



K-2 KNOWLEDGE BUILDING CARDS

Purpose

Knowledge Building Cards can be utilized to quickly teach or reinforce key social studies content during transitions, in centers or stations, with small groups, and throughout whole-class instruction. These cards make core Bayou Bridges K–2 vocabulary words visible, recurring, and interactive so students build knowledge through short, frequent practice across contexts.

These directions include routines and classroom management tips, teacher language examples, activities, and differentiation and inclusion activities to guide users as they incorporate these cards into their social studies instruction.

Card Design

Each Knowledge Building Card is a two-sided 5" x 7" card with a vocabulary word and image(s) on the front and the vocabulary word's definition on the back. The vocabulary words on the cards correspond to the vocabulary words found in Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Social Studies Curriculum.

Routines and Classroom Management Tips

1. Introduce card format: show the card front (picture + word), then the back (short kid-friendly definition or example).
2. Model how students respond (say the word, tell one thing about it, point to it). Use choral response, whisper partners, and a one-student answer routine.
3. Practice the response format with 4–6 cards until students respond quickly
4. Keep activities short and consistent. Use clear signals for attention (chime, hand signal).
5. Praise use of vocabulary in context ("I like how Maya used 'community' when explaining her drawing.")

Examples of Teacher Language

1. Introduce: "This is 'wetlands.' A wetland is a place with lots of water and plants. Tell your neighbor one place a wetland might be."
2. Prompt for reasoning: "Why do you think that belongs in this group?"
3. Praise: "Great explanation—your use of 'community' shows you understand people live and work there."

Activity Bank

1. Quick Transitions (1–3 minutes)

- Script: “When you hear the word, whisper the word and one quick fact. Then go to the line.”
- How: Hold up a card as students move between activities. Call on students until all have moved.
- Variations: Choral response for the whole class; use finger signals (thumbs up) for silent quick checks; use a timer and see how many correct responses in 60 seconds.
- Classroom management: Keep expectations (quiet and quick). Praise speed and accuracy.

2. Pocket Chart Riddles (3–7 minutes)

- Setup: Place 6–10 cards in the pocket chart.
- Script: “I’m thinking of a place with big buildings and lots of people. Point to the card I described.”
- Teacher moves: Give 2–3 clues; if incorrect, allow classmates to give one hint. Model activity twice. Invite students to create their own riddles after
- they become familiar with the procedure.
- Differentiation: For emerging readers, provide picture-only clues first. For advanced students, ask for two sentence clues (where + why).

3. Tell Me About It (2–5 minutes)

- Script: “This is _____. Tell me one thing you know about _____.”
- Purpose: Build oral language and content connections.
- How: Show a card and call on a student. After the student answers, ask a follow-up question to have the student explain their thinking. (e.g., “Why did you say that?” or “Can you give me an example?”)
- Variation: Partner turn-and-talk before whole-class sharing. Have students draw one thing about the word on mini whiteboards.

4. Grouping & Sorting (5–12 minutes)

- Setup: Create category headers (e.g., Places, People, Goods & Services). Provide 8–12 cards.
- Script: “Where does this card belong and why?” Students sort cards into categories.
- Higher-order prompt: “Tell your partner one reason this card fits there and one reason it might fit somewhere else.”
- Differentiation: Use two-category sorts for Grade K and multi-criteria sorts for Grade 2.

Differentiation and Inclusion

1. English learners: Preteach with visuals and gestures, allow sentence frames, and use translation/home language supports if available.
2. Struggling learners: Reduce the number of target cards, use picture-only cues, and allow partner support and manipulatives.
3. Advanced students: Ask for comparisons, cause-and-effect links, or create a story using several vocabulary cards.

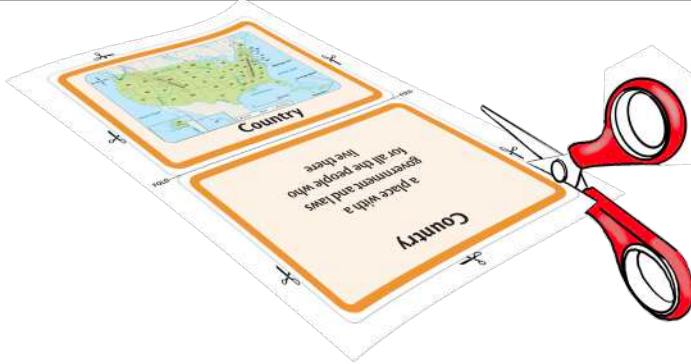
Vocabulary Card Instructions

Follow the steps below to assemble your Vocabulary Card.



