

**HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION TO THE CIVIL WAR  
GRADE 7**

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM SUMMARY**

The purpose of the Social Studies Curriculum Summary is to present an overview of the History of the United States, American Revolution to the Civil War curriculum. Parents are the intended audience of the Social Studies Curriculum Summary.

<b>Unit 1 – Creating a New Nation</b>
Government is structured to meet the needs of the people and conflict occurs when those needs are not met. When a nation attempts to overcome internal and external conflicts, it is imperative that citizens have strong centralized leadership. The creation of the Constitution was so important that differing views from states and sectionals were worked through by compromise to form the new government.

<b>Unit 2 – The Living Constitution</b>
In general, the ideas and the principles written into the Constitution in 1787 are still practiced in the government today. The Constitution has the ability to be altered in order to meet the changing needs of today’s society.

<b>Unit 3 – The New Republic</b>
Washington led the new nation as its first President, establishing precedents that future Presidents would follow. The creation of political parties is a result of the differing opinions on how the government deals with conflicts both inside and outside the country. Many decisions made by the national government are driven by the need to improve the economy.

<b>Unit 4 – US Expansion Across the North American Continent</b>
Sectional differences between the north and south became more apparent as the United States economy expanded as a result of the Industrial Revolution. With a major emphasis on improving American society, social programs took on issues and tried to make changes to what were perceived as problems. Whether guided by political, social, or economic reasons, American expansion westward was a driving force for all Americans in the mid-1800’s.

<b>Current Events</b>
Current events will be discussed throughout the school year.