NCSS THEMATIC STANDARDS

1. CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Social Studies teachers should possess the knowledge, capabilities, and dispositions to organize and provide instruction at the appropriate school level for the study of Culture and Cultural Diversity.

Teacher Expectations

Teachers of social studies at all school levels should provide developmentally appropriate experiences as they guide learners in the study of culture and cultural diversity. They should enable learners to analyze and explain the ways groups, societies, and cultures address human needs and concerns;

- guide learners as they predict how data and experiences may be interpreted by people from diverse cultural perspectives and frames of reference;
- assist learners to apply an understanding of culture as an integrated whole that explains the functions and interactions of language, literature, the arts, traditions, beliefs and values, and behavior patterns;
- encourage learners to compare and analyze societal patterns for preserving and transmitting culture while adapting to environmental or social change;
- enable learners to give examples and describe the importance of cultural unity and diversity within and across groups;
- have learners interpret patterns of behavior reflecting values and attitudes that contribute or pose obstacles to cross-cultural understanding;
- guide learners as they construct reasoned judgments about specific cultural responses to persistent human issues;
- have learners explain and apply ideas, theories, and modes of inquiry drawn from anthropology and sociology in the examination of persistent issues and social problems.

COMMENTS