluate. In turn, the student interprets and evaluates the ideas, strategies, solutions, and justifications of others.

**Self-Direction** – Understanding social studies requires a productive disposition, curiosity and self-direction. This involves monitoring and assessing one's thinking and persisting to search for patterns, relationships, cause and effect, and an understanding of the events and people throughout time.

**Invention** – The social studies are a dynamic set of content area disciplines, ever expanding with new ideas and understandings. Invention is the key element as students make and test theories, create and use social studies tools, search for patterns and themes, and make connections among ideas, strategies and solutions.
**Colorado’s Description for School Readiness**  
*(Adopted by the State Board of Education, December 2008)*

School readiness describes both the preparedness of a child to engage in and benefit from learning experiences, and the ability of a school to meet the needs of all students enrolled in publicly funded preschools or kindergartens. School readiness is enhanced when schools, families, and community service providers work collaboratively to ensure that every child is ready for higher levels of learning in academic content.

**Colorado’s Description of Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness**  
*(Adopted by the State Board of Education, June 2009)*

Postsecondary and workforce readiness describes the knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential for high school graduates to be prepared to enter college and the workforce and to compete in the global economy. The description assumes students have developed consistent intellectual growth throughout their high school career as a result of academic work that is increasingly challenging, engaging, and coherent. Postsecondary education and workforce readiness assumes that students are ready and able to demonstrate the following without the need for remediation: Critical thinking and problem-solving; finding and using information/information technology; creativity and innovation; global and cultural awareness; civic responsibility; work ethic; personal responsibility; communication; and collaboration.

**How These Skills and Competencies are Embedded in the Revised Standards**

Three themes are used to describe these important skills and competencies and are interwoven throughout the standards: *inquiry questions; relevance and application; and the nature of each discipline*.

These competencies should not be thought of stand-alone concepts, but should be integrated throughout the curriculum in all grade levels. Just as it is impossible to teach thinking skills to students without the content to think about, it is equally impossible for students to understand the content of a discipline without grappling with complex questions and the investigation of topics.

**Inquiry Questions** – Inquiry is a multifaceted process requiring students to think and pursue understanding. Inquiry demands that students (a) engage in an active observation and questioning process; (b) investigate to gather evidence; (c) formulate explanations based on evidence; (d) communicate and justify explanations, and; (e) reflect and refine ideas. Inquiry is more than hands-on activities; it requires students to cognitively wrestle with core concepts as they make sense of new ideas.

**Relevance and Application** – The hallmark of learning a discipline is the ability to apply the knowledge, skills, and concepts in real-world, relevant contexts. Components of this include solving problems, developing, adapting, and refining solutions for the betterment of society. The application of a discipline, including how technology assists or accelerates the work, enables students to more fully appreciate how the mastery of the grade level expectation matters after formal schooling is complete.

**Nature of Discipline** – The unique advantage of a discipline is the perspective it gives the mind to see the world and situations differently. The characteristics and viewpoint one keeps as a result of mastering the grade level expectation is the nature of the discipline retained in the mind’s eye.
1. History

The study of history prepares students to develop critical thinking skills in an effort to explain the human experience through events of the past. Discerning clarity from the jumble of conflicting facts and sources, students get a clearer picture of how individuals, communities, and the world connect, both past and present. History develops moral understanding, defines identity and creates an appreciation of how things change, while building judgment and decision-making skills. History enhances the ability to read varied sources and develop the skills necessary to analyze, interpret, and communicate.

History inspires by exposing students to the wonders and beauty of the past. The historical perspective prepares for an ever-changing future by helping to understand changes in the past. It allows students to gain perspective and develop better judgment by discovering and uncovering the complexity of human beings. This allows students to better understand themselves as individuals and their place in a complex and often confusing society. History provides examples of ethical behavior and the context for change, and illustrates the importance of responsible members of society in both our country and our world.

History is a critical component in the future success of a student in the 21st century world. Inquiry is the central component of historical thinking. Students learn the skills of reading, interpreting and analyzing historical sources and develop the ability to craft a well-constructed and communicated historical argument. History teaches the interpretive, analytical, and critical thinking skills that will allow students to become productive citizens in the future.

