Introduction

This brief is designed to highlight key concepts addressed by the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) and to acquaint parents, caregivers, and students with this content.

SOL assessments are currently administered yearly in Reading and Mathematics for grades three through eight, and as End of Course (EOC) tests in high school. Writing assessments are administered in eighth and EOC; Science is currently assessed in fifth, eighth, and EOC. History and Social Science may be addressed in fourth or fifth grade, in eighth, and as EOC in high school.

How to Use this Guide

Standards of Learning At-A-Glance offers a one page summary of each grade level’s English, Mathematics and Science standards. Each grade level page also contains suggested books that connect some of the standards to age appropriate books that are available in libraries. A searchable online database set up by Fairfax County Public Schools called Connections can help you find more books on specific subjects that will be fun for you and your child to read. See Resources on pages 10-11 for more information.

The History and Social Science standards appear on pages 8-9. Schools may teach and assess this content in different sequences and grades. Your child’s teacher is the best resource to understand which topics are being covered and when testing will take place.

Tips for Caregivers

Children perform better academically and have better behavior and social skills when parents are involved in school. Here are some ways that you can be an active participant in your child’s education, within even the busiest of schedules. Remember, you and your child’s teacher have something in common:

You both care about your child!

- Teachers are some of the most important people in a child’s life, since they spend more than five hours per day together. Teachers are your best source of information to learn more about your child’s academic performance and how to prepare for the year’s challenges.
- You are the best source of information for teachers to help them learn about your child as a person and about important experiences outside the classroom.
- On-going communication between teachers and parents is important, whether via phone, email, or school-based meetings.

For an unabridged copy of the SOL, visit the Virginia Department of Education’s (VDOE) website at http://www.doe.virginia.gov or call toll free at 1-800-292-3820.
English

Oral Language
- Say together and repeat songs, poems, stories, rhymes
- Use words to describe and name people, things, characteristics (e.g., shape, color), actions, etc.
- Take turns and stay on topic during conversations
- Begin to note differences between sentences, words, and syllables
- Ask how and why questions
- Use complete sentences with subject, verb, and object

Reading
- Understand how print is organized and read (e.g., read left to right, identify front/back cover)
- Identify common signs and logos
- Identify and name upper and lower case letters
- Identify beginning sounds of words
- Discuss meaning of words and learn words through listening to texts read aloud
- Retell familiar stories with beginning, middle, and end
- Use pictures to identify the topic and to predict what comes next

Writing
- Print alphabet in upper and lower case and own first and last name
- Draw pictures or use letters to write about experiences
- Begin using letters to spell sounds heard, writing left to right and top to bottom
- Use available technology for reading and writing (e.g., computer to enlarge text or use keyboard)

Science

Investigation, Reasoning, and Logic
- Conduct simple investigations based on observation
- Investigate human senses (hearing, sight, smell, taste, touch)

Force, Motion, and Energy
- Investigate effects and uses of magnets on materials

Matter
- Describe colors, shapes, forms, textures, feel, relative size/weight, and relative position/speed of objects
- Investigate the flow of water and its properties

Life Processes
- Differentiate between living and nonliving
- Understand the basic needs and processes in plants and animals

Earth/Space Systems
- Investigate how shadows occur

Math

Number and Number Sense
- Describe sets of 10 objects or less as having more, fewer, or the same number of objects as another set
- Count up to 15 objects and write how many there are
- Describe the position of objects as first through tenth
- Count forward to 100 and backward from 10
- Identify one more and one less than a number
- Count by fives and tens to 100
- Identify parts of a set that represent fractions for halves and fourths

Computation and Estimation
- Add and subtract using up to 10 concrete items

Measurement
- Name coins and their values
- Identify instruments used to measure length, weight, time, and temperature
- Tell time to the hour on analog and digital clocks
- Compare features of objects (e.g., length, weight)

Geometry
- Identify, describe, and compare geometric figures
- Describe location of an object relative to another

Probability and Statistics
- Gather data by counting and tallying
- Create pictorial graphs and tables

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra
- Sort and classify objects
- Identify, describe, and extend repeating patterns

Reading Suggestions from Connections

There's a Wocket in My Pocket by Dr. Seuss
Creatures help beginning readers use rhyme to recognize words for household items (English K-1).

