

Social Studies Sub Plans Week, High School

Week-long sub plans: five days of print and go work for grades 9 to 12, planned Monday to Friday.

PREVIEW

What is included

- Sub binder: notes, the filled-in week plan, a blank schedule, class list, Monday opener (11 pages)
- Social Studies sets for five days (15 pages)
- Calm puzzles and reset sheets (10 pages)
- Social Studies team tasks (9 pages)
- Social Studies games (10 pages)
- Answer keys (12 pages)

How it works

1. Open the week plan. Every set already has its day and page number.
2. Each day: one social studies set per period (a lesson with worked examples, practice and a challenge), a calm puzzle, a team task and a game for the last 15 minutes.
3. The sub needs no subject knowledge. Every answer is in the key.
4. Print in color or ink-saver black and white, US Letter or A4.

What this preview shows: the filled-in week plan, the note to the substitute, the Monday opener, and all of Day 1 (the social studies set, the calm block, the team task and the game), one answer-key page and one ink-saver page. Every product page is watermarked. The full kit has 68 pages.





This Week's Plan

Filled in for you: run the day's set in every period you teach. Keep it as it is, or use the blank schedule on the next page for your own order.

WHEN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Start of class	Meet Your Sub p. 10 · 15 min, every period	Attendance, voice level	Attendance, voice level	Attendance, voice level	Attendance, voice level
Main work, every period	Social Studies 1 The Constitution and the Bill of Rights p. 13	Social Studies 2 Reading Primary Sources p. 21	Social Studies 3 Economics and Personal Finance p. 30	Social Studies 4 Geography and Data p. 39	Social Studies 5 The Twentieth Century Timeline p. 48
Early finishers or a loud moment	Word Search and Reset Sheet p. 16	Sudoku and Grounding Sheet p. 24	Secret Codes and Control Sheet p. 33	Maze and Brain Dump p. 42	Word Ladders and Three Good Things p. 51
Block period or extra time	Oldest to Newest p. 18	The Silk Road Caravan p. 26	The Island Map p. 35	The Undated Letter p. 44	Press or Steam p. 53
Last 15 minutes, if earned	Whiteboard Jeopardy p. 19	Paper Password p. 28	Class Feud p. 37	Classroom Millionaire p. 46	Mystery Box p. 55

How to use this plan

- Page numbers point to the first page of each set. Copy one per student.
- The calm block is always allowed: a period that runs short, a loud class, or anyone who finishes early.
- The game is the reward. Skip it on a day the class has not earned it.



Note to the Substitute

Grades 9 to 12 · five days · every set runs from the printout alone

Thank you for covering my classes this week

Everything you need is in this binder. The front pages (important information, weekly schedule, class list) are filled in for this week. After them come the work sets, one per day: **Social Studies 1** is Monday's set, **Social Studies 2** is Tuesday's, and so on to **Social Studies 5** on Friday. Run the day's set in every period you teach that day. Each set is one period (45 to 55 minutes), stands alone, and has its own answer key at the back of the binder, so you never have to make anything up or know the subject. The first page of every set tells you what to say. Every set ends with a challenge, so it stretches to a 90-minute block when you need it.

After the subject sets come the shared blocks, one of each per day. The **calm block** is always allowed: for a period that runs short, a loud class, or anyone who finishes early. The **team task** fills a period on its own. The **game** is the reward slot: fifteen minutes, from the script, when a class has earned it.

Each day has

- One Social Studies set (one period, with a challenge to stretch it)
- A calm and quiet block: a puzzle page and a reset sheet
- A team task for groups of four
- A paper game from the script

If the class is loud

- Set a voice level with a number, 0 to 3, and use it all week (the Day 1 opener explains it).
- Switch to the calm block. Nobody needs to move.
- Every set has a challenge at the end, so fast finishers always have something.
- If a set is not working, stop it and use the calm block or the team task. Every set starts cold.

At the end of each day

Please fill in that day's line on the "How it went" page. It takes two minutes and I read every word.

Did this kit work well for your class? A quick review helps other teachers find it and earns you TpT credits. Thank you!



Meet Your Sub

Day 1 opener, 15 minutes at the start of every period on Monday, before the set. Nothing to prepare.

