

KINDERGARTEN SOCIAL SCIENCE CHECKLIST
Goals 14 - 18
Illinois Learning Standards A – F

UNDERSTANDING AND EXPLAIN BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Benchmarks

_____ Recognize and demonstrate the reasons for rules.

_____ Demonstrate beginning awareness of city/town, state and country.

Descriptors

_____ Explain class rules to a classmate.

_____ Identify the American flag while riding a bus on a field trip.

UNDERSTAND THE ELECTIONS PROCESS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENS

Benchmarks

_____ Participate in voting as a way of making choices.

Descriptors

_____ Participate in a classroom election.

UNDERSTAND THE ROLES AND INFLUENCES OF INDIVIDUALS AND INTEREST GROUPS IN THE POLITICAL SYSTEMS OF ILLINOIS, THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER NATIONS

Benchmarks

_____ Show beginning understanding of what it means to be a leader.

_____ Develop an awareness of roles of leaders in their environment.

Descriptors

_____ Talk with peers about the job of a person “in charge” during snack and circle time.

_____ Take responsibility for classroom jobs.

UNDERSTAND HOW DIFFERENT ECONOMIC SYSTEMS OPERATE IN THE EXCHANGE, PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND CONSUMPTION OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Benchmarks

_____ Identify community workers and the services they provide.

_____ Describe some people’s jobs and what is required to perform them.

Descriptors

_____ Pretend to be a police officer, discussing why police officers are necessary and their many roles.

_____ Pretend to be their own father or mother going to work outside the home and act out what they do at their jobs.

UNDERSTAND THAT SCARCITY NECESSITATES CHOICES BY CONSUMERS

Benchmarks

_____ Become aware of the difference between needs and wants.

Descriptors

_____ Identify and explain choices families make when they go shopping for food.

UNDERSTAND TRADE AS AN EXCHANGE OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Benchmarks

_____ Begin to understand the use of trade or money to obtain goods and services.

_____ Begin to understand how people rely on others for goods and services.

Descriptors

_____ Realize that when they make a choice to stay in the art area to finish their collage, they give up their chance to go to another area.

_____ Trade two pretzels for a friend’s two crackers at snack time.

APPLY THE SKILLS OF HISTORICAL ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Benchmarks

- _____ Recall information about the immediate past.
- _____ Show some awareness of time and how the past influences people's lives.
- _____ Become aware of how people in different places have different experiences.

Descriptors

- _____ Draw and write in a journal about something that happened at school.
- _____ Recognize national figures who have made changes to our country (e.g., Martin L. King, Jr. and Abraham Lincoln).
- _____ Taste a snack that a classmate from another culture brings to school and explore its relationships to holidays and other special events.

UNDERSTAND THE DEVELOPMENT OF SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL EVENTS

Benchmarks

- _____ Become aware of local and national holidays (e.g., Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Veteran's Day, and 4th of July).

Descriptors

- _____ Explain to a classmate why we celebrate George Washington's birthday.

LOCATE, DESCRIBE AND EXPLAIN PLACES, REGIONS AND FEATURES ON THE EARTH

Benchmarks

- _____ Locate objects and places in the community.
- _____ Express beginning geographic thinking (e.g., maps or models).
- _____ Show beginning awareness of the relationships between people and where they live.

Descriptors

- _____ Build a familiar street with blocks and position homes and buildings in proper order.
- _____ Follow a picture map to the treasure the teacher has hidden on the playground.
- _____ Talk about how long it takes to visit a relative in another state.

UNDERSTAND RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN GEOGRAPHIC FACTORS AND SOCIETY

Benchmarks

_____ Begin to develop an awareness of ways people depend on and interact with the environment (e.g., fishing, farming and industry).

Descriptors

_____ Talk about farmers growing wheat needed to make bread or tires for cars being made at a local plant.

UNDERSTAND THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF GEOGRAPHY

Benchmarks

_____ Explore differences between urban and rural.

Descriptors

_____ Compare a rural and urban community after reading a story about one or the other.

COMPARE CHARACTERISTICS OF CULTURE AS REFLECTED IN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, THE ARTS, TRADITIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

Benchmarks

_____ Identify similarities and differences in people's characteristics, habits and living patterns.

Descriptors

_____ Explore physical similarities and differences (e.g., everyone has hair but hair comes in different colors, textures and lengths).

UNDERSTAND THE ROLES AND INTERACTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS IN SOCIETY

Benchmarks

_____ Understand that each of us belong to a family and recognize that families vary.

Descriptors

_____ Look at classmates' family photos and discuss the variety of family structures.