Wild, Wild Sunflower Child by Nancy White Carlstrom
Anna spends a day enjoying the outdoors (Science K-1).

Pattern Bugs by Trudy Harris
Rhythmic, repetitive text describes how seven insects move through a backyard (Math K-4).

The circle is _________ the rectangle.

a. under  
b. beside  
c. over  

This question tests Standards K.2d in English and K.12 in Math. See answer below.

Answer: b. beside
English

Oral Language
- Tell and retell stories in logical order
- Express ideas orally in complete sentences
- Ask for clarification or explanation of words or ideas
- Increase listening and speaking vocabularies
- Initiate conversation
- Use appropriate voice level in small group settings
- Follow and give simple two-step directions
- Create rhyming words orally
- Identify, produce, and manipulate sounds in words

Reading
- Identify letters, words, sentences, and ending punctuation
- Use beginning and ending consonant and vowel sounds to decode and spell words
- Use clues and syntax (e.g., phrases, titles, sentence structure) to expand vocabulary
- Show comprehension of fictional and nonfictional texts (e.g., identify main idea, make predictions, etc.)
- Use a picture dictionary to find meanings of words

Writing
- Form letters accurately and space words
- Write to communicate (e.g., focus on a topic, revise, write in complete sentences with ending punctuation)
- Use available technology for reading and writing

Science

Investigation, Reasoning, and Logic
- Conduct investigations using the senses, observations, inferences, and simple tools

Force, Motion, and Energy
- Understand that moving objects exhibit different kinds of motion

Matter
- Investigate how common materials interact with water (e.g., materials may dissolve or separate)

Life Processes
- Identify the parts, needs, and characteristics of plants and animals and classify accordingly

Earth/Space Systems
- Describe the basic relationship between the sun and Earth

Earth Patterns, Cycles, and Change
- Understand weather and seasonal changes and their impact on life (e.g., changes in temperature, light, and precipitation)

Earth Resources
- Understand that natural resources are limited
- Investigate factors that affect air and water quality
- Understand recycling, reusing, reducing consumption

Math

Number and Number Sense
- Count from 0-100 and write corresponding numbers
- Understand place value to 100
- Count by ones, twos, fives, and tens to 100
- Count backward by ones from 30
- Identify and write fractions for halves, thirds, and fourths

Computation and Estimation
- Select and explain a reasonable magnitude (e.g., 5, 50, 500) given a familiar problem situation
- Create and solve one-step story and picture problems with basic addition and subtraction facts

Measurement
- Count and compare coins
- Tell time to the half hour on analog and digital clocks
- Use nonstandard units to measure length, weight/mass, and volume
- Compare volume and weight of objects
- Use calendar language appropriately

Geometry
- Identify, trace, describe, and sort geometric shapes

Probability and Statistics
- Identify and describe various forms of data collection
- Interpret information from graphs

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra
- Sort and classify objects according to characteristics
- Describe, extend, and create patterns
- Use the equal sign as symbol for equality

Reading Suggestions from Connections

Amelia Bedelia by Peggy Parish
This book focuses on words with multiple meanings to help develop vocabulary (English 1-3).

Life in the Soil by John Farndon
This nonfiction book describes the components of soil, creatures in the soil, and how to make compost. Activities are included (Science 1 and 3).