Prepared Graduates
The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prepared Graduate Competencies in the History standards are:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>➢ Develop an understanding of how people view, construct, and interpret history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Analyze key historical periods and patterns of change over time within and across nations and cultures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Content Area: Social Studies
Standard: 1. History

**Prepared Graduates:**
- Develop an understanding of how people view, construct, and interpret history

**Grade Level Expectation: Second Grade**

**Concepts and skills students master:**
1. Identify historical sources and utilize the tools of a historian

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence Outcomes</th>
<th>21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Students can:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Inquiry Questions:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Identify community and regional historical artifacts and generate questions about their function and significance (DOK 1-3)</td>
<td>1. How can two people understand the same event differently?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Explain the past through oral or written firsthand accounts of history (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>2. Why is it important to use more than one source for information?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Explain the information conveyed by historical timelines (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>3. How can putting events in order by time help describe the past?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Identify history as the story of the past preserved in various sources (DOK 1)</td>
<td>4. What kinds of tools and sources do historical thinkers use to investigate the past?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Create timelines to understand the development of important community traditions and events (DOK 1-3)</td>
<td><strong>Relevance and Application:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. The ability to identify reliable historical sources is essential to searching for and communicating information. For example, individuals searching on the Internet must find reliable sources for information; reporters must find reliable information for news stories; and historians must use scholarly sources when writing nonfiction pieces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. The tools of historians are used to share thoughts and ideas about the past such as selecting a historical name for a building, school, park, or playground; recounting a news event in the neighborhood; and using a timeline to gauge progress toward the completion of a project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Nature of History:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Historical thinkers gather firsthand accounts of history through oral histories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Historical thinkers use artifacts and documents to investigate the past.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Content Area: Social Studies**  
**Standard: 1. History**

**Prepared Graduates:**
- Analyze key historical periods and patterns of change over time within and across nations and cultures

**Grade Level Expectation: Second Grade**

**Concepts and skills students master:**
2. People have influenced the history of neighborhoods and communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence Outcomes</th>
<th>21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students can:</td>
<td>Inquiry Questions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Organize the historical events of neighborhoods and communities chronologically (DOK 1)</td>
<td>1. How can understanding the past impact decision-making today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Compare and contrast past and present situations, people, and events in neighborhoods, communities, and the nation (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>2. How have events and ideas from the past shaped the identity of communities and neighborhoods today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Give examples of people and events, and developments that brought important changes to the community (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Compare how communities and neighborhoods are alike and different (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Describe the history, interaction, and contribution of the various peoples and cultures that have lived in or migrated to neighborhoods and communities (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Relevance and Application:**
1. Historical information and context are used to interpret, evaluate, and inform decisions or policies regarding current issues. For example, the history of a city determines how it might advertise for tourism purposes.
2. Philosophies and ideas from history continue to inform and impact the present. For example, the independent Western philosophy affects how local government works.
3. Technological developments continue to evolve and affect the present. An example of this would be the way communication is now almost instantaneous and thus, speeds up the nature of events.

**Nature of History:**
1. Historical thinkers investigate relationships between the past and present.
2. Historical thinkers organize findings in chronological order as one way to examine and describe the past.
2. Geography

The study of geography creates an informed person with an understanding of spatial perspective and technologies for spatial analysis; and an awareness of the interdependence of the world regions and resources, and how places are connected at the local, national, and global scales. Students understand the complexity and interrelatedness of people, places, and environments. Geography helps students appreciate the dynamic relationships and complexity of the world.

The skills, concepts, and knowledge acquired in geography are fundamental literacy components for a 21st century student. Use of critical thinking, information literacy, collaboration, self-direction, and invention are apparent in every facet of geographic education. Geography helps students develop a framework for understanding the world, ultimately contributing to the creation of informed citizens.

**Prepared Graduates**
The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

**Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Geography standard are:**
- Develop spatial understanding, perspectives, and personal connections to the world
- Examine places and regions and the connections among them
**Content Area:** Social Studies  
**Standard:** 2. Geography

---

**Prepared Graduates:**  
- Develop spatial understanding, perspectives, and personal connections to the world

---

**Grade Level Expectation:** Second Grade

**Concepts and skills students master:**  
1. Geographic terms and tools are used to describe space and place

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence Outcomes</th>
<th>21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Students can:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Inquiry Questions:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Use map keys, legends, symbols, intermediate directions, and compass rose to derive information from various maps (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>1. How do you define, organize, and think about the space around you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Identify and locate various physical features on a map (DOK 1)</td>
<td>2. What is a human feature versus a physical feature?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Identify the hemispheres, equator, and poles on a globe (DOK 1)</td>
<td>3. Why do we use geographical tools such as maps, globes, grids, symbols, and keys?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Identify and locate cultural, human, political, and natural features using map keys and legends (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>4. How would you describe a setting without using geographic words?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. How can using the wrong geographic tool or term cause problems?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Relevance and Application:**  
1. Individuals use geographic tools and technology such as observations, maps, globes, photos, satellite images, and geospatial software to describe space and uses of space.  
2. Individuals and businesses use maps to give directions.