STEP 1: Print

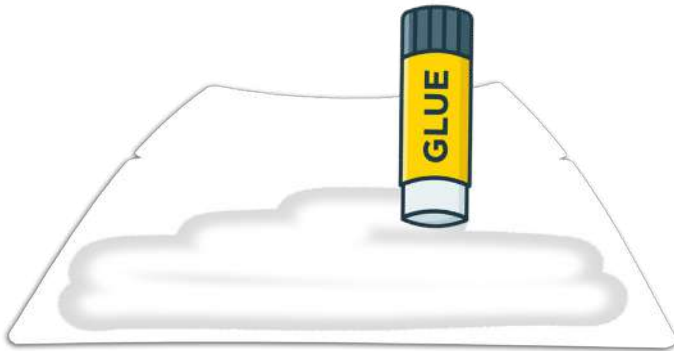
Print your Vocabulary Card on regular printing paper, cardstock, or photo paper. Before printing, make sure your printer is set to **ONE-SIDE PRINTING**.



STEP 2: Cut

Cut out your Vocabulary Card using scissors or a paper cutter.

Carefully follow the **MARKED () LINES** when cutting.



STEP 3: Apply Glue

Use a glue stick or another type of glue to apply glue to the **INSIDE (BLANK) SIDE** of the Vocabulary Card.



STEP 4: Fold

Fold the Vocabulary Card along the marked line.

Press and hold it firmly until the glued sides stick together.



STEP 5 (optional): Laminate

For extra protection and durability, you may laminate the Vocabulary Card after it is assembled.

Your Vocabulary Card is now ready to use!



Core Knowledge®

KNOWLEDGE BUILDING CARDS Kindergarten

FOLD-----

-----FOLD





Farm

Kindergarten Unit 1

a place with a lot of land that is
used for growing plants and raising
animals that can be eaten as food

Farm

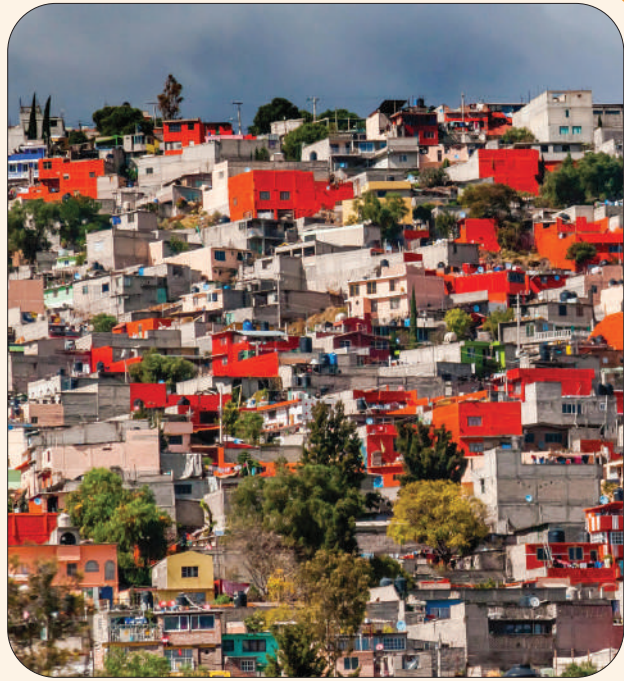


City

Kindergarten Unit 1

a place with many
streets and buildings
where a lot of people live
and work

City



Town

Kindergarten Unit 1

a place that has streets,
houses, and apartments
where people can live

Town



River

Kindergarten Unit 1

River
a large stream of fresh,
flowing water



Neighborhood

Kindergarten Unit 1

Neighborhood
a part of a town
or city where people live near
one another



State

Kindergarten Unit 1

State
a specific area within
a country



Country

Kindergarten Unit 1

Country
a place with a
government and laws
for all the people who
live there



Village

Kindergarten Unit 1

a small community
or group of houses in
a rural area, usually
smaller than a town