12 Ways to Get to 11 by Eve Merriam
This book looks at the different number combinations for adding to 11 (Math 1-2).

Answer: d. They hibernate.
English

Oral Language
- Use correct verb tenses and self-correct errors
- Use increasingly complex sentence structures
- Increase vocabulary and clarify words and ideas
- Speak to inform, persuade, entertain, clarify, respond
- Give and follow oral directions in 3 or 4 steps
- Orally identify, produce, and manipulate sounds

Reading
- Expand vocabulary when reading
- Identify story sequence and structure
- Use strategies to comprehend fiction and nonfiction
- Use reference materials (e.g., table of contents, glossaries, indices, online resources, charts)

Writing
- Print legibly and transition to cursive handwriting
- Write stories, letters, and simple explanations
- Organize writing with a beginning, middle, and end
- Edit grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
- Use available technology for reading and writing

Math

Number and Number Sense
- Read, write, identify place value of 3-digit numbers
- Round 2-digit numbers to the nearest ten
- Compare whole numbers and fractions
- Identify ordinal positions from first through twentieth
- Count by 2s, 5s, and 10s to 100 and backwards by 10s
- Recognize even and odd numbers

Computation and Estimation
- Recall addition facts with sums to 20 or less and corresponding subtraction facts
- Estimate and find sums and differences
- Create and solve one- and two-step problems
- Understand relationship of addition and subtraction

Measurement
- Count and compare coins up to $2.00 using symbols
- Estimate/measure length, weight/mass, liquid volume
- Tell and write time to nearest five minutes
- Use calendar to find days and dates
- Read temperature in °C and °F to the nearest 10°

Geometry
- Identify and compare plane and solid geometric shapes
- Demonstrate an understanding of symmetry

Probability and Statistics
- Use data to construct graphs and predict outcomes
- Analyze data displayed in graphs

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra
- Identify, create, and extend patterns
- Create story problems
- Understand equality (=) and inequality (≠) symbols

Science

Investigation, Reasoning, and Logic
- Plan and conduct investigations
- Conduct multiple observations to ensure accuracy
- Use standard units of measurement
- Collect, record, and analyze data

Force, Motion, and Energy
- Investigate properties of natural and artificial magnets
- Investigate properties, mass, and volume of solids, liquids, and gases
- Understand changes in matter related to energy

Life Processes
- Understand plant and animal life cycles

Living Systems
- Describe how living organisms are interdependent
- Investigate habitats and how they change over time
- Investigate what information fossils provide

Earth/Space Systems
- Investigate weather types, changes, and patterns

Earth Patterns, Cycles, and Change
- Understand how weather and seasons affect the environment

Earth Resources
- Investigate the benefits of plants

What time is it, according to the clock pictured here?
a. 9:05
b. 1:45
c. 12:45

This question tests Standard 2.12 in Math. See answer below.

Reading Suggestions from Connections

No, David! by David Shannon
A little boy, David, cannot control himself as he breaks all the rules. Students can draw conclusions, make connections between previous experiences and discuss the main idea (English K-2).

Panda Math by Ann Whitehead Nagda
This book covers subtraction with and without regrouping based on the growth of two baby pandas (Math 2-6).

Moon for Seasons by Ann Warren Turner
A collection of short poems about nature and changes in each season (Science 1-3).

Answer: c. 12:45
English

Oral Language
- Use effective communication skills in groups
- Present brief oral reports using visual media

Reading
- Use word-analysis skills when reading
- Expand vocabulary when reading
- Demonstrate understanding of poetry, fiction and nonfiction texts (e.g., identify purpose and main idea, draw conclusions)
- Comprehend information from a variety of print and electronic resources (e.g., encyclopedias, indices)

Writing
- Write legibly in cursive
- Write for a variety of purposes
- Edit for correct grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation
- Write a short report
- Use available technology for reading and writing

Math

Number and Number Sense
- Read and write 6-digit numbers
- Round to the nearest 10, 100, and 1,000
- Compare two whole numbers
- Complete basic math fact sentences and recognize inverse operations relationships
- Name, write, and compare fractions

Computation and Estimation
- Estimate solutions to solve problems
- Recall basic multiplication and division facts through the twelves table
- Use area, set, and number line models
- Add and subtract fractions with like denominators

Measurement
- Count and compare coins and bills up to $5.00
- Estimate and use US Customary and metric units
- Determine perimeter and area of a surface
- Tell time to the nearest minute and determine elapsed time in one-hour increments
- Identify equivalent periods of time
- Read temperature to the nearest degree

Geometry
- Work with properties of solid and plane figures
- Identify and draw points, lines, rays, angles, and line segments
- Describe congruent and non-congruent plane figures

