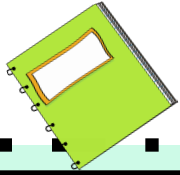


2nd Grade Social Studies!

Writing Prompts



Over 60 No-Prep Writing Activities!
Great for Classwork & Writing Centers!



Communities

Social Studies Fact: A community is a group of people who live or work in the same place. Communities can be large like city communities or small like neighborhoods. Example: You are part of a school community.

Prompt: Describe all of the different communities you and your family live in. Describe the similarities and differences between the communities.



Natural Resources

Social Studies Fact: A natural resource is something found in nature that people can use. Water is a natural resource that people use for many things. Some other natural resources that people use are trees, soil, and air.

Prompt: Choose a natural resource and describe how you use it in your life. Explain how your life would be different without this natural resource.



Maps

Social Studies Fact: Maps are drawings that show a place's location, or where they are. Maps show neighborhoods, cities, states, and countries. You can find maps on paper or on a computer. Maps can help people find their way to many places around the world.

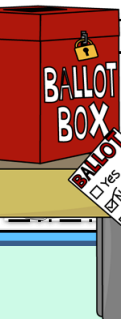
Prompt: Imagine that you are visiting a new city for the first time. Explain how having a map would be helpful during this time. Describe all of the ways you would use the map.



Islands and Peninsulas

Social Studies Fact: A landform is a kind of land with a special shape. Islands are landforms that are surrounded by water on all sides. They can be large or small. Some islands are connected to land by bridges, while others can only be reached by plane or boat. Peninsulas are surrounded by water on three sides, but are connected to land on the remaining side.

Prompt: Write the ways that islands and peninsulas are alike and different. Describe which of these landforms you would rather live on, and why.



Services

Social Studies Fact: A business is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The things people do for others are called services. Example: Putting out fires is a service that firefighters do. Singing is a service that singers do to entertain others at concerts.

Prompt: Think of someone who provides a service at your school. Describe this service and how it helps you and your classmates.

Producers

Social Studies Fact: A business is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The people who make the goods or provide the services are called producers. Example: A baker who makes cakes to sell is a producer. A dentist who provides the service of cleaning teeth is a producer.

Prompt: You can be a producer too! What is a product or service you can offer to your friends and family? Describe how you would make it, and how much money you would charge for it.

Consumers

Social Studies Fact: A business is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The people who buy the goods or services are called consumers. Example: A person who buys a house from a real estate agent is a consumer. We are consumers when we buy food from the grocery store to eat.

Prompt: Describe some of the ways you and your family are consumers in your everyday life. Include what kinds of goods and services you buy, where you get them, and how much you pay for them.

Executive Branch of Government

Social Studies Fact: The President of the United States is the executive branch of government. The President has many roles and responsibilities, such as carrying out the laws made by Congress. The President sees that things get done to make the country a good place to live. The first President of the United States was George Washington.

Prompt: Imagine that you are running for President of the United States. Write a speech telling the citizens why you would make a great President. Describe the things you would do to make the country a better place.



Mini-Versions Of
Each Prompt
Included

Social Studies Information Included on
Every Page-No Textbook Needed!



About This Resource:

Topics Covered in the Prompts:

- ❖ Communities
- ❖ Citizens
- ❖ Wants and Needs
- ❖ Laws
- ❖ City/State Governments
- ❖ Producers/Consumers
- ❖ Country Governments
- ❖ Branches of Government
- ❖ Qualities of a Good Citizen
- ❖ Landforms
- ❖ Natural Resources
- ❖ Culture
- ❖ American Heroes
- ❖ Goods/Services
- ❖ And MUCH MORE!

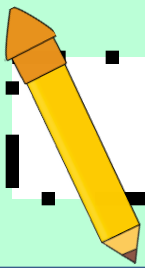
Three sample worksheets are shown, each with a title, a social studies fact, a prompt, and a writing area.

Citizens
Date: _____
Name: _____
Social Studies Fact: A citizen is a person who belongs to a community. Citizens have different roles in their communities. A role is a citizen's part in his/her community. Example: Some of your roles might be: student, club member, friend, brother/sister, and helper.
Prompt: Choose one of your roles in your school community. Describe how this role is important and how it helps your teacher and classmates.
Writing area: _____

Services
Date: _____
Name: _____
Social Studies Fact: A business is an activity where people make things or provide services to use in exchange for money. The things people do for others are called services. Putting out fires is a service that firefighters do. Singing is a service that musicians do.
Prompt: Think of someone who provides a service at your school. Describe the service and how it helps you and your classmates.
Writing area: _____

Hills and Plains
Date: _____
Name: _____
Social Studies Fact: A landform is a kind of land with a special shape. A hill is a landform that rises above the land around it. People can roll down hills for fun. Plains are flat landforms that stretch as far as the eye can see. Many farms are located on plains because there is a lot of room for the animals to move around.
Prompt: Would you rather spend the day exploring sloping hills or long flat plains? Choose one and explain why you chose this landform, what you would do there, and who you would take with you.
Writing area: _____

Great for students to boost their science knowledge while they strengthen their writing skills!



Bonus Features:

- ❖ **Facts and Information-** Students do not need a textbook to complete these writing activities! Information about the topic with examples are included before the prompt, so students can use this information to guide them through their writing.
- ❖ **Early Finisher Work-** There is a box on each page for students to illustrate the topic and their writing. This is great for students to work on when they finish before their classmates!
- ❖ **Mini-Versions-** All prompts are included on cards without lines or boxes. This is perfect for laminating and putting in a center so you don't have to print class sets. They also are great for an early finisher station. Students can grab a card at any time for an engaging writing activity.

Natural Resources

Social Studies Fact: A **natural resource** is something found in nature that people can use. Water is a natural resource that people use for many things. Some other natural resources that people use are trees, soil, and air.

Prompt: Choose a natural resource and describe how you use it in your life. Explain how your life would be different without this natural resource.

Name: _____

Date: _____



Communities

Social Studies Fact: A **community** is a group of people who live or work together in the same place. Communities can be large like city communities or small like neighborhood communities. Example: You are part of a school community.

Prompt: Describe all of the different communities you and your family belong to. Explain the similarities and differences between the communities.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Citizens

Social Studies Fact: A **citizen** is a person who belongs to a community. Citizens have different roles in their communities. A **role** is a citizen's part in his/her community. Example: Some of your roles might be: student, club member, friend, brother/sister, and helper.