Opener

Sub script (the same five minutes in every class)

1. **Before first period, fill in the introduction sheet** on the next page, once, for the whole day. Keep it short and honest. A high school class reads a sub in about ten seconds, so give them something real to read.
2. **Introduce yourself from the sheet** in two minutes. Then hold up the Ask the Sub list and take three questions from raised hands. Three, not ten. Say when you are done taking questions.
3. **Read the class agreement out loud** and ask this period to add one line of their own. Write that line on the board for the period. The line they wrote is the one they keep.
4. **Set the voice level with a number** from 0 to 3, using the box at the bottom of the sheet. Say which level today's set needs, and use the same numbers in every class all week.
5. **Start the set** with one sentence: this is today's work, it has a challenge at the end, and the calm block is always allowed when you are finished.

If the room is loud

- Skip the questions. Keep the agreement and the voice level, and say the number out loud.
- Start the set sooner. Work on the desk beats a speech about behavior every time.
- Name the level again after four minutes. A number is easier to follow than a lecture.

If a period runs ten minutes short

- Run Common Ground in groups of four. Six minutes of work, four minutes of reading out.
- Or hand out the reset sheet from the calm block and let the room go quiet early.
- Or have each student write one question they would ask the teacher when they get back.

Monday checklist (before first period)

- ☐ Read the Important Information page: office extension, exits, the nurse, the teacher next door.
- ☐ Check the class list for allergies, medical needs, early releases and students who carry a pass.
- ☐ Find today's set on the weekly schedule and count copies for every period, plus five spares.
- ☐ Fill in the About Your Sub sheet once and post it where the back row can read it.
- ☐ Write the voice levels 0 to 3 on the board and leave them there all week.
- ☐ Keep the answer keys inside the binder, not face up on the desk.



Social Studies Set 1: The Constitution and the Bill of Rights

Social Studies • Day 1

Read the passage on your own, then answer the eight questions under it. Pages 2 and 3 use the same reading.

The Constitution is the rulebook for the United States government. Delegates wrote it in Philadelphia in 1787, the states ratified it in 1788, and the new government began working under it in 1789. It is short, only a few thousand words, because it sets out a structure rather than a long list of rules. Everything the federal government does has to fit inside it.

Article 1 creates the legislative branch, Congress, which is made of the House of Representatives and the Senate and which writes the laws. Article 2 creates the executive branch, headed by the President, which carries the laws out. Article 3 creates the judicial branch, the Supreme Court and the federal courts below it, which decide what a law means and whether it agrees with the Constitution. Splitting the work three ways is called separation of powers.

Separated powers are not enough on their own, so each branch can check the others. The President can veto a bill, and Congress can override that veto if two-thirds of both houses vote to do it. The President nominates federal judges, but the Senate has to confirm them. The House can impeach an official, and the Senate holds the trial. Federal courts can rule that a law or an action violates the Constitution, a power called judicial review. Congress decides how money is spent, which limits both of the other branches.

Several states agreed to ratify the Constitution only if a list of protected rights was added. Congress proposed those amendments and the states ratified ten of them in 1791. Together the ten are the Bill of Rights. They do not hand people rights so much as tell the government what it may not do to them. The Constitution has been amended 27 times in all.

To sort a scenario, ask three questions. What is the government doing? To whom? Which protection does that action run into? A rule about what people may say, print, believe or gather to do points to the First Amendment. A search, an arrest, a trial or a punishment points to the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh or Eighth. A question about which level of government holds a power points to the Tenth.

Branches, checks and balances

1. Which branch writes and passes the laws?
2. Which branch carries the laws out?
3. Which branch decides what a law means and whether it fits the Constitution?
.....
4. The President refuses to sign a bill Congress has passed. What is that power called?
5. Congress passes the bill anyway with two-thirds of both houses. What is that called?
6. Who nominates federal judges, and who has to approve them?
.....
7. A federal court rules that a law violates the Constitution. What is that power called?
8. Which house of Congress brings impeachment charges, and which house holds the trial?
.....



Social Studies Set 1: The Bill of Rights

Keep this page open while you work on page 3. The wording here is plain English, not the original text.