Probability and Statistics
- Construct and interpret line plots, picture or bar graphs
- Explain the concept of probability as chance

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra
- Recognize, describe, and extend patterns
- Investigate and describe the commutative and identity properties for addition and multiplication

Science

Investigation, Reasoning, and Logic
- Plan and conduct investigations

Force, Motion, and Energy
- Investigate and understand simple machines and their uses

Matter
- Investigate the physical properties of objects

Life Processes
- Investigate behavioral and physical adaptations of animals

Living Systems
- Understand relationships in aquatic and terrestrial food chains
- Investigate ecosystems and how they support organisms

Earth/Space Systems
- Investigate the major components of soil

Earth Patterns, Cycles, and Changes
- Investigate cycles in nature such as day/night, seasons, and animal and plant life cycles
- Investigate the water cycle and its relationship to life

Earth Resources
- Investigate how natural events and human influences affect the survival of species
- Investigate different sources of energy

Reading Suggestions from Connections

Allie the Apostrophe by Moira Rose Donohue
This book about Alfie and the talent show teaches students about the uses of punctuation marks (English 2-3).

Math Mini Mysteries by Sandra Markle
This book uses real-world problem solving to teach students about a variety of math topics (Math 3-6).

Renewable Energy Resources by Trevor Smith
This nonfiction book reviews various natural energy resources, such as solar, water, and wind power (Science 3 and 6).

Answer: b. It condensed from the rising steam.
Virginia Standards of Learning

At-A-Glance: Fourth Grade

**English**

**Communication**
- Use effective oral communication in a variety of settings
- Create and listen to oral presentations and reports
- Learn about use and construction of media messages

**Reading**
- Use context to clarify meanings of unfamiliar words
- Use knowledge of roots, affixes, synonyms, etc.
- Use reference materials (e.g., glossary or dictionary)
- Read and demonstrate understanding (e.g., make predictions) of fiction texts, nonfiction texts, narrative nonfiction, and poetry

**Writing**
- Write to an audience and focus on one part of a topic
- Use pre-writing strategies (e.g., brainstorm, outline)
- Write a clear topic sentence and two or more paragraphs related to the same topic
- Use transition words and vary word and sentence choice
- Revise for clarity and edit grammar, capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, paragraphing

**Research**
- Come up with questions about a topic
- Collect information from multiple sources (online, print, media) and give credit to the sources used
- Use technology to organize, evaluate, and communicate information
- Understand plagiarism versus using own words

**Science**

**Investigation, Reasoning, and Logic**
- Plan and conduct investigations
- Participate in inquiry-based learning
- Demonstrate understanding of measurement and use of scientific tools

**Force, Motion, and Energy**
- Investigate and understand characteristics and interactions of moving objects
- Investigate and understand characteristics of electricity

**Life Processes**
- Investigate basic plant anatomy and life processes

**Living Systems**
- Understand how plants and animals interact with each other and with nonliving components in the ecosystem

**Earth/Space Systems**
- Understand how weather conditions, phenomena, and measurement tools can be used to predict weather

**Earth Patterns, Cycles, and Change**
- Investigate the organization of the solar system
- Understand relationships among Earth, moon, and sun

**Earth Resources**
- Investigate Virginia’s natural resources

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**Math**

**Number and Number Sense**
- Recognize place value through millions
- Compare and round whole numbers through millions
- Identify and compare fractions
- Read, identify, round, compare, and order decimals

**Computation and Estimation**
- Find sums, differences, quotients, and products of whole numbers and add and subtract fractions and decimals
- Determine common multiples and factors
- Solve single and multistep problems

**Measurement**
- Estimate, measure and identify equivalent measurements using Customary and metric units
- Determine elapsed time in hours and minutes

**Geometry**
- Identify points, lines, line segments, rays, angles
- Identify intersecting, parallel, or perpendicular lines
- Use mirrors, paper folding, and tracing to investigate geometric transformations (e.g., reflection, rotation)
- Define and identify polygons

**Probability and Statistics**
- Predict likelihood of an outcome of a simple event
- Represent probability as a number
- Collect, organize, display and interpret data from graphs

**Patterns, Functions, and Algebra**
- Recognize and extend numerical and geometric patterns
- Demonstrate the meaning of equality in an equation
- Investigate and describe the associative property of addition and multiplication

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**Reading Suggestions from Connections**

**Zoo’s Who** by Douglas Florian
Poems that use word play and describe physical characteristics of zoo animals (English 4-5).

