

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Social Studies

## The TEKS Explained

### 2008-2009

**Second Nine Weeks** October 20 – December 19

**Week 1: Public Officials**

TEKS 12AB

- Identify public officials, including mayor, governor, and president, and ways they are selected
  - Mayor
    - ✓ leader of a local community such as a town or city
    - ✓ elected by citizens of the local community
  - Governor
    - ✓ leader of a state
    - ✓ works in the state capital of Austin
    - ✓ elected by the citizens of Texas
  - President
    - ✓ leader of our country
    - ✓ lives in the White House in Washington, D.C.
    - ✓ elected by citizens of the United States
  
- Be able to match: mayor – city – Houston – Bill White  
governor – state – Texas – Rick Perry  
president – country – United States – George Bush
  
- IFA 46-49
- CharEd IFA 9

## **Week 2: Public Officials (continued)**

- Understand and compare the roles of public officials including mayor, governor, and president
  - mayor – the leader of a town or city
    - ✓ What does a mayor do? What are the duties of a mayor?
  - governor – the leader of a state
    - ✓ What does a governor do? What are the duties of a governor?
  - president – the leader of a country
    - ✓ What does a president do? What are the duties of a president?
  - What makes a good mayor? a good governor? a good president?
  - Create a visual, foldable, chart, booklet, etc. that compares the roles of mayor, governor, and president.
  
- Identify ways that public officials are selected
  - elected - Some public officials such as the mayor of a community, governor of a state, and the President of the United States are elected by the people who vote for them.
  - appointed - Some public officials in cities, states and the country are appointed such as the Police Chief who is appointed by the mayor of a community and Supreme Court Justices who are appointed by the President.
  
- IFA 39, 98
- CharEd IFA 10

**Week 3: National Election**  
**Purpose and Functions of Governments**

TEKS 11ABC

**National Election**

- Understand the importance of voting
- Understand that citizens vote to elect the President of the United States.
- Understand terms: elect, election, vote, candidate, citizen
- Name the current President of the United States.
- Discuss leadership qualities: What makes a good leader?
- Participate in a class, grade level, or campus mock election.
- Discuss the results of the national election.
- IFA 97

**Purpose and Functions of Governments**

TEKS 11ABC

- Understand meaning of government: a group of people who work together to run a city, state, or country
- Why do we have/need governments?
- What does a government do? (functions of governments)
  - provides services in the community – such as libraries, schools, parks
  - makes laws – mayor and city council
  - helps keep us safe – police department and fire department
  - settles disagreements – courts and judges
- Understand meaning of citizen: a member of a community, state, or country
- Who is the leader of a local town or city? (mayor – He works with a group of people called the city council.)
- Who is the mayor of the community of Houston? (Bill White)
- How is the mayor of a community selected? (In most communities, the mayor and city council members are elected; the citizens vote for them.)
- CharEd IFA 11

**Week 4: Veterans Day  
Governmental Services in the Community**

TEKS 1A  
TEKS 11ABC

**Veterans Day**

*(Refer to the Veterans Day lesson from the Social Studies Department.)*

- Explain why we celebrate Veterans Day: to honor the men and women who have fought to keep our country free
- Understand the meaning of veteran: someone who has served in the armed forces
- Know that Veterans Day is November 11
- Recognize and name the Tomb of the Unknowns; explain its significance; know where it is located (Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia)
- IFA 64

**Government Services**

- Identify some governmental services in the community (textbook p112-119; chart on p114-115)
  - libraries
  - schools
  - parks and swimming pools
  - police and fire departments
  - building and repairing roads
  - buses
- Describe how governments establish order, provide security, and manage conflict
  - The police department, fire department, and the courts and judges help communities establish order, provide security, and manage conflict.
  - Students should be able to explain how some of the services listed above – such as police and fire departments – establish order, provide security, and manage conflict.
- How do communities pay for the services it provides?
  - taxes: money collected by a government to pay for the services it provides
- IFA 36-38
- CharEd IFA 12

## **Week 5: Thanksgiving**

TEKS 1A

- Understand and explain the origin and significance of the celebration of Thanksgiving  
(Refer to pages 212-213 in the social studies textbook.)
- Know in what month Thanksgiving is celebrated today
- Understand the meanings of past, present, and future; be able to give examples of things that happen in the present, things that have happened in the past, and things that might happen in the future
- Explain some similarities and differences in the celebration of Thanksgiving in the past and the celebration of Thanksgiving today
  - foods served
  - location – inside or outside?
  - people attending the celebration
  - dress
  - travel
- Recognize and interpret painting of the first Thanksgiving.
- Identify symbols of Thanksgiving.
- IFA 66-69
- CharEd IFA 13