Prompt: Choose one of your roles in your school community. Describe how this role is important and how it helps your teacher and classmates.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Rules

Social Studies Fact: Communities have **rules** which say what must or must not be done. A good rule is **fair**, which means that it is honest and just. Rules help to keep citizens safe and communities in order.

Prompt: List your class rules. Explain how each rule helps keep you and your classmates safe and the classroom in order. Describe which rule you think is the most important.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Neighborhoods

Social Studies Fact: Neighborhoods are the part of the community in which you live. There are many different buildings and places in neighborhoods around the world. Example: Most neighborhoods have houses, post offices, police stations, and grocery stores.

Prompt: Choose 3 places in your neighborhood. Explain why you think your neighborhood has these places and what would happen if they were not around.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Maps

Social Studies Fact: **Maps** are drawings that show a place's **location**, or where they are. There are maps of neighborhoods, cities, states, and countries. You can find maps on paper or on the internet. Maps can help people find their way to many places around the world.

Prompt: Imagine that you are visiting a new city for the first time. Explain how having a map could be helpful during this time. Describe all of the ways you would use the map.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Cities, States, and Countries

Social Studies Fact: Everyone lives in a home, which is part of a neighborhood. A group of neighborhoods form a **city**. A group of cities form a **state**, and a group of states form a **country**. Example: The city of New Orleans is in the state Louisiana, which is in the country the United States.

Prompt: List your city, state, and country. Describe your favorite and least favorite parts of living in here. Then name a city, state, or country that you would like to visit.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Change

Social Studies Fact: Change is a natural part of life. People, buildings, and communities **change**, or become different, over time. Example: You see changes in a house over time. Owners of houses can change the furniture, paint colors, and even the rooms of a house as time goes on.

Prompt: Think back to when you were a baby. Describe all of the ways you have changed from then to now. Also, include some ways you have stayed the same.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Needs

Social Studies Fact: **Needs** are things you must have to survive. You need water in order to live, so water is a need. Some other needs are shelter, clothing, and food.

Prompt: Choose one need that you have. Write about how this need helps you survive, and what would happen if you did not have it.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Wants

Social Studies Fact: **Wants** are things you'd like to have but do not need. You might want a new video game, but you will still be able to live if you don't get it. Some other examples of wants are TVs, iPads, skateboards, makeup, and jewelry.

Prompt: List some wants you would like to have. Describe why you want these items and what will happen if you do not get them.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Laws

Social Studies Fact: A **government** is a group of citizens that run a community. They are responsible for keeping order in the community, and for keeping the other citizens safe. They accomplish this by having **laws**, or rules that the people must follow. Example: Many communities have laws against littering. These laws tell citizens they must not litter and they must throw their trash in a trash can or recycling bin. If they do litter they will have to pay a **fine**, or money, to the government.

Prompt: Choose another law, or rule, that your community must follow. Explain why this law is important and what will happen if someone breaks this law.



Name: _____

Date: _____



City Governments

Social Studies Fact: Most community, or city, governments are made up of three parts: a **mayor**, a **council**, and a **court**. A **mayor** is a leader of a city or town government who makes sure things get done so the community can be a good, safe place to live. A **council** is a group of people who meet and talk about how to solve any problems in the community. A **court** is where a judge decides whether a person has broken a law or not, and what his/her consequences will be to make sure everyone is treated fairly.

Prompt: Explain how mayors, councils, and courts work together to keep everyone in a community safe and happy. Describe what you think would happen to a community who did not have these parts.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Government Services

Social Studies Fact: A **government service** is something that all citizens are welcome to use in a community. Examples of government services are police stations, parks, post offices, and schools.

Prompt: List some government services found in your community, and describe how you and the other citizens of your community use them. Explain why you think government services are important to a community.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Taxes

Social Studies Fact: **Taxes** are money paid by citizens to the government so there will be enough money to pay for community services. Example: If a library is getting old and run down, the government will use the community's tax money to repair it for everyone to use.

Prompt: Imagine that you are the mayor of a town. Describe 3 ways you would use tax money to improve the services in your community.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Community Leaders

Social Studies Fact: Citizens of a town, city, or country choose some of their leaders through **elections**. Elections are times when people get to vote for which person they want to be their leader. Whichever person gets the most votes will become the next leader.

Prompt: Imagine that you are voting for a new leader in your community. Describe what qualities this leader should have, how they should treat others, and what they should do for the citizens of your community.



Name: _____

Date: _____



State Governments

Social Studies Fact: A **state government** is similar to a city government but is much larger. The main parts that make up a state government are the **governor**, the **legislature**, and the **courts**. The **governor** suggests laws for the state and makes sure they are followed. The **legislature** makes laws for the state and makes sure they are fair for all citizens. The **courts** are places where judges decide if people have broken laws or not, and what consequences they should receive.

Prompt: Choose a law you must follow in your state. Describe how that law was created, who helps to enforce it, and what would happen if that law was broken.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Property

Social Studies Fact: A state government protects its citizens and their property. **Property** is what belongs to a person or a group. Your toys, backpack, and school supplies are all your property. Your house is your parents' property. The state government often helps those whose property is damaged in a disaster like a flood or a fire.

Prompt: Describe some of the property that you own. Explain how you got these things and how you take care of and protect them.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Our Country's Government

Social Studies Fact: There are three **branches**, or parts, in the United States government. Each branch has a different job to do. The **legislative branch** is Congress who makes the laws, the **executive branch** is the President who carries out the laws, and the **judicial branch** is the courts who make sure people obey the laws and give consequences to those who don't.

Prompt: Describe how the three branches of government work together to make our country a better place. Explain what would happen if one of these branches did not exist.



Name: _____

Date: _____



The Legislative Branch of Government

Social Studies Fact: **Congress** is the **legislative branch** of government. Congress is a group of people that make the laws for our country to follow. These laws help keep people safe and make sure there is order in the country.

Prompt: Imagine that you are a member of the United States Congress. What is one law you would create to make our country a better and safer place to live? Describe what this law would be like and what would happen if people broke this law.



Name: _____

Date: _____



The Executive Branch of Government

Social Studies Fact: The **President** of the United States is the **executive branch** of government. The President has many roles and responsibilities, such as carrying out the laws made by Congress. The President sees that things get done to make the country a good place to live. The first President of the United States was George Washington.

Prompt: Imagine that you are running for President of the United States. Write a speech telling the citizens why you would make a great President. Describe the things you would do to make the country a better place.



Name: _____

Date: _____



The Judicial Branch of Government

Social Studies Fact: The **courts** are the **judicial branch** of government. The courts make sure the laws are working fairly and give consequences to those who are not following the laws. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the United States and is made up of nine appointed judges.