**Terrifying Tornadoes** by Julie Richards
A nonfiction weather book describing tornadoes, the water cycle, and clouds (Science 4).

**How Much Is a Million** by David Schwartz
Realistic pictures depicting the size of a million, billion, and trillion (Math 4).

Answer: c. 550,000
Virginia Standards of Learning
At-A-Glance: Fifth Grade

**English**

**Communication**
- Listen, draw conclusions, and share responses in group learning activities
- Use effective nonverbal communication skills (e.g., keep eye contact, use gestures) in a presentation
- Differentiate between different media messages and identify their characteristics and effectiveness

**Reading**
- Use context and sentence structure to define words
- Use roots, affixes, synonyms, antonyms, homophones
- Identify use of figurative language
- Read and demonstrate comprehension (e.g., describe plot development and the resolution of conflicts) of fiction and nonfiction texts, narrative nonfiction, poetry
- Use text organizers to predict and categorize information
- Skim material to get an overview and locate information

**Writing**
- Write multiparagraph compositions to describe, inform, entertain, explain, and persuade
- Edit and revise work for correct grammar, capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, and paragraphing

**Research**
- Find, evaluate, and select appropriate resources for a research product

**Science**

**Investigation, Reasoning, and Logic**
- Plan and conduct investigations
- Participate in inquiry-based learning
- Demonstrate understanding of measurement to the tenth place in ml, cm, and g

**Force, Motion, and Energy**
- Investigate how sound is created, transmitted, and used
- Investigate characteristics and behavior of visible light

**Matter**
- Investigate the properties and effect of temperature on phases of matter
- Understand atoms, elements, molecules, compounds, and mixtures including solutions

**Living Systems**
- Investigate and understand that organisms are made up of cells and have distinguishing characteristics that allow them to survive

**Earth/Space Systems**
- Investigate and understand characteristics (geological, physical, and ecological) of the ocean environment

**Earth Patterns, Cycles, and Change**
- Understand how Earth’s surface constantly changes (e.g., rock types, rock cycle, fossils, Earth’s interior)

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**She walked slow __ toward the door.**

| a. ly | b. ed | c. tion |

This question tests Standard 5.4c in English. Answer below.

**Math**

**Number and Number Sense**
- Round decimals to the nearest whole number, 10th, 100th
- Name fractions and their equivalent decimal form
- Compare and order fractions and decimals
- Describe prime, composite, even, and odd numbers

**Computation and Estimation**
- Solve single and multi-step problems using whole numbers and decimals
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide two numbers expressed as decimals through thousandths
- Add and subtract with fractions and mixed numbers
- Evaluate whole number numerical expressions using order of operations

**Measurement**
- Work with perimeter, area, and volume
- Identify equivalence, estimate, and measure using US Customary and metric units
- Identify diameter, radius, chord, circumference of circles
- Measure right, acute, obtuse, and straight angles
- Determine elapsed time within a 24 hour period

**Geometry**
- Classify angles and triangles
- Define plane figures and describe the results of combining and subdividing plane figures

**Probability and Statistics**
- Predict and determine probability of an outcome
- Use stem-and-leaf plots and line graphs to organize data
- Describe and find the mean, median, mode, and range

**Patterns, Functions, and Algebra**
- Express the relationship found in a number pattern
- Investigate the use of a variable in equations
- Recognize the distributive property of multiplication over addition

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**Reading Suggestions from Connections**

*Start Writing Adventure Stories* by Penny King
This book helps students develop a plan, write to entertain, and establish a main idea (English 4-6).

*Forces and Motion* by Christopher Cooper
An investigation of the characteristics and interaction of moving objects (Science 3-5).