## **Week 6: Economics**

TEKS 9B

- Review (from September) the importance of work and how work provides income to purchase goods and services
  - work: jobs
  - income: money that someone earns
- Explain the choices people in the United States free enterprise system can make (See pages 104-107.)
  - where to live
  - where to work
  - how to spend money
  - how much money to save
  - what to buy
  - what to sell
- Understand the concepts of earning, spending, saving, and free enterprise system
  - earn: to get something, such as money, after working
  - spend: to use money to buy goods and services
  - savings: the amount of income not spent
  - free enterprise system: producers decide what is bought and sold
- IFA 26-28
- CharEd IFA 14

## Week 7: Economics

## TEKS 10AB

- Distinguish between goods and services (pages 104-105) and between producing and consuming
  - goods: things that people make or grow
  - services: jobs that people do to help others
  - producing: making or growing something
  - consuming: buying and using goods
- Identify examples of goods and services
- Understand the roles of producers and consumers in the production of goods and services (pages 68-71)
  - producer: someone who makes or grows something
  - consumer: someone who buys and uses goods
- Identify ways in which people are both producers and consumers
  - **Class discussion: Ask** and lead discussion – How can a person be both a producer and a consumer?
  
- IFA 29, 31-34
- CharEd IFA 15

## **Week 8: Celebrations – Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Las Posadas**

TEKS 1A

- Explain the significance of various celebrations, such as:
  - Christmas
    - ✓ December 25
    - ✓ celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ
    - ✓ symbols of Christmas: decorated tree, stars, angels, holly, Santa Claus
    - ✓ Books to read: *The Night Tree* by Eve Bunting; *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg; *The Snowman* by Raymond Briggs; *The Night Before Christmas* by Clement Clarke Moore
  - Hanukkah
    - ✓ Usually falls in December but is sometimes in late November
    - ✓ eight day Jewish holiday
    - ✓ celebrates a miracle: The Hebrews were victorious over Syria and recaptured the temple in Jerusalem. When the Jews rekindled the eternal fire in the temple, they had only enough oil to burn for one day. A miracle happened in that the oil burned for eight days.
    - ✓ the menorah
      - symbolizes the miracle
      - nine candles
      - One candle is lit each night during the eight-day holiday. The ninth candle – in the middle – is used to light the other candles.
    - ✓ the dreidel game
      - The dreidel is a four-sided top, and each side has a Hebrew letter on it – nun, gimmel, hay, or shin. These letters stand for the Hebrew words that mean “a great miracle happened there.”
      - The players sit in a circle. Each player receives an equal number of tokens (buttons, nuts, etc.) and puts five from his or her pile into the center.
      - Everyone takes a turn spinning the dreidel. The letter on top when the dreidel stops spinning tells what to do: Nun – do nothing; Gimme – take the center pile; Hay – Take half the center pile; Shin – return half of your pile to the center.
      - Players who lose all their tokens are out. The last player with tokens is the winner.
    - ✓ Books to read: *Chanukah Lights Everywhere* by Michael J. Rosen; *Celebrating Chanukah Eight Nights* by Debbie Martinez

- Kwanzaa
  - ✓ celebrated for seven days from December 26 through January 1
  - ✓ a cultural holiday to recognize the cultural heritage shared by African Americans
  - ✓ seven basic principles (*may be too abstract for children in primary grades*): unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith
  - ✓ kinara: candleholder for Kwanzaa; seven candles (three red candles, three green candles, and a single black candle in the middle which is lit first); a new candle is lit each day, in alternating colors
  - ✓ Books to read: *Kwanzaa* by Denise M. Jordan; *It's Kwanzaa Time!* by Synthia Saint James
  
- Las Posadas
  - ✓ Mexican holiday
  - ✓ December 16-24
  - ✓ *Posadas* is the Spanish word for “inn.”
  - ✓ celebrated with a re-enactment of Mary and Joseph’s search for lodging in Bethlehem on the night of Jesus’ birth
  - ✓ Groups of children carrying candles travel from house to house in their neighborhoods.
  - ✓ People at each house tell them that “there is no room at the inn,” until finally they are invited into a home or church holding a festive party.
  - ✓ Every Las Posadas party features a piñata.
  
- Interpret, compare and contrast information about Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Las Posadas
  - Students should be able to recognize and **sort** information, pictures, and symbols of Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Las Posadas.
  
- IFA 81-85