Prompt: Imagine that you are one of the nine Supreme Court judges. What would you do to make sure the laws are fair? Describe what you would do if you realized that a law was not fair.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Independence Day

Social Studies Fact: Independence Day is celebrated on July 4th. On this day in 1776, a group of American leaders signed the **Declaration of Independence**, which declared that they would no longer be ruled by the King of England. We celebrate our freedom from England every day on this year by gathering with family and friends.

Prompt: How do you celebrate Independence Day, or the Fourth of July? Describe what you could do with your family and friends to celebrate your freedom on this special day.



Name: _____

Date: _____



The National Anthem

Social Studies Fact: An **anthem** is an official song of a country. The United State's national anthem is "The Star-Spangled Banner," which Francis Scott Key wrote about our country's flag staying up even through war and disaster. This showed that America could survive anything and that we were a strong country.

Prompt: Write another anthem for The United States. Include in your song what you love about this country and what we can do to make our country proud.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Qualities of a Good Citizen-Patriotism

Social Studies Fact: Patriotism is the feeling of pride people have for their country. You can show your patriotism by what you say and do. Example: When we say the Pledge of Allegiance, celebrate patriotic holidays, and fly the American flag we are showing our patriotism.

Prompt: Describe some ways you can show patriotism to your country. Include how you can get your friends and family to show their patriotism as well.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Qualities of a Good Citizen-Individualism

Social Studies Fact: **Individualism** is when someone believes in themselves and what they know is right, even if it goes against what most people believe. Example: Jackie Robinson grew up during a time when African Americans did not play on Major League Baseball teams. He joined one anyway and helped many other African Americans fight against racism.

Prompt: How can you show your individualism? Write about a time when you have thought about or done things differently than most people in your class or community. Describe what challenges you faced and how you felt about what you were doing.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Qualities of a Good Citizen-Honesty

Social Studies Fact: **Honesty** is telling the truth no matter how hard it is. Example: Abraham Lincoln was the 16th President of the United States. He always told the truth even when it was difficult, and he was given the nickname "Honest Abe."

Prompt: Imagine that you are at the store and you see someone steal a candy bar from the counter. Describe what you would do, and how you would use honesty to help you.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Qualities of a Good Citizen-Fairness

Social Studies Fact: Fairness is making sure things are right and just for all citizens.
Example: Susan B. Anthony knew it was not fair that women could not vote many years ago. She fought for women's rights and helped women get the right to vote.

Prompt: Write a story about someone treating your friend unfairly. Describe how you would use the quality of fairness to help.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Qualities of a Good Citizen-Responsibility

Social Studies Fact: **Responsibility** is having the job or duty of dealing with and taking care of something or someone. Someone who is responsible can be trusted to do what is right even when it is difficult. Example: Harriet Tubman showed great responsibility when she led hundreds of slaves to freedom through the Underground Railroad. This was very dangerous, but she knew it was the right thing to do.

Prompt: Write about how you can show responsibility in your daily life. Describe what you would do, how you would do it, and who this would help.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Qualities of a Good Citizen-Courage

Social Studies Fact: **Courage** is being brave and facing danger without showing fear, even when something is very scary. Example: Helen Keller is a woman who could not hear or speak. This was very scary for her, but she had the courage to learn how to speak and write. She was brave enough to share her story with thousands of people by speaking and writing books.

Prompt: Think about a time when you or someone you know showed courage. Describe where you were, what happened, and how you felt during this time.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Qualities of a Good Citizen-Kindness

Social Studies Fact: Kindness is caring about other people and doing whatever you can to help them in a nice way. Example: Mother Theresa showed great kindness all throughout her life. She gave food, clothing, and shelter to thousands of poor people around the world. She even won the Nobel Peace Prize for these kind acts.

Prompt: Write about how you can show kindness to someone you know. Explain what you will do, how you will do it, and how it will help this person.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Facts and Opinions

Social Studies Fact: **Facts** are things that can be proven with evidence. For example, "Thomas Jefferson was the 3rd President of the United States" is a fact because it can be proven. An **opinion** is an idea that someone believes is true but cannot be proven. People can have different opinions. Example: "Thomas Jefferson was the best President" is an opinion because it cannot be proven and not everyone thinks this is true.

Prompt: Write one fact and one opinion. Explain how you know one is a fact and one is an opinion.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Mountains and Valleys

Social Studies Fact: A **landform** is a kind of land with a special shape. **Mountains** are extremely tall landforms that form a point high in the sky. It can be very cold at the top of a mountain and very warm at the bottom of the same mountain. **Valleys** are very low land between mountains. The weather stays the same throughout the valley and they often have streams or rivers flowing through them.

Prompt: Describe the characteristics of mountains and valleys, and explain the differences between them. Also write about which of these two landforms you would rather live on and why.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Hills and Plains

Social Studies Fact: A **landform** is a kind of land with a special shape. A **hill** is a landform that rises above the land around it. People can roll down hills for fun. **Plains** are flat landforms that stretch as far as the eye can see. Many farms are located on plains because there is a lot of room for the animals to move around.

Prompt: Would you rather spend the day exploring sloping hills or long flat plains? Choose one and explain why you chose this landform, what you would do there, and who you would take with you.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Islands and Peninsulas

Social Studies Fact: A **landform** is a kind of land with a special shape. **Islands** are landforms that are surrounded by water on all sides. They can be large or small. Some islands are connected to land by bridges, while others can only be reached by plane or boat. **Peninsulas** are surrounded by water on three sides, but are connected to land on the remaining side.

Prompt: Write the ways that islands and peninsulas are alike and different. Describe which of these landforms you would rather live on, and why.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Rivers and Lakes

Social Studies Fact: Rivers and lakes are both bodies of water. **Rivers** are streams of water that flow across land. The longest river in the United States is the Mississippi River that flows from Minnesota to Louisiana. **Lakes** are low spots on land that fill up with water. Often, rivers flow out of lakes to form rivers. Water flows out of Lake Itasca to form the Mississippi River.

Prompt: Imagine that you are taking a boat trip starting in Lake Itasca and going down the Mississippi River. Describe what you would bring with you, and what kinds of things would you see on your trip. Include what the best and the worst parts of your trip would be.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Continents

Social Studies Fact: The world is made up of land and water. There are seven main areas of land, or **continents** on the Earth. The seven continents are: Asia, Africa, Antarctica, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America. The United States is a country in North America.