*Librarian Who Measured the Earth* by Kathryn Lasky
An introduction to circumference and a biography of Greek astronomer Eratosthenes (Math 5-6).

Answer: a. ly
The History and Social Science standards for K-3 cover an introduction to the field of study. For fourth and fifth grade, the standards fall into the categories of Virginia Studies (VS) and United States History to 1865 (US I). The subjects are taught in different combinations and sequences depending on the school. Your child’s teacher can give you the best information about which subject area is being covered each year.

### Kindergarten

**History**
- Identify examples of past events in legends and stories
- Identify the people and events honored by holidays
- Describe everyday life in the present and the past

**Geography**
- Compare the location of people, places, and things using near/far, above/below, left/right, and behind/in front
- Use simple maps and globes and develop an awareness of how places and objects are represented on them

**Economics**
- Match descriptions of jobs to the names of jobs
- Understand how making choices and working to earn money are related to people’s wants

**Civics**
- Understand what it means to be a good citizen
- Recognize the American flag and the Pledge of Allegiance
- Understand that the president is the leader of the US

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### First Grade

**History**
- Interpret picture timelines and distinguish among past, present, and future
- Describe the contributions of American leaders
- Discuss the lives of people associated with President’s Day, Columbus Day, and Fourth of July

**Geography**
- Recognize map symbols and use cardinal directions
- Identify the shapes and capitals of the US and Virginia
- Construct a simple map of a familiar area
- Describe how the location, climate, and surroundings of his/her community affect the way people live

**Economics**
- Explain the difference between goods and services and how people are consumers and producers
- Explain how people make choices because they cannot have everything they want
- Recognize that people save money for the future

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### Second Grade

**History**
- Explain contributions of ancient China and Egypt
- Compare the lives and contributions of Native Americans (Powhatan, Lakota, and Pueblo peoples)
- Identify/compare changes in community life over time

**Geography**
- Use maps to locate regions related to what is learned in History (e.g., China, Egypt, regions of Native Americans)
- Locate the equator, continents, oceans, and selected rivers, mountain ranges, and lakes
- Make maps including title, legend, and compass rose

**Economics**
- Describe natural, human, and capital resources
- Distinguish between barter and money exchanges
- Explain scarcity (e.g., limited resources)

**Civics**
- Explain the responsibilities of a good citizen
- Identify important historical figures who improved the lives of other Americans (e.g., George Washington)
- Understand that Virginia has state and local government officials and that its people have diverse backgrounds, customs, and traditions

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**Reading Suggestions from Connections**

- **America Is…** by Louise Borden
  This book of poetry describes aspects of America using pictures and words (Civics K-1).

- **We Need Directions!** by Sarah De Capua
  This book introduces finding directions using a compass, map, and the sun (Geography 1-2).

- **Scarcity** by Janeen R. Adil
  A picture book about scarcity as it relates to economics and the environment (Economics 2).

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He proved that electricity was present in lightning through his kite experiment.
- a. Abraham Lincoln
- b. George Washington Carver
- c. Benjamin Franklin

This question tests Standard 1.2 in History/Social Science.

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- Answer: c. Benjamin Franklin
### Virginia Standards of Learning

#### At-A-Glance: History and Social Science

#### Third Grade

**History**
- Explain contributions of ancient Rome and Greece
- Study the West African empire of Mali
- Study the exploration of the Americas

**Geography**
- Locate Greece, Rome, West Africa, Spain, England, and France on world maps
- Describe the characteristics and adaptations of Greece, Rome, and West Africa
- Identify equator, prime meridian, four hemispheres, seven continents, and five oceans
- Locate exploration regions in the Americas
- Use a letter-number grid system to find locations
- Read and construct maps, tables, graphs, and/or charts

**Economics**
- Explain how producers in ancient Greece, Rome, and Mali used natural, human, and capital resources
- Recognize concepts of specialization and trading
- Identify economic choices and explain opportunity cost