Village



Border

Kindergarten Unit 1

Border
a line where two
areas meet



Ocean

FOLD-----

-----FOLD

Kindergarten Unit 1

a very large
body of water found in different
places around the world

Ocean



Lake

Kindergarten Unit 1

a large body of water
surrounded
by land on all sides

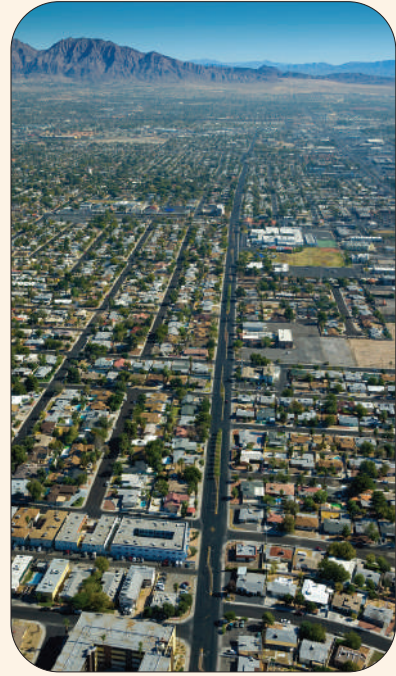
Lake



Countryside

Kindergarten Unit 1

Countryside
a place where
there are fewer
buildings and people
than a city



Suburb

Kindergarten Unit 1

a town or a community
near a large city

Suburb

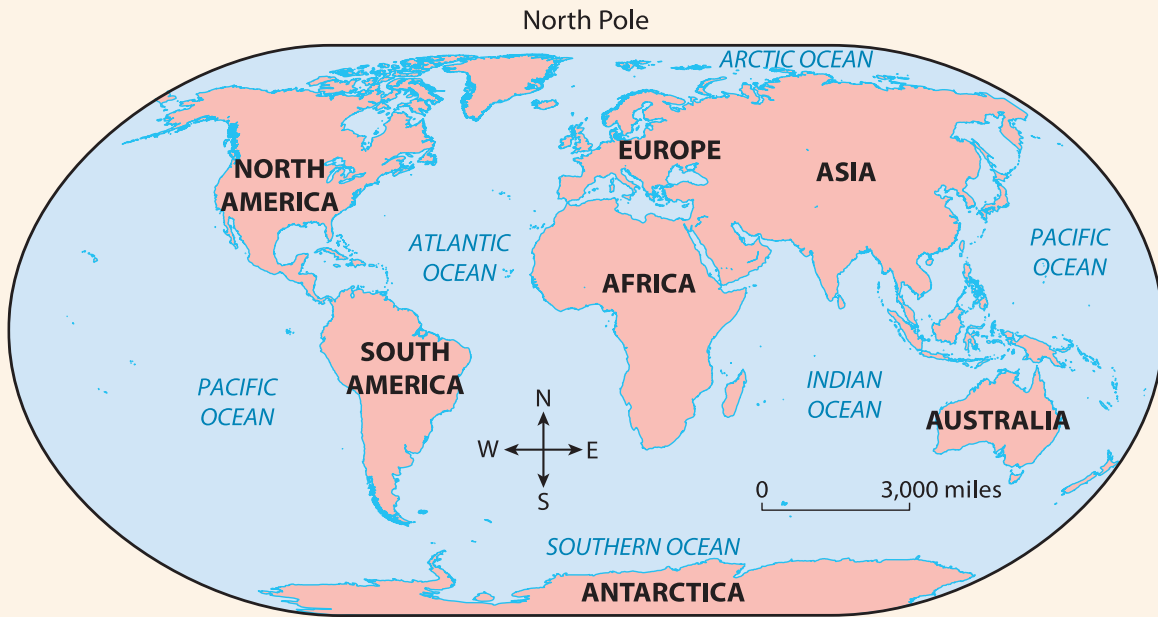


Maps

Kindergarten Unit 1

drawings of places

Maps



Continent

one of the largest areas
of land on Earth

Continent

Kindergarten Unit 1



Natural Resources

Kindergarten Unit 1

Natural Resources
things we get from
nature
that we can use

MAP KEY

== Highway



Forest

• City



Railroad



Capital City



Mountain



Airport



River

Symbols

Kindergarten Unit 1

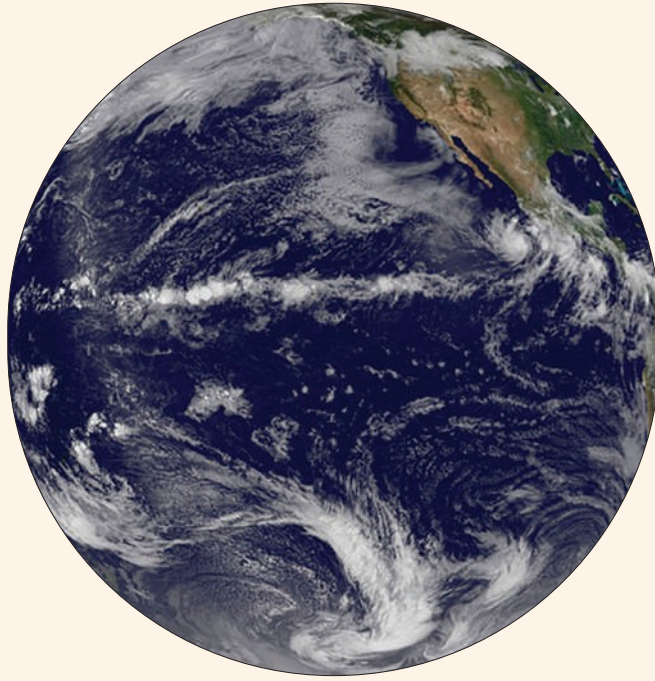
Symbols
pictures or signs that
mean something



