Grade 3 “Massachusetts: Home to Many Different People”

Themes: Native Americans, self-governance, causes and consequences of the Revolution, the purpose of government, defining a revolution, comparing contemporary and historical Massachusetts cities and towns.

Main topics
- Topic 1. Massachusetts cities and towns today and in history
- Topic 2. The geography and Native Peoples of Massachusetts
- Topic 3. Native Peoples’ contacts with European explorers
- Topic 4. The Pilgrims, the Plymouth Colony, and Native Peoples
- Topic 5. The Puritans, the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and Native Peoples
- Topic 6. Massachusetts before, during, and after the American Revolution

Reading Standards
- 3. Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, mathematical, or technical text based on specific information in the text.
- 7. Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words, numbers, and symbols in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).
- 9. Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.

Standards for Speaking and Listening p. 60
- 2. Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- 3. Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.
Grade 5 “US History to Civil War & Modern Civil Rights Movement”

Summarized Themes: early colonies, reasons for the revolution, early republic, political/cultural divisions leading into the Civil War, Civil Rights in the mid-20th century, connecting local Massachusetts history to that of the US as a whole.

Main topics:
- Topic 1. Early colonization and growth of colonies
- Topic 2. Reasons for revolution, the Revolutionary War, and the formation of government
- Topic 3. Principles of United States government
- Topic 4. Growth of the Republic
- Topic 5. Slavery, the legacy of the Civil War and the struggle for civil rights for all

Reading Standards
- 3. Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, mathematical, or technical text based on specific information in the text.
- 6. Analyze multiple accounts of the same event or topic, noting important similarities and differences in the points of view they represent.
- 7. Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.

Speaking and Listening Standards
- 1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 5 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.
Grade 8 “Civics for Life in a Democracy”

Summarized Themes: Preparing students to embrace democracy’s potential, as well as its challenges and shortcomings.

Main topics:
- Topic 1, The philosophical foundations of the United States political system
- Topic 2, The development of the United States government
- Topic 3, The institutions of the United States government
- Topic 4, Rights and responsibilities of citizens
- Topic 5, The Constitution, Amendments, and Supreme Court decisions
- Topic 6, The structure of Massachusetts state and local government
- Topic 7, Freedom of the press and news/media literacy

Reading Standards
- 6. Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author’s point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).
- 7. Integrate visual information (e.g., charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
- 9. Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.

Writing Standards
- 4.b. Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
- 8. When conducting research, gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

Speaking and Listening Standards
- 2. Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation.
- 5. Integrate multimedia components and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.