**Civics**
- Recognize the importance of government in the community, Virginia, and the US
- Understand the principles of a republican form of government
- Identify contributions of Civil Rights leaders (e.g., Rosa Parks and Cesar Chavez)
- Describe the significance of Veterans and Memorial Day
- Understand American diversity, respect for rights and freedoms, and unity under government

**Virginia Studies**
- Locate and describe Virginian and surrounding regions, water features, and American Indian groups
- Describe how archaeologists have recovered evidence at sites such as Werowocomoco and Jamestown
- Show knowledge of the first permanent English settlement in America
- Demonstrate knowledge of life in the Virginia colony
- Describe Virginia’s role in the American Revolution
- Explain Virginia’s role in establishing a new nation
- Describe issues that divided the nation and led to the Civil War
- Describe Virginia’s reconstruction after the Civil War
- Demonstrate knowledge of 20th and 21st century Virginia
- Describe the branches of Virginia government, the major products/industries of the five regions, and how technological advances influenced Virginia

#### Driving from Virginia to Nebraska, which geographical feature would you cross?
- Mississippi River
- Rocky Mountains
- Columbia River

This question tests Standard USI.2c in History/Social Science. See answer below.

American Indians, whose family histories trace back to well before 1607, continue to live in all parts of Virginia today. Current state-recognized tribes are located in the following regions:

**Piedmont Region**
- Monacan Tribe

**Coastal Plain (Tidewater Region)**
- Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Tribe
- Chickahominy Tribe
- Eastern Chickahominy Tribe
- Mattaponi Tribe
- Nansemond Tribe
- Pamunkey Tribe
- Patawomeck Tribe
- Rappahannock Tribe
- Upper Mattaponi Tribe

#### United States History to 1865

- Use maps, globes, photos, pictures, or tables to locate and identify geographic features in the US
- Describe development of early cultures in North America
- Explain aspects of European exploration in North America and West Africa
- Describe life in the colonies and religious and economic events that shaped colonial America
- Demonstrate knowledge of the causes and results of the American Revolution (e.g., key events, political ideas)
- Describe the challenges faced by the new nation
- Explain westward expansion and reform in America
- Understand the causes, major events, and effects of the Civil War (e.g., issues that divided the nation)

#### Reading Suggestions from Connections

**Pompeii Lost and Found** by Mary Pope Osborne
This nonfiction picture book explains what the discovery of Pompeii reveals about ancient Rome (History 3 and 5).

**The Story of Jamestown** by Eric Braun
This graphic novel describes what happened at the Jamestown settlement (Virginia Studies).

**The Alexander Hamilton You Never Knew** by James Collier
A biography of Alexander Hamilton, one of America’s founding fathers (US History).

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Answer: a. Mississippi River
How to Help Your Child Achieve in School

1. **Create a homework routine.** Provide a regular time and quiet place for your child to study. If you do not have a quiet place to study, discuss options with your child’s teacher. There may be afterschool programs or other community options available (e.g., the local library).

2. **Ask questions and listen.** Ask your child about the school day and listen to your child when he/she talks about school. What are his/her favorite subjects? Is he/she struggling with something? What are his/her friends like? Are there upcoming school events that your child is involved in or that you can attend?

3. **Read and discuss.** Read books and newspapers and discuss what you are reading with your child. Read together. Visit the library to search for books that will enrich what your child is studying in school. Explore the Internet together, visiting websites that provide material and background information on subjects from school or other topics of interest. See additional resources on the next page for suggestions.

4. **Play games.** Games such as card games, chess, Clue, Monopoly, and Scrabble can enhance computational, analytical, conceptual, and vocabulary skills.

5. **Write letters and e-mails.** Help your child write to family members or friends. Talk about what to say, write the letter, read it aloud, and make edits and corrections before sending.

6. **Do household tasks together.** Some suggestions include shopping, cooking, cleaning, and other chores. You can also make grocery lists together, compare prices at the store, check nutritional information, measure ingredients, and so forth.

7. **Take trips into the community.** Visiting local museums, parks, and exhibitions can be a fun way to expose your child to more learning experiences. Many of these places offer free or reduced admission to young children or students.