Prompt: Describe the continent you live on and explain what other continent you would like to visit and why. Include what you would hope to see and do on this new continent.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Oceans

Social Studies Fact: The world is made up of land and water. There are four large **oceans** on the Earth. The four oceans are the Pacific Ocean, The Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, and the Arctic Ocean. Oceans connect the continents of the Earth.

Prompt: Describe how oceans can help us travel to different places on the Earth. Choose a place that you would like to travel to by ocean, and explain why you chose this place.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Cardinal Directions

Social Studies Fact: You can find the North Pole and the South Pole on opposite sides of a world. These help you describe directions. There are four different **cardinal directions**. They are north, south, east, and west. **South** is the direction down towards the South Pole. **North** is the direction up towards the North Pole. **East** is the direction to your right, and **west** is the direction to your left.

Prompt: Look to the north, south, east, and west of you. Describe what you see when you look to each of these cardinal directions.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Natural Resources

Social Studies Fact: A **natural resource** is something found in nature that people can use. Water is a natural resource that people use for many things. Some other natural resources that people use are trees, soil, and air.

Prompt: Choose a natural resource and describe how you use it in your life. Explain how your life would be different without this natural resource.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Conserving Resources

Social Studies Fact: A **natural resource** is something found in nature that people can use like water, soil, and air. There are six billion people in the world who all use the Earth's resources. It is important that we **conserve**, or save, these resources to make them last longer. One way of conserving resources is recycling. Recycling is when you use something again that you have already used. You can recycle an old soup can by using it to hold flowers.

Prompt: Describe one way you can conserve Earth's resources by recycling. Include what you would recycle, how you would reuse it, and why it is important to recycle.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Pollution

Social Studies Fact: A **natural resource** is something found in nature that people can use like water, soil, and air. When these resources become dirty this is called **pollution**. Pollution is harmful to us, because we cannot survive without Earth's resources. An example of pollution is littering, or throwing trash on the ground.

Prompt: Create a way to stop littering in your community. Describe what you would do, where you would do it, and who you would get to help you.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Cultures

Social Studies Fact: A **culture** is the way a group of people live. This includes what they believe, what they eat, how they dress, and how they speak. America is full of people with many different cultures. Example: Many people from the Hispanic culture speak Spanish and enjoy eating spicy foods.

Prompt: Describe the cultures in your community. Explain how they are alike and different from each other.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Immigrants

Social Studies Fact: **Immigrants** are people that come from one country or continent to live in another. Many immigrants came to the United States when it was discovered. They sailed here in big ships with all of their belongings.

Prompt: Imagine that an immigrant from another country came to live in your neighborhood and go to your school. Describe how you think this new student would feel, and explain what you would do to make him/her feel welcome.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Family Heritage and Traditions

Social Studies Fact: A **heritage** is a culture that is passed down from family to family over many years. A family that has been living in one location hundreds of years has a long heritage there. People from the same heritage often have several traditions, or special ways of doing things. Example: Many people from the Jewish heritage celebrate the holiday Hanukkah every year.

Prompt: What are some traditions you and your family have each year. Describe what they are, how long you have been doing them, and which are your favorites.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Community Celebrations

Social Studies Fact: Americans celebrate many special days, or **holidays**, that began in other parts of the world and came to America as people from different cultures moved here. Example: "Mardi Gras" is a holiday celebrated in many southern states with parades and lots of food.

Prompt: What is your favorite holiday? Describe why it is your favorite by explaining what you do, where you go, and who you celebrate this holiday with.



Name: _____

Date: _____



President's Day

Social Studies Fact: George Washington was the first President of the United States, and Abraham Lincoln was the 16th. These are two of the most well-known Presidents. Because they were both born in February, we celebrate President's Day on the 3rd Monday of that month each year. We honor all of the great Presidents our country has had on this day.

Prompt: Describe your favorite President that the United States has had. Explain why this President is your favorite and what they have done for our country.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Communication

Social Studies Fact: Communication is the spreading of ideas between people. Many years ago people could only spread ideas through talking face to face. They did not have phones and many people did not know how to read or write. Now there are several different ways to communicate with one another, even when we are not together.

Prompt: Describe two ways that people can communicate with each other. Compare and contrast (find what is alike and different about) these two forms of communication and explain which one you use the most.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Ancient and Modern Times

Social Studies Fact: The world was very different a long, long time ago, or in **ancient times**. People measured time by the growing seasons, such as how long it took to grow and harvest a certain crop. They recorded this on a calendar. Today, or in **modern times**, we use a calendar to record days, weeks, and months of a year.

Prompt: We live in modern times, so we keep track of time in days, weeks, and months. Do you think this an easier or more difficult way of keeping track of time than using the growing seasons? Explain your answer and why you chose it on the lines below.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Learning About the Past

Social Studies Fact: We learn about history through stories people have told about the **past**. The past can have taken place thousands of years ago or just last week. The people who tell us these stories and give us information about the past are called **sources**. Books and websites can be sources that tell us about the past too.

Prompt: If you wanted to learn more about the past, who is a source you could ask? Explain why you chose this person and describe what questions you would ask him/her.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Museums

Social Studies Fact: **Museums** are valuable resources that teach us about history. Museums contain many sources that share information about the past such as **artifacts**, or objects from the past. Museums are also full of information from people who lived during the past.

Prompt: Choose a museum that you have been to or would like to go to. Describe what parts of history you can learn from this museum. Also include your favorite and least favorite parts of this museum.



Name: _____

Date: _____



The First Thanksgiving Day

Social Studies Fact: We celebrate **Thanksgiving** each year to remember the **Pilgrims** and the **Indians** who helped start our country. The Pilgrims were the first English settlers in the United States, and the Wampanoag Indians were generous enough to show them how to fish and grow food to survive there. They all came together to give thanks for the first harvest by eating their bountiful crops and sharing with each other.

Prompt: Write about what you do to celebrate Thanksgiving. Include who is there and what you eat and do. Describe how this is similar and different from the first Thanksgiving.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Memorial Day

Social Studies Fact: The **Civil War** was fought between the North and the South of the United States. The South wanted to start their own country, while the North wanted to keep the country together. The North won, and the country stayed together, but many people lost their lives during this war. We celebrate **Memorial Day** each year to remember those who fought and died during the Civil War.

Prompt: Memorial Day is a great way to remember all of the soldiers who have fought to protect our country. Write some ways that you can show respect and thanks for our soldiers on Memorial Day.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Thurgood Marshall

Social Studies Fact: When **Thurgood Marshall** was applying to law schools, many would not accept him because he was black. He worked hard and became a lawyer before becoming the first African American Supreme Court Justice. He is a hero for African Americans and people everywhere.