Globe

Kindergarten Unit 1

Globe
a round model
of the world

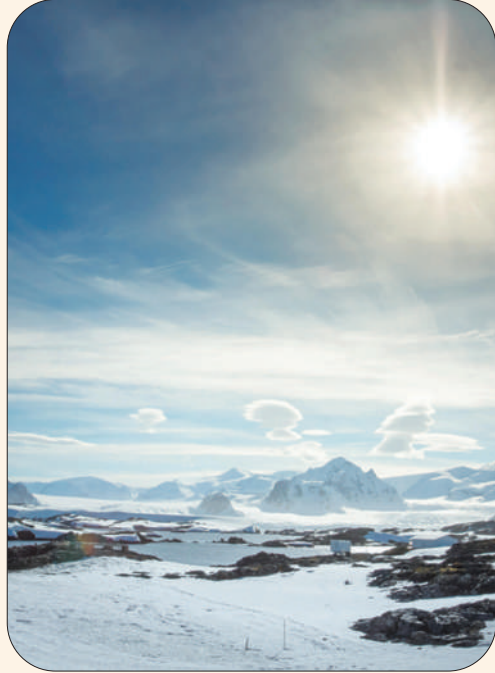


Earth

Kindergarten Unit 1

another name for
our world

Earth



North Pole

Kindergarten Unit 1

North Pole
most northern point
on Earth



South Pole

Kindergarten Unit 1

South Pole
most southern point
on Earth



Dairy

Kindergarten Unit 1

Dairy
food that is made from milk
or milk products



Desert

Kindergarten Unit 1

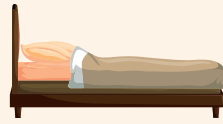
Desert
any area of land that
is dry and
does not get a lot of rain



Get Dressed



School



Bed

Present

Kindergarten Unit 2

the time we are living in right now

Present



Future

the time that has not happened yet

Future

Kindergarten Unit 2

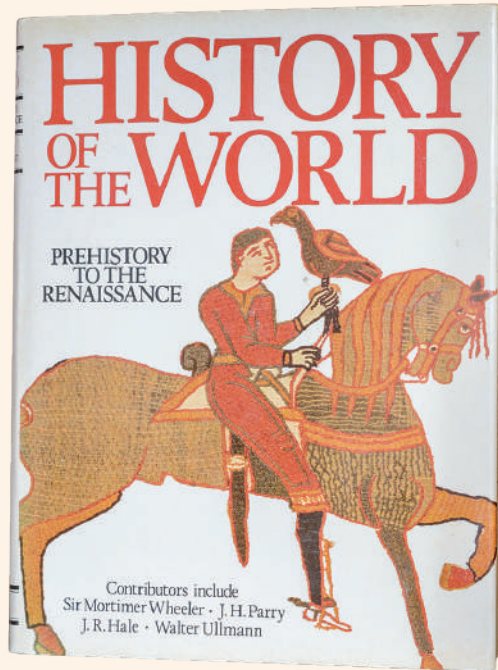


Past

Kindergarten Unit 2

**the time that has already
happened**

Past



History

Kindergarten Unit 2

learning about events
and people that
happened in the past

History

Reading and Writing		8:30–9:15
Science		9:15–10:00
Snack Time		10:00–10:15
Social Studies		10:15–11:00
Math		11:00–11:45

Schedule

Kindergarten Unit 2

Schedule
plans that tell us what is
happening and when

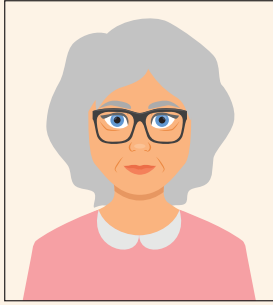
AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14  First Day of School!	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

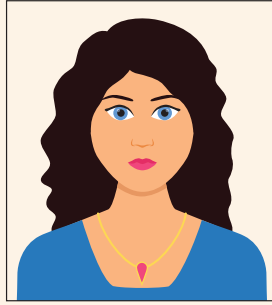
Calendar

Kindergarten Unit 2

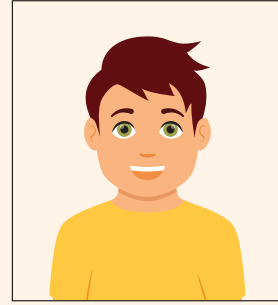
Calendar
shows us the days,
weeks, and months of
the year



Grandma was born.



Mom was born.



I was born.