**Nature of Geography:**  
1. Spatial thinkers use visual representations of the environment.  
2. Spatial thinkers identify data and reference points to understand space and place.
**Content Area:** Social Studies  
**Standard:** 2. Geography

**Prepared Graduates:**
- Examine places and regions and the connections among them

**Grade Level Expectation: Second Grade**

**Concepts and skills students master:**
2. People in communities manage, modify and depend on their environment

**Evidence Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students can:</th>
<th>21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Identify how communities manage and use nonrenewable and renewable resources (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>Inquiry Questions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Identify local boundaries in the community (DOK 1)</td>
<td>1. How do available resources and their uses create change in a community?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Explain why people settle in certain areas (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>2. Are renewable and nonrenewable resources managed well? How do you know?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Identify examples of physical features that affect human activity (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>3. Why are physical features often used as boundaries?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Describe how the size and the character of a community change over time for geographic reasons (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>4. What are the various groups in a community and how are they alike and different?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Inquiry Questions:**
- 1. How do available resources and their uses create change in a community?
- 2. Are renewable and nonrenewable resources managed well? How do you know?
- 3. Why are physical features often used as boundaries?
- 4. What are the various groups in a community and how are they alike and different?
- 5. How do you choose if you should recycle, reduce, reuse, or throw something away?

**Relevance and Application:**
1. Individuals and businesses understand that they must manage resources in the environment such as conserving water, safeguarding clean air, managing electricity needs, and reducing the amount of waste.
2. Communities collaborate to modify, manage, and depend on the environment. For example, elected officials decide how to manage resources, and communities may limit hunting, water usage, or other activities.
3. Geographic technology is used to gather, track, and communicate how resources might be managed or modified. For example, ski areas track snowfall rates, analyze data for avalanche danger and even create snow.

**Nature of Geography:**
1. Spatial thinkers compare information and data, and recognize that environmental factors influence change in communities.
2. Spatial thinkers study the uneven distribution and management of resources.
3. Economics

Economics and personal financial literacy teach students the skills, knowledge, and habits that they must master in order to contribute in a positive manner to society. Economics and personal financial literacy teach how to understand personal responsibility, set goals, create plans, evaluate choices, value entrepreneurship, comprehend globalization and international connections, and learn to make rational decisions through critical analysis.

Economics teaches students how society manages its scarce resources, how people make decisions, how people interact in the domestic and international markets, and how forces and trends affect the economy as a whole. Personal financial literacy applies the economic way of thinking to help understand how to manage scarce resources using a logical decision-making process that involves prioritization based on analysis of the costs and benefits of every choice.

Economics and personal financial literacy are essential to function effectively in personal lives, as participants in a global economy, and as citizens contributing to a strong national economy. As citizens, workers, consumers, savers, and investors, members of society must have a level of economic and personal financial literacy that enables them to understand how economies function and to apply economic analysis in their own lives.

Prepared Graduates

The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

**Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Economics Standard are:**
- Understand the allocation of scarce resources in societies through analysis of individual choice, market interaction, and public policy
- Acquire the knowledge and economic reasoning skills to make sound financial decisions
Content Area: Social Studies
Standard: 3. Economics

Prepared Graduates:
- Understand the allocation of scarce resources in societies through analysis of individual choice, market interaction, and public policy

Grade Level Expectation: Second Grade

Concepts and skills students master:
1. The scarcity of resources affects the choices of individuals and communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Students can:
- Explain scarcity (DOK 1)
- Identify goods and services and recognize examples of each (DOK 1)
- Give examples of choices people make when resources are scarce (DOK 1-2)
- Identify possible solutions when there are limited resources and unlimited demands (DOK 1-2)

Inquiry Questions:
1. How does scarcity affect purchasing decisions?
2. What goods and services do you use?
3. How are resources used in various communities?
4. What are some ways to find out about the goods and services used in other communities?

Relevance and Application:
1. Comparison of prices of goods and services in relationship to limited income helps to make informed and financially sound decisions.
2. Decisions must be made if there is a limited amount of income and the need for a costly good or service. For example, you may borrow, save, or get a new job to make the purchase. (PFL)
3. Scarcity of resources affects decisions such as where to buy resources based on cost or where to locate a business.