Prompt: Imagine that you could meet Thurgood Marshall. Describe what you would say to him, what you would thank him for, and how you think he would act.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Businesses

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. There are millions of different businesses all over the world. Example: A hospital is a business that provides the service of helping people get well. Apple is a business that makes iPhones and computers to sell.

Prompt: Imagine that you are starting a new business. Describe what you would sell, and who you would sell it to.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Goods

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The things or items that people make in a business are called **goods**. Goods are things you can touch. Example: The shirt that a designer makes is a good. The chair that a carpenter makes is another good.

Prompt: Name some goods that you can see in your classroom. Describe how you think they were built or made.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Services

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The things people do for others are called **services**. Example: Putting out fires is a service that firefighters do. Singing is a service that singers do to entertain others at concerts.

Prompt: Think of someone who provides a service at your school. Describe this service and how it helps you and your classmates.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Producers

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The people who make the goods or provide the services are called **producers**. Example: A baker who makes cakes to sell is a producer. A dentist who provides the service of cleaning teeth is a producer.

Prompt: You can be a producer too! What is a product or service you can offer to your friends and family? Describe how you would produce it, and how much money you would charge for it.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Consumers

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The people who buy the goods or services are called **consumers**. Example: A person who buys a house from a real estate agent is a consumer. We are consumers when we buy food from the grocery store to eat.

Prompt: Describe some of the ways you and your family are consumers in your everyday life. Include what kinds of goods and services you buy, where you get them, and how much you pay for them.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Income

Social Studies Fact: People make goods or provide services to earn money. The money you make from this is called your **income**. Many people spend some of their income and save the rest. Most people earn their income from their jobs. Example: Gardeners earn their income by planting flowers and plants for people. Bakers earn their income by making and selling sweet treats.

Prompt: Choose someone that you know who earns an income. Describe how they earn this money and what they do with their income.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Spending and Saving

Social Studies Fact: It is important to be responsible with the money you get. People **spend** some of their money to buy things they need or want. People also **save** some of their money for emergencies or until they have enough to buy certain items. You can save your money by putting it in a **bank**. A bank is a business that keeps money safe. If you put money in a bank it can earn **interest**, or extra money that you can have when you take your money out.

Prompt: Imagine that your friend gave you twenty dollars for your birthday. Describe what you would do with that money and why.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Trade

Social Studies Fact: Sometimes the goods that citizens need or want are made in other countries. Countries can get goods from other places by making a trade. **Trade** is the exchange of one thing for another. Example: China might send 100 radios to the United States, and the United States might send them 100 chairs in return.

Prompt: You might not be able to trade things with different countries right now, but you can practice trade with your classmates. Imagine that your friend has a box of candy that you really want. Describe what you could trade him/her for the candy and how you could make sure it is a fair trade.



Communities

Social Studies Fact: A **community** is a group of people who live or work together in the same place. Communities can be large, such as a city community, or small like in a neighborhood community. Example: You are part of a school community.

Prompt: Describe all of the different communities you and your family belong to. Explain the similarities and differences between the communities.

Citizens

Social Studies Fact: A **citizen** is a person who belongs to a community. Citizens have different roles in their communities. A **role** is a citizen's part in his/her community. Example: Some of your roles might be: student, club member, friend, brother/sister, and helper.

Prompt: Choose one of your roles in your school community. Describe how this role is important and how it helps your teacher and classmates.

Rules

Social Studies Fact: Communities have **rules** which say what must or must not be done. A good rule is **fair**, which means that it is honest and just. Rules help to keep citizens safe and communities in order.

Prompt: List your class rules. Explain how each rule helps keep you and your classmates safe and the classroom in order. Describe which rule you think is the most important.

Neighborhoods

Social Studies Fact: **Neighborhoods** are the part of the community in which you live. There are many different buildings and places in neighborhoods around the world. Example: Most neighborhoods have houses, post offices, police stations, and grocery stores.

Prompt: Choose 3 places in your neighborhood. Explain why you think your neighborhood has these places and what would happen if they were not around.

Maps

Social Studies Fact: **Maps** are drawings that show a place's **location**, or where they are. There are maps of neighborhoods, cities, states, and countries. You can find maps on paper or on the internet. Maps can help people find their way to many places around the world.

Prompt: Imagine that you are visiting a new city for the first time. Explain how having a map could be helpful during this time. Describe all of the ways you would use the map.

Cities, States, and Countries

Social Studies Fact: Everyone lives in a home, which is part of a neighborhood. A group of neighborhoods form a **city**. A group of cities form a **state**, and a group of states form a **country**. Example: The city of New Orleans is in the state Louisiana, which is in the country the United States.

Prompt: List your city, state, and country. Describe your favorite and least favorite parts of living in here. Then name a city, state, or country that you would like to visit.

Change

Social Studies Fact: Change is a natural part of life. People, buildings, and communities **change**, or become different, over time. Example: You see changes in a house over time. Owners of houses can change the furniture, paint colors, and even the rooms of a house as time goes on.

Prompt: Think back to when you were a baby. Describe all of the ways you have changed from then to now. Also, include some ways you have stayed the same.

Needs

Social Studies Fact: **Needs** are things you must have to survive. You need water in order to live, so water is a need. Some other needs are shelter, clothing, and food.

Prompt: Choose one need that you have. Write about how this need helps you survive, and what would happen if you did not have it.

Wants

Social Studies Fact: **Wants** are things you'd like to have but do not need. You might want a new video game, but you will still be able to live if you don't get it. Some other examples of wants are TVs, iPads, skateboards, makeup, and jewelry.

Prompt: List some wants you would like to have. Describe why you want these items and what will happen if you do not get them.

Laws

Social Studies Fact: A **government** is a group of citizens that run a community. They are responsible for keeping order in the community, and for keeping the other citizens safe. They accomplish this by having **laws**, or rules that the people must follow. Example: Many communities have laws against littering. These laws tell citizens they must not litter and they must throw their trash in a trash can or recycling bin. If they do litter they will have to pay a **fine**, or money, to the government.

Prompt: Choose another law, or rule, that your community must follow. Explain why this law is important and what will happen if someone breaks this law.

City Governments

Social Studies Fact: Most community, or city, governments are made up of three parts: a **mayor**, a **council**, and a **court**. A **mayor** is a leader of a city or town government who makes sure things get done so the community can be a good, safe place to live. A **council** is a group of people who meet and talk about how to solve any problems in the community. A **court** is where a judge decides whether a person has broken a law or not, and what his/her consequences will be to make sure everyone is treated fairly.