Social Studies • Day 1

AMENDMENT	WHAT IT PROTECTS, IN PLAIN WORDS
1	Religion, speech, the press, peaceful assembly, and asking the government to fix a problem.
2	The right of the people to keep and bear arms.
3	Soldiers may not be housed in a private home in peacetime without the owner's consent.
4	No unreasonable searches or seizures. A warrant needs probable cause and must say what is to be searched.
5	A grand jury for serious federal charges, no second trial for the same offense, no being forced to testify against yourself, due process of law, and payment for property taken for public use.
6	In a criminal case: a speedy public trial, an impartial jury, notice of the charges, the chance to question the witnesses, and a lawyer.
7	A jury in most civil cases, which are lawsuits over money or property.
8	No excessive bail, no excessive fines, and no cruel and unusual punishment.
9	Rights that are not listed here still belong to the people.
10	Powers the Constitution does not give the federal government belong to the states or to the people.

Civics math

Work these out and show the number. Round up: a vote has to reach the fraction, not fall just under it.

- The House has 435 voting members. A veto override needs two-thirds of them. What is the smallest whole number of votes that reaches two-thirds?**
.....
- The Senate has 100 members. What is the smallest whole number of votes that reaches two-thirds?**
.....
- An amendment has to be ratified by three-fourths of the 50 states. How many states is that?**
.....
- The Constitution has been amended 27 times. The Bill of Rights is the first 10. How many amendments came after the Bill of Rights?**
.....
- The Constitution was signed in 1787 and the Bill of Rights was ratified in 1791. How many years passed between them?**
.....



Social Studies Set 1: Which Amendment Applies?

Social Studies • Day 1

Use the table on page 2. Write the amendment number on the line, then be ready to say which words in the table made you pick it.

1. A city orders a student newspaper not to print an article that criticizes the mayor.
AMENDMENT
2. Police open the trunk of a locked car with no warrant and no probable cause.
AMENDMENT
3. A person charged with a crime cannot pay for a lawyer and asks the court to provide one.
AMENDMENT
4. A judge sets bail at one million dollars for a person charged with shoplifting a sandwich.
AMENDMENT
5. A witness refuses to answer a question because the answer would show that she broke the law.
AMENDMENT
6. A town council tells a club it may not hold a peaceful meeting in the public park.
AMENDMENT
7. A jury has found a man not guilty, and the county wants to try him again for the same robbery.
AMENDMENT
8. In peacetime, an officer orders a family to house three soldiers in their spare room.
AMENDMENT
9. A driver sued over a damaged fence worth \$9,000 asks for a jury instead of a judge alone.
AMENDMENT
10. A town rule says no resident may keep any firearm at home, and a resident goes to court over it.
AMENDMENT
11. A state argues that setting the school year is its own business because the Constitution never gave that power to the federal government.
AMENDMENT
12. A woman argues that she holds a right the Constitution never lists, and that the government still may not take it away.
AMENDMENT

Challenge: write the twenty-eighth amendment

Write one amendment of your own in a single sentence, the way the Constitution writes them: what the government may not do, or a power it is given. Under it, answer these three questions.

1. Which branch does your amendment limit, and how?
2. Which of the ten amendments above is it closest to, and how is yours different?
3. Three-fourths of the 50 states have to ratify it. How many states is that, and why is that number a hard test?

.....

.....

.....

.....



Calm Block, Day 1: Word Search

Find all 12 civics words. Any direction, including backward and diagonal. Pencils only, voices at 0.

Calm • Day 1

H	A	M	J	T	L	Y	O	S	M	Z	M	J	P
L	M	E	T	O	M	X	T	E	L	E	Q	K	J
A	E	T	Z	L	H	B	L	A	Y	A	T	O	C
B	N	A	B	L	F	U	C	C	E	C	E	W	V
P	D	N	W	A	V	I	A	E	H	R	J	R	F
C	M	E	J	B	T	R	K	N	X	Z	T	S	E
L	E	S	P	I	C	K	J	S	J	X	U	U	D
B	N	W	Z	O	S	F	H	U	U	T	H	J	E
M	T	E	M	P	Y	N	A	S	D	A	Q	Q	R
M	N	E	V	P	W	Q	G	B	I	R	U	E	A
B	D	U	N	V	H	I	P	K	C	I	D	Y	L
M	G	E	C	O	N	O	M	Y	I	F	K	Y	G
M	P	P	R	N	T	W	H	L	A	F	R	H	Y
C	O	N	G	R	E	S	S	P	L	D	J	P	W

DEMOCRACY

AMENDMENT

CONGRESS

JUDICIAL

CITIZEN

FEDERAL

ECONOMY

SENATE

TREATY

TARIFF

BALLOT

CENSUS

Faster than reading every square

- Hunt the rare letters first. Only one word in the list has a Z in it, so every Z in the grid is worth a second look.
- Scan one row at a time for a word's first two letters, then check all eight directions from that square.
- Cross a word off the list the second you circle it, or you will search for it twice.