Timeline

Kindergarten Unit 2

Timeline
list of events from the
past in
the order they happened

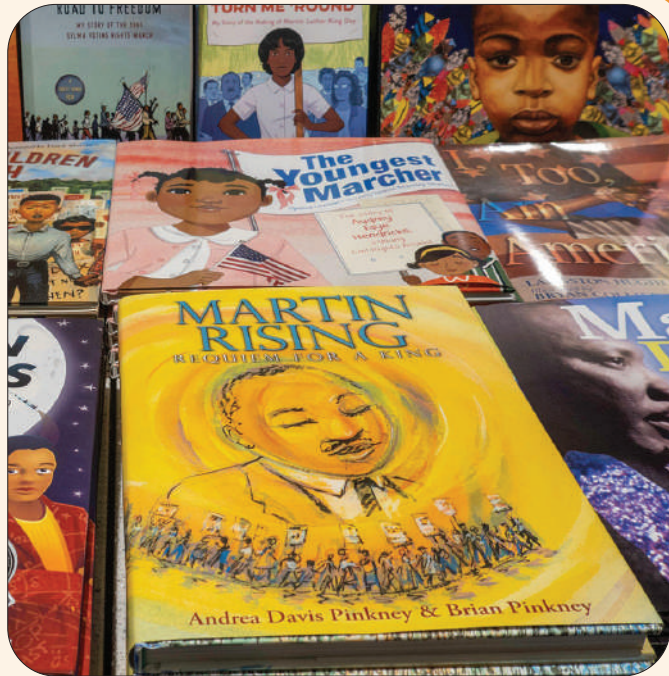
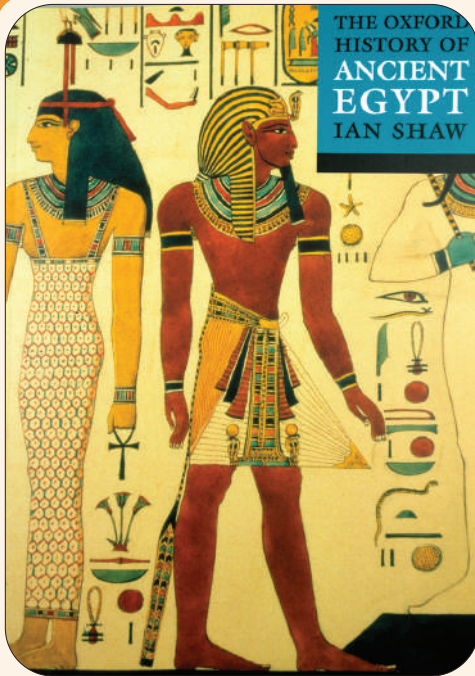


Letters

Kindergarten Unit 2

Letters
messages that someone
writes and sends to
someone else

Letters



Textbooks

Textbooks
books that people use to learn

Kindergarten Unit 2



Speeches

Kindergarten Unit 2

Speeches
when a person talks in front
of a group of people



Interview

Kindergarten Unit 2

Interview
when one person
asks another
person questions

JANUARY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Presidents' Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

JULY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15

OCTOBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Columbus Day	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21



Holiday

Kindergarten Unit 2

special days that help us
remember an event,
person, or group

Holiday



Celebration

Kindergarten Unit 2

Celebration
special parties or activities



Explorer

Kindergarten Unit 2

Explorer
a person who travels to
learn about a place that
is new to them



Army

a group of people who
serve in the military for
their country

Army

Kindergarten Unit 2



Nation

Kindergarten Unit 2

Nation
a country

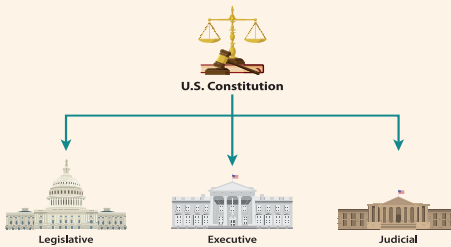


Lawyer

Kindergarten Unit 2

a person who helps
other people fix
problems they have with
laws, or rules everyone
has to follow

Lawyer



Government

Kindergarten Unit 2

Government
a group of people who make laws



Inauguration

Inauguration
the ceremony that marks
when a person who was
elected begins to be the
president

Kindergarten Unit 2



Citizens

Kindergarten Unit 2

Citizens
people who live in a
community, state,
or a country



Election

when citizens choose a person in
government to lead them

Election

Kindergarten Unit 2



Equally

FOLD-----

-----FOLD

Kindergarten Unit 2

**all people are
treated the same**

Equally





Contributions

Kindergarten Unit 2

Contributions
things that people do that make their
community better



Scientists

Kindergarten Unit 2

Scientists
people who learn about
the world we live in



Engineer

Kindergarten Unit 2

a person who leaves
Earth to explore space

Astronaut



Enslaved

Enslaved
to be forced to work for
others without being
paid or having any
freedom

Kindergarten Unit 2



Enslaved

Enslaved
to be forced to work for
others without being
paid or having any
freedom

Kindergarten Unit 2



Culture

Kindergarten Unit 2

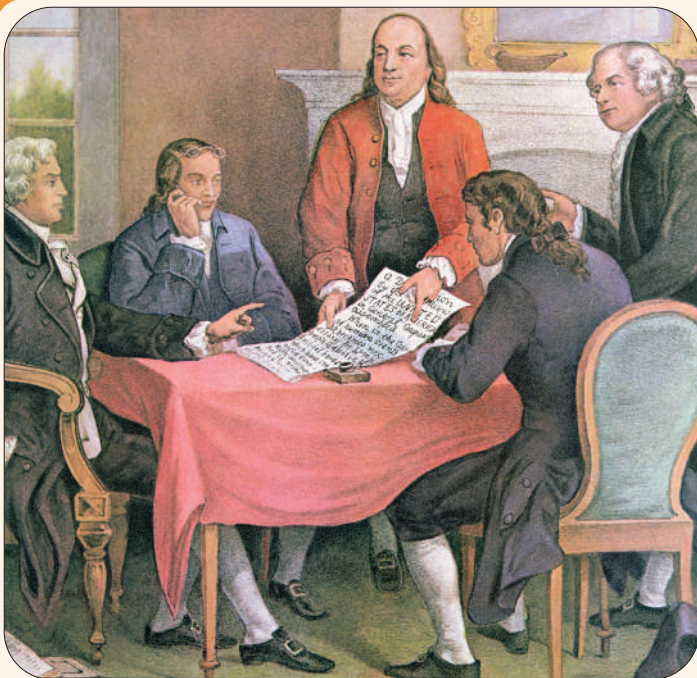
Culture
all the parts of life
that people in a
community share