Prompt: Explain how mayors, councils, and courts work together to keep everyone in a community safe and happy. Describe what you think would happen to a community who did not have these parts.

Government Services

Social Studies Fact: A **government service** is something that all citizens are welcome to use in a community. Examples of government services are police stations, parks, post offices, and schools.

Prompt: List some government services found in your community, and describe how you and the other citizens of your community use them. Explain why you think government services are important to a community.

Taxes

Social Studies Fact: **Taxes** are money paid by citizens to the government so there will be enough money to pay for community services. Example: If a library is getting old and run down, the government will use the community's tax money to repair it for everyone to use.

Prompt: Imagine that you are the mayor of a town. Describe 3 ways you would use tax money to improve the services in your community.

Community Leaders

Social Studies Fact: Citizens of a town, city, or country choose some of their leaders through **elections**. Elections are times when people get to vote for which person they want to be their leader. Whichever person gets the most votes will become the next leader.

Prompt: Imagine that you are voting for a new leader in your community. Describe what qualities this leader should have, how they should treat others, and what they should do for the citizens of your community.

State Governments

Social Studies Fact: A **state government** is similar to a city government but is much larger. The main parts that make up a state government are the **governor**, the **legislature**, and the **courts**. The **governor** suggests laws for the state and makes sure they are followed. The **legislature** makes laws for the state and makes sure they are fair for all citizens. The **courts** are places where judges decide if people have broken laws or not, and what consequences they should receive.

Prompt: Choose a law you must follow in your state. Describe how that law was created, who helps to enforce it, and what would happen if that law was broken.

Property

Social Studies Fact: A state government protects its citizens and their property. **Property** is what belongs to a person or a group. Your toys, backpack, and school supplies are all your property. Your house is your parents' property. The state government often helps those whose property is damaged in a disaster like a flood or a fire.

Prompt: Describe some of the property that you own. Explain how you got these things and how you take care of and protect them.

Our Country's Government

Social Studies Fact: There are three **branches**, or parts, in the United States government. Each branch has a different job to do. The **legislative branch** is Congress who makes the laws, the **executive branch** is the President who carries out the laws, and the **judicial branch** is the courts who make sure people obey the laws and give consequences to those who don't.

Prompt: Describe how the three branches of government work together to make our country a better place. Explain what would happen if one of these branches did not exist.

The Legislative Branch of Government

Social Studies Fact: **Congress** is the **legislative branch** of government. Congress is a group of people that make the laws for our country to follow. These laws help keep people safe and make sure there is order in the country.

Prompt: Imagine that you are a member of the United States Congress. What is one law you would create to make our country a better and safer place to live? Describe what this law would be like and what would happen if people broke this law.

The Executive Branch of Government

Social Studies Fact: The **President** of the United States is the **executive branch** of government. The President has many roles and responsibilities, such as carrying out the laws made by Congress. The President sees that things get done to make the country a good place to live. The first President of the United States was *George Washington*.

Prompt: Imagine that you are running for President of the United States. Write a speech telling the citizens why you would make a great President. Describe the things you would do to make the country a better place.

The Judicial Branch of Government

Social Studies Fact: The **courts** are the **judicial branch** of government. The courts make sure the laws are working fairly and give consequences to those who are not following the laws. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the United States and is made up of nine appointed judges.

Prompt: Imagine that you are one of the nine Supreme Court judges. What would you do to make sure the laws are fair? Describe what you would do if you realized that a law was not fair.

Independence Day

Social Studies Fact: **Independence Day** is celebrated on July 4th. On this day in 1776, a group of American leaders signed the **Declaration of Independence**, which declared that they would no longer be ruled by the King of England. We celebrate our freedom from England every day on this year by gathering with family and friends.

Prompt: How do you celebrate Independence Day, or the Fourth of July? Describe what you could do with your family and friends to celebrate your freedom on this special day.

The National Anthem

Social Studies Fact: An **anthem** is an official song of a country. The United State's national anthem is "The Star-Spangled Banner," which Francis Scott Key wrote about our country's flag staying up even through war and disaster. This showed that America could survive anything and that we were a strong country.

Prompt: Write another anthem for The United States. Include in your song what you love about this country and what we can do to make our country proud.

Qualities of a Good Citizen-Patriotism

Social Studies Fact: **Patriotism** is the feeling of pride people have for their country. You can show your patriotism by what you say and do. Example: When we say the Pledge of Allegiance, celebrate patriotic holidays, and fly the American flag we are showing our patriotism.

Prompt: Describe some ways you can show patriotism to your country. Include how you can get your friends and family to show their patriotism as well.

Qualities of a Good Citizen-Individualism

Social Studies Fact: **Individualism** is when someone believes in themselves and what they know is right, even if it goes against what most people believe. Example: Jackie Robinson grew up during a time when African Americans did not play on Major League Baseball teams. He joined one anyway and helped many other African Americans fight against racism.

Prompt: How can you show your individualism? Write about a time when you have thought about or done things differently than most people in your class or community. Describe what challenges you faced and how you felt about what you were doing.

Qualities of a Good Citizen-Honesty

Social Studies Fact: **Honesty** is telling the truth no matter how hard it is. Example: Abraham Lincoln was the 16th President of the United States. He always told the truth even when it was difficult, and he was given the nickname "Honest Abe."

Prompt: Imagine that you are at the store and you see someone steal a candy bar from the counter. Describe what you would do, and how you would use honesty to help you.

Qualities of a Good Citizen-Fairness

Social Studies Fact: **Fairness** is making sure things are right and just for all citizens. Example: Susan B. Anthony knew it was not fair that women could not vote many years ago. She fought for women's rights and helped women get the right to vote.

Prompt: Write a story about someone treating your friend unfairly. Describe how you would use the quality of fairness to help.

Qualities of a Good Citizen-Responsibility

Social Studies Fact: **Responsibility** is having the job or duty of dealing with and taking care of something or someone. Someone who is responsible can be trusted to do what is right even when it is difficult. Example: Harriet Tubman showed great responsibility when she led hundreds of slaves to freedom through the Underground Railroad. This was very dangerous, but she knew it was the right thing to do.

Prompt: Write about how you can show responsibility in your daily life. Describe what you would do, how you would do it, and who this would help.

