



We the People Level I (Upper Elementary)



List of Units and Lessons

Unit 1: What basic ideas about government did the Founders Have?

- Lesson 1 What were the British colonies in America like in the 1700?
- Lesson 2 Why did the Founders believe that people needed a government?
- Lesson 3 What is a republican government?
- Lesson 4 What is a constitutional government?
- Lesson 5 What ideas did the Founders use in the Declaration of Independence?
- Lesson 6 What were the first state governments like?

Unit 2: How did the Framers write our Constitution?

- Lesson 7 What was the first national government like?
- Lesson 8 How was the Philadelphia Convention organized?
- Lesson 9 How many representatives should each state have in Congress?
- Lesson 10 What did the Framers do about the problem of slavery?

Unit 3: How does the Constitution organize our government?

- Lesson 11 What basic ideas about government are included in the Preamble to the Constitution?
- Lesson 12 How does the Constitution limit the powers of our government?
- Lesson 13 What is the legislative branch?
- Lesson 14 What is the executive branch?
- Lesson 15 What is the judicial branch?
- Lesson 16 How did the Constitution create a federal system of government?

Unit 4: How does the Constitution protect our basic rights?

- Lesson 17 How does the Constitution protect your right to freedom of expression?
- Lesson 18 How does the Constitution protect your right to equal protection of the laws?
- Lesson 19 How does the Constitution protect your right to equal protection of the laws?
- Lesson 20 How does the Constitution protect your right to due process of law?
- Lesson 21 How does the Constitution protect your right to vote?

Unit 5: What are the responsibilities of citizens?

- Lesson 22 What is the role of the United States in the world today?
- Lesson 23 What are some important responsibilities of citizens?
- Lesson 24 How can citizens promote the common good?

Note: This is the table of contents from the upper elementary level textbook, *We the People*, Level I (Calabasas, CA: Center for Civic Education, 2003). For information on the New York State *We the People* Program, please contact: Law, Youth & Citizenship Program, New York State Bar Association, One Elk Street, Albany, NY, 12207; 518-473-4235 ph; 518-486-1571 fax; lyc@nysba.org.

We the People Level I (Upper Elementary)
Correlation to the NYS Scope and Sequence and Standards for Social Studies

Grade 4: Local History and Local Government

Scope and Sequence: Content Understandings*	Standards* *	We the People Level I Text
<p><i>Three Worlds Meet in the America (Europe, America, Africa)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts of exploration—social/cultural, economic, political, and geographic • The slave trade and slavery in the colonies. 	<p style="text-align: center;">1,3,5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1,4,5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lesson 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lesson 9</p>
<p><i>Colonial and Revolutionary Periods</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causes for revolution—social, political, economic 	<p style="text-align: center;">1,5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lesson 5</p>
<p><i>The Revolutionary War in New York State</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders of the Revolution • Effects of the Revolutionary War 	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1,5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lesson 5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lessons 5-6</p>
<p><i>The New Nation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundations for a new government and the ideals of American democracy as expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitutions of New York and the United States • The importance of the Bill of Rights • Individuals and groups who helped to strengthen democracy in the United States 	<p style="text-align: center;">1,5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1,5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lessons 1-6 Lessons 7-10 Lessons 16-19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lesson 1 Lesson 7 Lesson 20</p>
<p><i>Government</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic democratic values • The fundamental values of American democracy include an understanding of the following concepts; individual rights to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness; the public or common good; justice; equality of opportunity; diversity; truth; and patriotism • The fundamental values and principles of American democracy are expressed in the Declaration of Independence, Preamble to the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, Pledge of Allegiance, speeches, songs, and stories 	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lesson 2 Lesson 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lesson 2-3 Lesson 10 Lesson 11 Lessons 16-20 Lesson 22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lesson 5 Lesson 10 Lessons 16-20</p>
<p><i>Purposes of Government</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The basic purposes of government in the United States are to protect the rights of individuals and to promote the common good 	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lessons 2-6 Lesson 15 Lessons 16-20</p>

Scope and Sequence: Content Understandings*	Standards**	We the People Level I Text
<p>Local and State Governments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An introduction to the probable consequences of the absence of government • The structure and function of the branches of government of New York State and local governments include executive, legislative, and judicial branches • The meaning of key terms and concepts related to government • The U.S. Constitution and the Constitution of the State of New York and the respective Bills of Rights were developed as written plans for organizing the functions of government and safeguarding individual liberties • Representatives in the legislative, executive and judicial branches at the local, state, and national levels of government and how they are elected or appointed to office • Citizenship and the rules and responsibilities of citizenship in the classroom, school, home, and local community • Effective, informed citizenship involves duties such as voting, jury service, and other service to the local community • Citizens can participate in political decision-making and problem solving at the local, state, and national levels. 	<p>5</p> <p>5</p> <p>5</p> <p>5</p> <p>5</p> <p>5</p> <p>5</p>	<p>Unit One: Lesson 2</p> <p>Unit Three: Lessons 11-17 (Note: the text covers the branches of the national government)</p> <p>All Lessons</p> <p>Lessons 11-15</p> <p>Lesson 8 Lessons 12-14</p> <p>Lessons 21-22</p> <p>Lessons 21-22</p> <p>Lessons 21-22</p>

*Only items from the “Scope and Sequence” (Part 1.2 of Social Studies Resource Guide, New York State Education Department) addressed in the *We the People* text are listed.

**New York State Education Department, Learning Standards for Social Studies, Revised Edition (Albany, June 1996.) The Learning Standards are as follows—Standard 1: History of the United States and New York; Standard 2: World History; Standard 3: Geography; Standard 4: Economics; Standard 5: Civics, Citizenship, and Government.

Grade 5: The United States, Canada, and Latin America

Scope and Sequence: Content Understandings*	Standards**	We the People Level I Text
History of the United States, Canada, and Latin America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different ethnic, national, and religious groups, including Native American Indians, have contributed to the cultural diversity of these nations and regions by sharing their customs, traditions, beliefs, ideas, and languages Important historic figures and groups have made significant contributions to the development of Canada, Latin America, and the United States. 	1,5 1,5	Lesson 1 Lessons 1, 5
Geography of the United States, Canada, and Latin America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political Boundaries change over time and place 	1,3,5	Lesson 1
The Governments of the United States, Canada, and Latin American Nations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Across time and place, the people of the Western Hemisphere have held differing assumptions regarding power, authority, governance, and law Basic civic values such as justice, due process, equality, and majority rule with respect for minority rights are expressed in the constitutions and laws of the United States, Canada, and nations of Latin America Constitutions, rules, and laws are developed in democratic societies in order to maintain order, provide security, and protect individual rights The roles of citizenship are defined by different constitutions in the Western Hemisphere Governmental structures vary from place to place including the structure and functions of governments in the United States, Canada, and Latin American countries today Concepts such as civic life, politics, and government can be used to answer questions about what governments can and should do, how people should live their lives together, and how citizens can support the proper use of authority or combat the abuse of political power Legal, political, and historic documents define the values, beliefs, and principles of constitutional democracy. In the United States these documents include the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights 	1,5 5 1,5 5 5 5 1,5	Lessons 1-5 Lesson 10 Lesson 11 Lessons 2-4 Lesson 10 Lesson 11 Lessons 16-20 Lessons 21-22 Lessons 11-15 Lessons 2-6 Lessons 11-15 Lessons 16-20 Lessons 21-22 All Lessons

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