

Christ Lutheran  
Social Studies Curriculum

## Grade Five

### Theme: United States History and Geography: Making a New Nation

**Goal:** Students will develop an understanding of the past and present of the United States that centers on the perspective of a world fallen into sin and redeemed by Jesus Christ. They will learn about the development of the nation up to 1850 with an emphasis on the people who were already here, when and from where others arrived, and why they came. Students will learn about the colonial government and how its development was influenced by beliefs in God, the ideals of the Enlightenment, and the English traditions of self-government. They will recognize that ours is a nation that has a constitution that derives its power from the people; that has gone through a revolution; that once sanctioned slavery; that experienced conflict over land with the original inhabitants; and that experienced a westward movement that took its people across the continent. Studying the cause, course, and consequences of the early explorations through the War for Independence and western expansion is central to students' fundamental understanding of how the principles of the American republic form the basis of a pluralistic society in which individual rights are secured.

#### Objectives:

1. Students describe the major pre-Columbian settlements, including the cliff dwellers and pueblo people of the desert Southwest, the American Indians of the Pacific Northwest, the nomadic nations of the Great Plains, and the woodland peoples east of the Mississippi River.
2. Students trace the routes of early explorers and describe the early explorations of the Americas.
3. Students describe the cooperation and conflict that existed among the American Indians and between the Indian nations and the new settlers.
4. Students understand the political, religious, social, and economic institutions that evolved in the colonial era.
5. Students explain the causes of the American Revolution.
6. Students understand the course and consequences of the American Revolution.

7. Students describe the people and events associated with the development of the U.S. Constitution and analyze the Constitution's significance as the foundation of the American republic.

8. Students trace the colonization, immigration, and settlement patterns of the American people from 1789 to the mid-1800s, with emphasis on the role of economic incentives, effects of the physical and political geography, and transportation systems.

9. Students know the location of the current 50 states and the names of their capitals.

**Instructional Materials:** Scott Foresman History Social-Science for California (2006)

**Projects and field trips may include but are not limited to:**