Qualities of a Good Citizen-Courage

Social Studies Fact: **Courage** is being brave and facing danger without showing fear, even when something is very scary. Example: Helen Keller is a woman who could not hear or speak. This was very scary for her, but she had the courage to learn how to speak and write. She was brave enough to share her story with thousands of people by speaking and writing books.

Prompt: Think about a time when you or someone you know showed courage. Describe where you were, what happened, and how you felt during this time.

Qualities of a Good Citizen-Kindness

Social Studies Fact: **Kindness** is caring about other people and doing whatever you can to help them in a nice way. Example: Mother Theresa showed great kindness all throughout her life. She gave food, clothing, and shelter to thousands of poor people around the world. She even won the Nobel Peace Prize for these kind acts.

Prompt: Write about how you can show kindness to someone you know. Explain what you will do, how you will do it, and how it will help this person.

Facts and Opinions

Social Studies Fact: **Facts** are things that can be proven with evidence. For example, "Thomas Jefferson was the 3rd President of the United States" is a fact because it can be proven. An **opinion** is an idea that someone believes is true but cannot be proven. People can have different opinions. Example: "Thomas Jefferson was the best President" is an opinion because it cannot be proven and not everyone thinks this is true.

Prompt: Write one fact and one opinion. Explain how you know one is a fact and one is an opinion.

Mountains and Valleys

Social Studies Fact: A **landform** is a kind of land with a special shape. **Mountains** are extremely tall landforms that form a point high in the sky. It can be very cold at the top of a mountain and very warm at the bottom of the same mountain. **Valleys** are very low land between mountains. The weather stays the same throughout the valley and they often have streams or rivers flowing through them.

Prompt: Describe the characteristics of mountains and valleys, and explain the differences between them. Also write about which of these two landforms you would rather live on and why.

Hills and Plains

Social Studies Fact: A **landform** is a kind of land with a special shape. A **hill** is a landform that rises above the land around it. People can roll down hills for fun. **Plains** are flat landforms that stretch as far as the eye can see. Many farms are located on plains because there is a lot of room for the animals to move around.

Prompt: Would you rather spend the day exploring sloping hills or long flat plains? Choose one and explain why you chose this landform, what you would do there, and who you would take with you.

Islands and Peninsulas

Social Studies Fact: A **landform** is a kind of land with a special shape. **Islands** are landforms that are surrounded by water on all sides. They can be large or small. Some islands are connected to land by bridges, while others can only be reached by plane or boat. **Peninsulas** are surrounded by water on three sides, but are connected to land on the remaining side.

Prompt: Write the ways that islands and peninsulas are alike and different. Describe which of these landforms you would rather live on, and why.

Rivers and Lakes

Social Studies Fact: Rivers and lakes are both bodies of water. **Rivers** are streams of water that flow across land. The longest river in the United States is the Mississippi River that flows from Minnesota to Louisiana. **Lakes** are low spots on land that fill up with water. Often, rivers flow out of lakes to form rivers. Water flows out of Lake Itasca to form the Mississippi River.

Prompt: Imagine that you are taking a boat trip starting in Lake Itasca and going down the Mississippi River. Describe what you would bring with you, and what kinds of things would you see on your trip. Include what the best and the worst parts of your trip would be.

Continents

Social Studies Fact: The world is made up of land and water. There are seven main areas of land, or **continents** on the Earth. The seven continents are: Asia, Africa, Antarctica, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America. The United States is a country in North America.

Prompt: Describe the continent you live on and explain what other continent you would like to visit and why. Include what you would hope to see and do on this new continent.

Oceans

Social Studies Fact: The world is made up of land and water. There are four large **oceans** on the Earth. The four oceans are the Pacific Ocean, The Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, and the Arctic Ocean. Oceans connect the continents of the Earth.

Prompt: Describe how oceans can help us travel to different places on the Earth. Choose a place that you would like to travel to by ocean, and explain why you chose this place.

Cardinal Directions

Social Studies Fact: You can find the North Pole and the South Pole on opposite sides of a world. These help you describe directions. There are four different **cardinal directions**. They are north, south, east, and west. **South** is the direction down towards the South Pole. **North** is the direction up towards the North Pole. **East** is the direction to your right, and **west** is the direction to your left.

Prompt: Look to the north, south, east, and west of you. Describe what you see when you look to each of these cardinal directions.

Natural Resources

Social Studies Fact: A **natural resource** is something found in nature that people can use. Water is a natural resource that people use for many things. Some other natural resources that people use are trees, soil, and air.

Prompt: Choose a natural resource and describe how you use it in your life. Explain how your life would be different without this natural resource.

Conserving Resources

Social Studies Fact: A **natural resource** is something found in nature that people can use like water, soil, and air. There are six billion people in the world who all use the Earth's resources. It is important that we **conserve**, or save, these resources to make them last longer. One way of conserving resources is recycling. Recycling is when you use something again that you have already used. You can recycle an old soup can by using it to hold flowers.

Prompt: Describe one way you can conserve Earth's resources by recycling. Include what you would recycle, how you would reuse it, and why it is important to recycle.

Pollution

Social Studies Fact: A **natural resource** is something found in nature that people can use like water, soil, and air. When these resources become dirty this is called **pollution**. Pollution is harmful to us, because we cannot survive without Earth's resources. An example of pollution is littering, or throwing trash on the ground.

Prompt: Create a way to stop littering in your community. Describe what you would do, where you would do it, and who you would get to help you.

Cultures

Social Studies Fact: A **culture** is the way a group of people live. This includes what they believe, what they eat, how they dress, and how they speak. America is full of people with many different cultures. Example: Many people from the Hispanic culture speak Spanish and enjoy eating spicy foods.

Prompt: Describe the cultures in your community. Explain how they are alike and different from each other.

Immigrants

Social Studies Fact: **Immigrants** are people that come from one country or continent to live in another. Many immigrants came to the United States when it was discovered. They sailed here in big ships with all of their belongings.

Prompt: Imagine that an immigrant from another country came to live in your neighborhood and go to your school. Describe how you think this new student would feel, and explain what you would do to make him/her feel welcome.

Family Heritage and Traditions

Social Studies Fact: A **heritage** is a culture that is passed down from family to family over many years. A family that has been living in one location hundreds of years has a long heritage there. People from the same heritage often have several traditions, or special ways of doing things. Example: Many people from the Jewish heritage celebrate the holiday Hanukkah every year.

Prompt: What are some traditions you and your family have each year. Describe what they are, how long you have been doing them, and which are your favorites.

Community Celebrations

Social Studies Fact: Americans celebrate many special days, or **holidays**, that began in other parts of the world and came to America as people from different cultures moved here. Example: "Mardi Gras" is a holiday celebrated in many southern states with parades and lots of food.