Traditions

Traditions
ways of doing things from the past
that we still do today

Kindergarten Unit 2



Independence

Kindergarten Unit 2

Independence
being allowed to make
your own choices



Labor

Kindergarten Unit 2

Labor
work



Veterans

people who served in the armed
forces, such as the army or navy

Veterans

Kindergarten Unit 2



Harvest

Kindergarten Unit 2

gather crops when they
have finished growing

Harvest



Fast

Kindergarten Unit 2

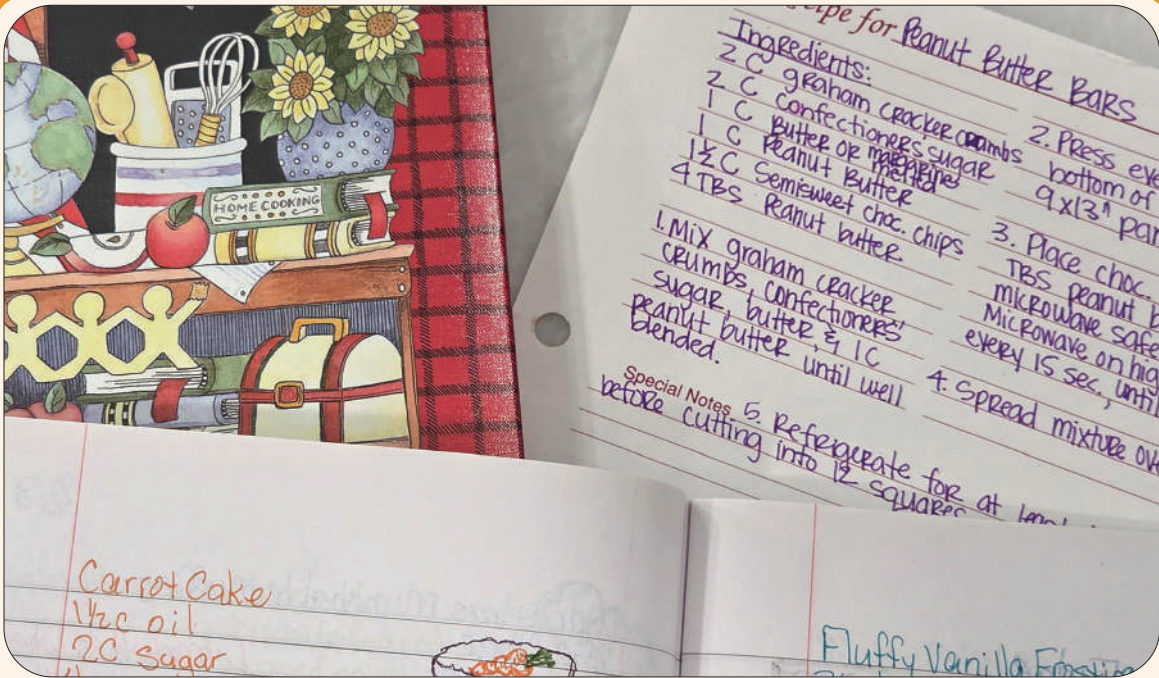
Fast
not eating or drinking



Ingredients

Ingredients
the food and seasonings that are
used to make a dish or a meal

Kindergarten Unit 2



Recipes

Kindergarten Unit 2

Recipes
tell how to make
different foods



Seafood

Kindergarten Unit 2

things we eat that live in water,
like fish, shrimp, and mussels

Seafood



Communities

Kindergarten Unit 3

Communities
groups of people who share
something, such as a language,
or have something in common,
such as where they live



Goods

Kindergarten Unit 3

things you can buy

Goods



Services

Kindergarten Unit 3

Services
tasks or jobs people do
for one another



Needs

Needs
things that people must
have to survive, like
food, water,
clothing, and shelter