Calm Block, Day 1: Reset Sheet

For one person, at your own pace. Nobody collects this and nobody reads it but you.

Calm • Day 1

Two minutes, then back to it

This is not a mood test and it is not therapy. It is a short routine for the moments when your head is somewhere else and the work in front of you is going nowhere: slow the breath, put a name on the feeling, pick the next five minutes. Work down the page and stop at the bottom.

Step 1: make the breath out longer

Breathe in through your nose while you count to four, then out through your mouth while you count to six. The long breath out is the part that slows your heart rate down. Six rounds, then stop.

Tick a box for each round so you are not counting in your head.

□ □ □ □ □ □

Step 2: name it

A feeling you can name gets smaller. Tired, annoyed, behind, worried, bored, flat, wired. One word is enough, and it does not have to be the right word.

Write yours on the first line below.

Name it in one word, then write the sentence your head keeps repeating

.....

.....

What is actually true right now, in this room, that I could check in ten seconds

.....

.....

The next five minutes: what I will do the moment I put this sheet down

.....

.....

What usually helps me

- ☐ Water and a real breath of air
- ☐ Writing the thing down instead of holding it
- ☐ Two minutes of a puzzle or a doodle
- ☐ Starting the smallest piece of the work
- ☐ Standing up and stretching my shoulders
- ☐ Putting my phone face down in my bag
- ☐ Asking one person one question
- ☐ Deciding to deal with it after school

My own line

Something that works for you that is not on that list.

.....

.....

Right now I feel (circle one)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1 = settled, 10 = about to boil over. Check the same number again in ten minutes. Down by one is the whole point.



Team Task, Day 1: Oldest to Newest

Groups of four. Voice level 2. No notes, no phones. One sheet per group, one person writes, and no rank goes down until all four agree.

Team • Day 1

The challenge

The twelve milestones below all shaped how people are governed and what rights they have. They span more than three thousand years, and a few happened within a year or two of each other. **Your job:** rank them from **1 (oldest)** to **12 (newest)**. Work alone for five minutes and fill in "My rank". Then argue it out and agree on one set of group ranks. Every rank from 1 to 12 is used exactly once, so no ties.

When every group is done, the sub reads out the years. The rule for the true order has no judgment calls: **the year it happened, oldest first**. Write each year in, then score the difference.

MY RANK	GROUP RANK	YEAR	TRUE RANK	DIFFERENCE
MILESTONE				
A				
B				
C				
D				
E				
F				
G				
H				
I				
J				
K				
L				
Total (lower is better)				

Scoring

For each row: group rank minus true rank, and drop the minus sign. Add the twelve numbers.

- **0 to 8:** excellent: a group of historians
- **9 to 18:** good
- **19 to 30:** fair
- **Over 30:** check the BCE years and the revolutions again.

Reminder: BCE years count down toward year 1, so 900 BCE is older than 300 BCE.

Defend one call

Pick two milestones your group placed next to each other. What did you know, or work out, that told you which came first? A cause and its effect is a strong argument.

.....

.....

.....



Game, Day 1: Whiteboard Jeopardy

Game • Day 1

Sub script and questions. 15 minutes at the end of the period, or whenever the class has earned it.

Set up (2 minutes)

1. Draw a 5 by 5 grid on the board, or tape up the board sheet. Write the five category names across the top and the values 100 to 500 down each column.
2. Teams of four to six. Team 1 picks a category and a value.
3. Read the question. The team gets 15 seconds and one answer. Right: they take the points and pick again. Wrong: the next team may steal, then play moves on.
4. Cross the square off. Highest total when time is up wins.

Read this out

"One voice per team: pick a captain who says the final answer. Shouted answers do not count and the square is dead. Team 1, choose a category and a value."

Keep the running score in a corner of the board. If a team argues a call, the script wins and the game moves on. The bold answer is the one to accept, but take a clear equivalent too (D-Day for Overlord, Brown for the full case name).