Prompt: What is your favorite holiday? Describe why it is your favorite by explaining what you do, where you go, and who you celebrate this holiday with.

President's Day

Social Studies Fact: George Washington was the first President of the United States, and Abraham Lincoln was the 16th. These are two of the most well-known Presidents. Because they were both born in February, we celebrate President's Day on the 3rd Monday of that month each year. We honor all of the great Presidents our country has had on this day.

Prompt: Describe your favorite President that the United States has had. Explain why this President is your favorite and what they have done for our country.

Communication

Social Studies Fact: Communication is the spreading of ideas between people. Many years ago people could only spread ideas through talking face to face. They did not have phones and many people did not know how to read or write. Now there are several different ways to communicate with one another, even when we are not together.

Prompt: Describe two ways that people can communicate with each other. Compare and contrast (find what is alike and different about) these two forms of communication and explain which one you use the most.

Ancient and Modern Times

Social Studies Fact: The world was very different a long, long time ago, or in **ancient times**. People measured time by the growing seasons, such as how long it took to grow and harvest a certain crop. They recorded this on a calendar. Today, or in **modern times**, we use a calendar to record days, weeks, and months of a year.

Prompt: We live in modern times, so we keep track of time in days, weeks, and months. Do you think this an easier or more difficult way of keeping track of time than using the growing seasons? Explain your answer and why you chose it.

Learning About the Past

Social Studies Fact: We learn about history through stories people have told about the **past**. The past can have taken place thousands of years ago or just last week. The people who tell us these stories and give us information about the past are called **sources**. Books and websites can be sources that tell us about the past too.

Prompt: If you wanted to learn more about the past, who is a source you could ask? Explain why you chose this person and describe what questions you would ask him/her.

Museums

Social Studies Fact: **Museums** are valuable resources that teach us about history. Museums contain many sources that share information about the past such as **artifacts**, or objects from the past. Museums are also full of information from people who lived during the past.

Prompt: Choose a museum that you have been to or would like to go to. Describe what parts of history you can learn from this museum. Also include your favorite and least favorite parts of this museum.

The First Thanksgiving Day

Social Studies Fact: We celebrate **Thanksgiving** each year to remember the **Pilgrims** and the **Indians** who helped start our country. The Pilgrims were the first English settlers in the United States, and the Wampanoag Indians were generous enough to show them how to fish and grow food to survive there. They all came together to give thanks for the first harvest by eating their bountiful crops and sharing with each other.

Prompt: Write about what you do to celebrate Thanksgiving. Include who is there and what you eat and do. Describe how this is similar and different from the first Thanksgiving.

Memorial Day

Social Studies Fact: The **Civil War** was fought between the North and the South of the United States. The South wanted to start their own country, while the North wanted to keep the country together. The North won, and the country stayed together, but many people lost their lives during this war. We celebrate **Memorial Day** each year to remember those who fought and died during the Civil War.

Prompt: Memorial Day is a great way to remember all of the soldiers who have fought to protect our country. Write some ways that you can show respect and thanks for our soldiers on Memorial Day.

Thurgood Marshall

Social Studies Fact: When **Thurgood Marshall** was applying to law schools, many would not accept him because he was black. He worked hard and became a lawyer before becoming the first African American Supreme Court Justice. He is a hero for African Americans and people everywhere.

Prompt: Imagine that you could meet Thurgood Marshall. Describe what you would say to him, what you would thank him for, and how you think he would act.

Businesses

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. There are millions of different businesses all over the world. Example: A hospital is a business that provides the service of helping people get well. Apple is a business that makes iPhones and computers to sell.

Prompt: Imagine that you are starting a new business. Describe what you would sell, and who you would sell it to.

Goods

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The things or items that people make in a business are called **goods**. Goods are things you can touch. Example: The shirt that a designer makes is a good. The chair that a carpenter makes is another good.

Prompt: Name some goods that you can see in your classroom. Describe how you think they were built or made.

Services

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The things people do for others are called **services**. Example: Putting out fires is a service that firefighters do. Singing is a service that singers do to entertain others at concerts.

Prompt: Think of someone who provides a service at your school. Describe this service and how it helps you and your classmates.

Producers

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The people who make the goods or provide the services are called **producers**. Example: A baker who makes cakes to sell is a producer. A dentist who provides the service of cleaning teeth is a producer.

Prompt: You can be a producer too! What is a product or service you can offer to your friends and family? Describe how you would produce it, and how much money you would charge for it.

Consumers

Social Studies Fact: A **business** is an activity where people make things or provide services for others to use in exchange for money. The people who buy the goods or services are called **consumers**. Example: A person who buys a house from a real estate agent is a consumer. We are consumers when we buy food from the grocery store to eat.

Prompt: Describe some of the ways you and your family are consumers in your everyday life. Include what kinds of goods and services you buy, where you get them, and how much you pay for them.

Income

Social Studies Fact: People make goods or provide services to earn money. The money you make from this is called your **income**. Many people spend some of their income and save the rest. Most people earn their income from their jobs. Example: Gardeners earn their income by planting flowers and plants for people. Bakers earn their income by making and selling sweet treats.

Prompt: Choose someone that you know who earns an income. Describe how they earn this money and what they do with their income.

Spending and Saving

Social Studies Fact: It is important to be responsible with the money you get. People **spend** some of their money to buy things they need or want. People also **save** some of their money for emergencies or until they have enough to buy certain items. You can save your money by putting it in a **bank**. A bank is a business that keeps money safe. If you put money in a bank it can earn **interest**, or extra money that you can have when you take your money out.

Prompt: Imagine that your friend gave you twenty dollars for your birthday. Describe what you would do with that money and why.

Trade

Social Studies Fact: Sometimes the goods that citizens need or want are made in other countries. Countries can get goods from other places by making a trade. **Trade** is the exchange of one thing for another. Example: China might send 100 radios to the United States, and the United States might send them 100 chairs in return.

Prompt: You might not be able to trade things with different countries right now, but you can practice trade with your classmates. Imagine that your friend has a box of candy that you really want. Describe what you could trade him/her for the candy and how you could make sure it is a fair trade.

More Food For Taught!



**For more products and
weekly freebies
follow Food For Taught
using the links below:**

TpT Store:

<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Food-For-Taught>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/food_for_taught_/

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MoreFoodForTaught/>

Blog: <http://morefoodfortaught.blogspot.com/>

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/foodfortaught/>