Kindergarten Unit 3



Wants

things that are nice to have but are
not necessary for survival

Wants

Kindergarten Unit 3



Businesses

Kindergarten Unit 3

Businesses
Stores or other places
that sell
goods or services

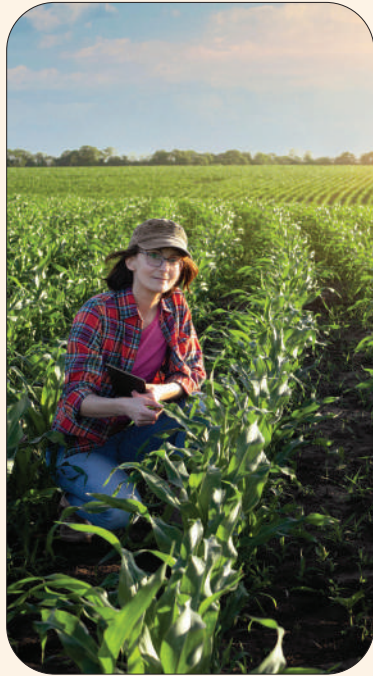


Scarcity

Kindergarten Unit 3

when there is not enough
of something for everyone
who wants it

Scarcity



Job

Kindergarten Unit 3

A special activity that
grown ups do

Job



Shipped

Kindergarten Unit 3

sent a long distance by
boat, airplane, truck,
or train

Shipped



Cafeteria

Kindergarten Unit 3

Cafeteria
a place where customers serve
themselves food
or are served food at a counter



Organize

Kindergarten Unit 3

Organize
to put something in order



Florist

Kindergarten Unit 3

a person who sells
flowers and plants

Florist



Gardener

Gardener
a person who takes care
of plants and trees

Kindergarten Unit 3



Mechanic

Kindergarten Unit 3

Mechanic
a person who fixes vehicles,
such as cars or trucks



Journalist

Kindergarten Unit 3

Journalist
a person who writes for a newspaper,
or magazine or for a radio, television,
or online news source



Podcaster

Kindergarten Unit 3

Podcaster
a person who creates a
program you can listen
to over the internet



Money

Kindergarten Unit 3

coins or paper bills, that
are traded for goods and
services

Money



Spend

Kindergarten Unit 3

using money to buy goods or services

Spend



Save

Kindergarten Unit 3

hold onto money instead of spending
it so it can be used in the future

Save



Wisely

Wisely
making good decisions
because of what you
have learned

Kindergarten Unit 3



Trade

Kindergarten Unit 3

giving one thing to get
something different

Trade



Bills

Kindergarten Unit 3

pieces of paper money

Bills



Coins

Coins
pieces of money
made of metal

Kindergarten Unit 3



Emergencies

FOLD

FOLD

Kindergarten Unit 3

Emergencies
unexpected events that have to be
handled right away



Value

Kindergarten Unit 3

Value
how much something
is worth



Community

Kindergarten Unit 4

Community
a group of people who share
something or have something
in common



Rules

Kindergarten Unit 4

tell people how to act

Rules



Safety

Kindergarten Unit 4

being protected from danger or
from getting hurt

Safety



Freedom

Kindergarten Unit 4

being able to do or say
what you want

Freedom



Judaism



Christianity



Islam

Religion

Kindergarten Unit 4

Religion
the beliefs that people
have about the world
and its purpose



Respectful

Kindergarten Unit 4

treating a person like
their thoughts and
feelings are important

Respectful



Responsible

Kindergarten Unit 4

Responsible
making good choices
and accepting the
consequences when you
make a bad choice

TRUE

FALSE

Honest

Kindergarten Unit 4

**telling the truth and
not lying**

Honest



Trust

Kindergarten Unit 4

**to count on someone else
to be responsible**

Trust



Principal

Kindergarten Unit 4

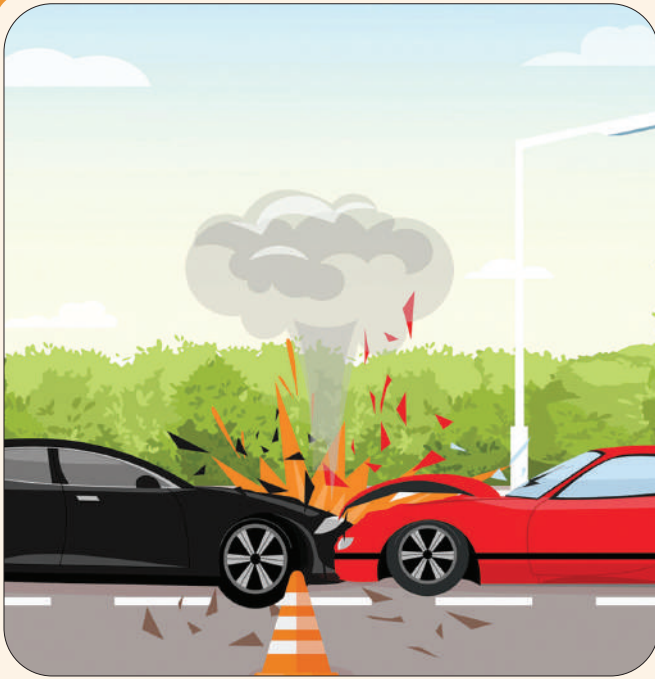
Principal
the leader of the people
who work and learn
at a school