How to Praise Your Child

1. **Be sincere.** Don’t overdo it. Smile and pat your child on the back.

2. **Be specific and descriptive.** Target praise to a particular activity or incident so your child knows exactly what was done right.

3. **Be immediate.** Give instant gratification for good behavior.

4. **Avoid overpraise.** This puts pressure on your child to be perfect, the best, or the smartest, which can lead to lower self-esteem.

5. **Praise every day.** A child needs encouragement to help build self-esteem.

More information about self-esteem can be found at: http://www.healthychildren.org/english/ages-stages/gradeschool/Pages/default.aspx
Under “Articles” at the bottom of the page, click on the link called Helping Your Child Develop A Healthy Sense of Self Esteem.

US Department of Education
Helping Your Child Series

These free guides can be downloaded or ordered in both English and Spanish from: http://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/hyc.html.
Call toll-free to order at 1-877-433-7827.

- **Helping Your Child Learn Science**
- **Helping Your Child Learn Mathematics**
- **Helping Your Child Become a Reader**
- **Helping Your Child With Homework**
- **Helping Your Preschool Child**
- **Helping Your Child Succeed in School**
- **Helping Your Child Through Early Adolescence**
- **Helping Your Child Become a Responsible Citizen**
- **Helping Your Child Learn History**
Virginia Standards of Learning
At-A-Glance: Resources

Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)

Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)
http://www.doe.virginia.gov
1-800-292-3820

VDOE for Parents and Students
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/students_parents/index.shtml
This webpage provides a user-friendly overview of:
- How to use the VDOE website
- Education terminology
- School enrollment
- Information for military families
- Standards of Learning (SOL) and testing
- Special education
- Graduation requirements
- Student records

School Division SOL Resources & Guides

Many school divisions offer information for parents, practice resources, and websites for students. Your child’s school can provide more resources and advice, as well as guides in print format. Here are a few examples of websites that may be useful.

Colonial Heights Public Schools
http://www.colonialhts.net/ParentsStudents/Page-for-PARENTS/index.html
Click on School Success Ideas for Parents. This page includes an idea and tip of the day, weekly parent quiz, “ask the experts,” timely topics, and a school success library with over 100 articles for parents to help their children succeed.

Fairfax County Public Schools: Connections
http://itweb.fcps.edu/connections/index.cfm
Fairfax County provides an online database with more than 2,000 sources of literature that align with the Virginia Standards of Learning. It also includes links to primary sources in the Library of Congress. You can search for books by subject, grade level, or key words.

Prince William County Public Schools
http://vastudies.pwnet.org
This website provides a guide to the Virginia Studies History and Social Science SOL, including links to additional background resources.

Practice and Study Resources

Biographies of Famous Americans
http://www.fcps.edu/KingsParkES/technology/bios/
Kings Park Elementary provides biographies that students should be familiar with for History and Social Science SOL tests.

Enchanted Learning
http://www.enchantedlearning.com
Many links to a variety of worksheets, maps, games, and other fun activities that support the SOL.

Harcourt School Publishers Learning Site
http://harcourtschool.com/index.html
Online activities for teachers and students related to reading, spelling, math, and more.

Interactive Quizzes by Tami Maloney
http://www.iq.poquoson.org/
Activities related to math, reading/language arts, science, social studies, and Spanish to help students prepare for the Virginia SOL.

The Jamestown Online Adventure
http://www.historyglobe.com/jamestown/
This online game created by History Globe is a fun way for your child to become familiar with the history surrounding Jamestown.

Jefferson Lab: Virginia SOL Practice Tests
http://education.jlab.org/solquiz/
Jefferson Lab provides practice tests in math, science, and technology. They also have a variety of science, math, and word games available.

TIME For Kids
http://www.timeforkids.com/news
Child-friendly news articles covering the world, the US, science, sports, etc. It motivates kids to read and improves their reading and writing skills. Families can also subscribe to the magazine, which includes access to online quizzes, worksheets, and more.

Virginia SOL
http://www.virginiasol.com/test.htm
Practice tests and activities for all grade levels, including links to other websites (Virginia SOL website is not associated with VDOE).