US History

- 100 In what year was the Declaration of Independence adopted?
1776
- 200 Who was the first US president?
George Washington
- 300 What 1803 land deal with France doubled the size of the US?
The Louisiana Purchase
- 400 Which 1954 case ruled school segregation unconstitutional?
Brown v. Board of Education
- 500 What was rebuilding the South after the Civil War called?
Reconstruction

Civics

- 100 How many branches does the federal government have?
Three
- 200 What is a president's rejection of a bill called?
A veto
- 300 Which branch of government interprets the laws?
Judicial
- 400 How many years is a term in the House of Representatives?
Two
- 500 What share of each house of Congress overrides a veto?
Two thirds

World Wars

- 100 In what year did World War One begin?
1914
- 200 Which country attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941?
Japan
- 300 Whose assassination helped spark World War One?
Franz Ferdinand
- 400 What was the code name for the 1944 Normandy invasion?
Operation Overlord
- 500 Which 1919 treaty ended World War One with Germany?
Versailles

Economics

- 100 Demand rises and supply stays the same. What happens to price?
It rises
- 200 What is a general rise in prices over time called?
Inflation
- 300 What is the value of the next best choice you give up?
Opportunity cost
- 400 What does GDP stand for?
Gross domestic product
- 500 What is the central bank of the United States?
The Federal Reserve

Geography

- 100 What is the largest ocean on Earth?
The Pacific
- 200 What is the largest country in South America?
Brazil
- 300 What line is at zero degrees longitude?
The prime meridian
- 400 What is the capital city of Australia?
Canberra
- 500 Which strait separates Spain from Morocco?
Gibraltar

Final Wager: The Constitution

Play this when the board is clear, or when two minutes are left. Announce the category, then every team writes a secret wager of up to the points it already has. Read the question. Teams get 60 seconds of silent writing, then hold their answers up together.

The US Constitution opens with a short introduction that begins with the words We the People. What is it called?

The Preamble

Right: add the wager. Wrong: subtract it. That is the final score.



Game, Day 1: The Board

Tape this to the whiteboard or copy it. Cross squares off as they are played.

Game • Day 1

US HISTORY	WORLD WARS	GEOGRAPHY	CIVICS	ECONOMICS
100	100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400	400
500	500	500	500	500

Scores

Team 1

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Team 2

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Team 3

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Team 4

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Team 5

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Team 6

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Final Wager: The Constitution

Write your wager before you hear the question. A team may bet any amount up to the points it already has. Right answer: add the wager. Wrong answer: subtract it.

Team 1

WAGER

ANSWER

Team 2

WAGER

ANSWER

Team 3

WAGER

ANSWER

Team 4

WAGER

ANSWER

Team 5

WAGER

ANSWER

Team 6

WAGER

ANSWER



Answer Keys (1 of 12)

Teacher copy. Keep these pages out of the student sets.

Social Studies Set 1: The Constitution and the Bill of Rights

Branches, checks and balances: 1. The legislative branch (Congress); 2. The executive branch (the President); 3. The judicial branch (the federal courts); 4. A veto; 5. A veto override; 6. The President nominates; the Senate confirms; 7. Judicial review; 8. The House impeaches; the Senate holds the trial.

Civics math: 1. 290; 2. 67; 3. 38; 4. 17; 5. 4 years.

Which amendment applies: 1. 1 (the press); 2. 4 (an unreasonable search); 3. 6 (the right to counsel); 4. 8 (excessive bail); 5. 5 (no forced self-incrimination); 6. 1 (peaceful assembly); 7. 5 (no second trial for the same offense); 8. 3 (housing soldiers); 9. 7 (a jury in a civil case); 10. 2 (keeping and bearing arms); 11. 10 (powers left to the states); 12. 9 (unlisted rights).

Challenge: answers vary. Accept any amendment written as one sentence that either limits a government power or grants one, with a branch named in question 1, a real difference named in question 2, and 38 states in question 3. It is a hard test because more than a third of the states voting no is enough to stop it.



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In the full kit

Five days, planned and ready to print.

68 pages in color and ink-saver
B&W, US Letter and A4

5 days, each with its own sets, calm
puzzle, team task and game

15 pages of social studies sets with
worked examples

12 answer-key pages, every answer
checked

Thank you! If this works for your class, a quick review helps other teachers find it, and earns you TpT credits.