Nature of Economics:
1. Economic thinkers analyze how goods and services are produced and priced.
2. Economic thinkers analyze scarcity of resources and its impact on cost of goods and services.
Content Area: Social Studies
Standard: 3. Economics

Prepared Graduates:
- Acquire the knowledge and economic reasoning skills to make sound financial decisions (PFL)

Grade Level Expectation: Second Grade

Concepts and skills students master:
2. Apply decision-making processes to financial decisions (PFL)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence Outcomes</th>
<th>21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students can:</td>
<td>Inquiry Questions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Identify components of financial decision-making including gathering, evaluating, and prioritizing information based on a financial goal, and predicting the possible outcome of a decision (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>1. How do individuals make and analyze the consequences of financial decisions?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Differentiate between a long-term and a short-term goal (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>2. How do individuals meet their short- and long-term goals?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Relevance and Application:
1. Personal financial decisions are based on responsible evaluation of the consequences.
2. Purchase decisions are based on such things as quality, price, and personal goals. For example, you decide whether to spend money on candy or the movies.

Nature of Economics:
1. Financially responsible individuals use good decision-making tools in planning their spending and saving.
4. Civics

Civics has an impact on every individual daily through the work of city councils, state legislatures, Congress and school boards. Civics teaches students the complexity of the origins, structure, and functions of governments; the rights, roles, and responsibilities of ethical citizenship; the importance of law; and the skills necessary to participate in all levels of government.

Civics is a foundational component of the educational experience and critical to the continued success of our society. A democratic and free society relies on the skills, intelligence, engagement and virtue of its citizens. Our students will one day be responsible for strengthening our civic culture based on the knowledge they learn at school, their own values, and their choices for action. Democracy demands that they have these tools to be responsible contributors to civic culture.

Prepared Graduates
The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

**Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Civics standard are:**

- Analyze and practice rights, roles, and responsibilities of citizens
- Analyze the origins, structure, and functions of governments and their impacts on societies and citizens
### Content Area: Social Studies

**Standard: 4. Civics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prepared Graduates:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▶️ Analyze and practice rights, roles, and responsibilities of citizens</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Grade Level Expectation: Second Grade

**Concepts and skills students master:**

1. Responsible community members advocate for their ideas

#### Evidence Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students can:</th>
<th>21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. List ways that people express their ideas respectfully (DOK 1)</td>
<td>Inquiry Questions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Identify how people monitor and influence decisions in their community (DOK 1-3)</td>
<td>1. What are beliefs that help people live together in communities?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Describe ways in which you can take an active part in improving your school or community (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>2. What civic responsibilities do you think are important?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Identify and give examples of civic responsibilities that are important to individuals, families, and communities (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>3. How can different cultures and beliefs influence a community?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Describe important characteristics of a responsible community member (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>4. What are responsible ways to advocate ideas in a community?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Inquiry Questions:

1. What are beliefs that help people live together in communities?
2. What civic responsibilities do you think are important?
3. How can different cultures and beliefs influence a community?
4. What are responsible ways to advocate ideas in a community?

#### Relevance and Application:

1. Ideas are promoted through the use of various media such as blogs, websites, flyers, and newsletters.
2. Individuals collaborate to responsibly advocate for the ideas they think will improve society. For example, a group lobbies the city council to create a new park or employ more firefighters.

#### Nature of Civics:

1. Responsible community members influence the rules, policies, and law in their communities.
Content Area: Social Studies
Standard: 4. Civics

**Prepared Graduates:**
- Analyze origins, structure, and functions of governments and their impacts on societies and citizens

**Grade Level Expectation: Second Grade**

**Concepts and skills students master:**
2. People use multiple ways to resolve conflicts or differences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence Outcomes</th>
<th>21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students can:</td>
<td>Inquiry Questions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Give examples of ways that individuals, groups, and communities manage conflict and promote equality, justice, and responsibility (DOK 1-2)</td>
<td>1. What happens when someone uses power unwisely?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Identify examples of power and authority and strategies that could be used to address an imbalance, including bullying as power without authority (DOK 1-3)</td>
<td>2. What are good ways to solve differences?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Identify and give examples of appropriate and inappropriate uses of power and the consequences (DOK 1-3)</td>
<td>3. What would it be like if everyone was friends?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Demonstrate skills to resolve conflicts or differences (DOK 1-3)</td>
<td>4. What do equality, justice, and responsibility look like in the world?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Relevance and Application:**
1. Conflict can arise for many reasons, including lack of information, or value or personality differences, and conflict may be resolved through compromise, competition, collaboration or avoidance. For example, parents may compromise about where to live.
2. Various forms of conflict resolution are used to solve conflicts and differences. For example, city councils may call for a public hearing to learn what the community thinks about a new jail or library.

**Nature of Civics:**
1. Responsible community members know democratic and undemocratic principles and practices and how they are used in diverse communities.
2. Responsible community members examine how culture influences the disposition of rules, laws, rights, and responsibilities.
3. Responsible community members understand that power and authority shape individual participation.