

Grade 2: My Community and Other Communities “My Community and Other Communities” is organized into five units of study—Individual Development and Cultural Identity; Civic Ideals and Practices; Geography, Humans, and the Environment; Time, Continuity, and Change; and Economic Systems. These units represent five of the unifying themes of social studies, and may be presented in any order.

2.1 A community is a population of various individuals in a common location. It can be characterized as urban, suburban, or rural. Population density and use of the land are some characteristics that define and distinguish types of communities.

2.2 People share similarities and differences with others in their own community and with other communities.

2.3 The United States is founded on the principles of democracy, and these principles are reflected in all types of communities.

2.4 Communities have rules and laws that affect how they function. Citizens contribute to a community’s government through leadership and service.

2.5 Geography and natural resources shape where and how urban, suburban, and rural communities develop and how they sustain themselves.

2.6 Identifying continuities and changes over time can help understand historical developments.

2.7 Cause-and-effect relationships help us recount events and understand historical development.

2.8 Communities face different challenges in meeting their needs and wants.

2.9 A community requires the interdependence of many people performing a variety of jobs and services to provide basic needs and wants.