Custodian

Custodian
takes care of the building
and sometimes the land
around it

Kindergarten Unit 4



Accident

Kindergarten Unit 4

a bad or difficult event
that we did not intend
to happen

Accident

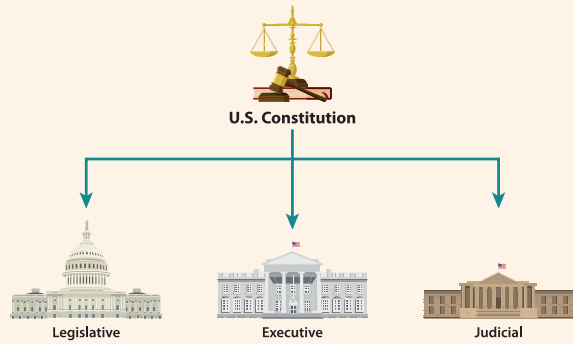
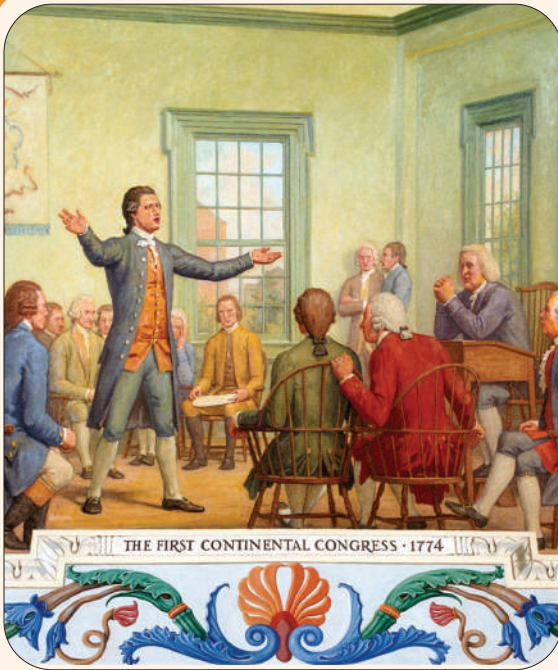


Laws

rules that people who
live together in a certain
place, such as a city,
parish, state, or country,
must follow

Laws

Kindergarten Unit 4



Government

Kindergarten Unit 4

Government
 group of people who make
 laws and decisions
 for people in a community



Voting

Kindergarten Unit 4

making a choice or
giving your opinion
about something

Voting



Elections

Kindergarten Unit 4

when we vote to choose people to
help lead the government

Elections



Parish president

Parish president
the person elected
by the people of the
parish to lead the parish
government

Kindergarten Unit 4



Mayor

Kindergarten Unit 4

the person that people
choose to lead the town
or city they live in

Mayor



City Council

Kindergarten Unit 4

City Council
a group of people
elected to make laws for
the city



Capital city

Kindergarten Unit 4

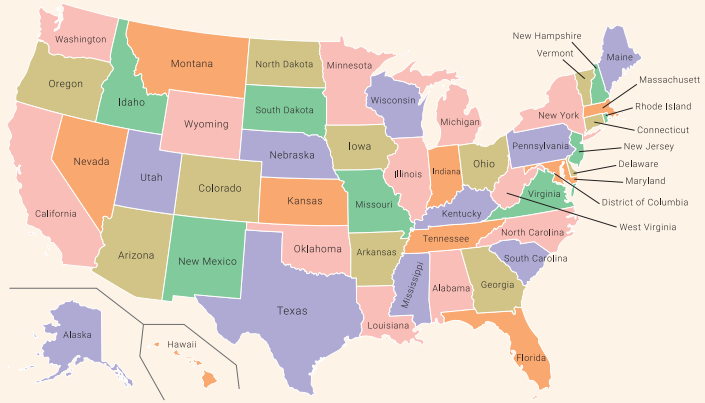
Capital city
where a state or country's
government meets



Congress

Kindergarten Unit 4

Congress
the group of people that
makes laws for the entire
United States

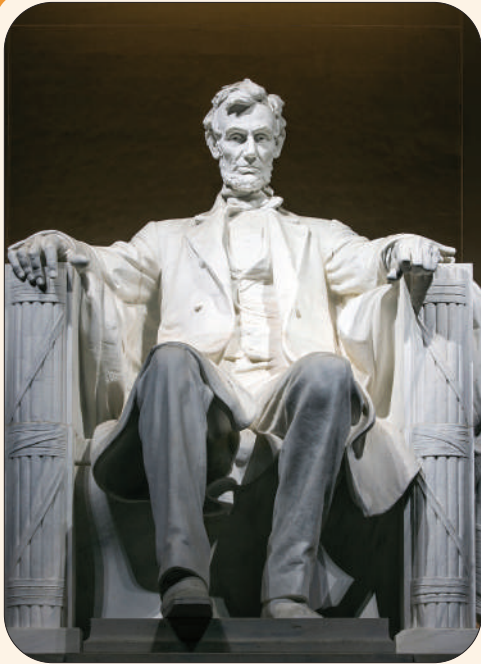


National

Kindergarten Unit 4

National

for the whole country



Unity

Kindergarten Unit 4

togetherness

Unity



Cornucopia

Kindergarten Unit 4

Cornucopia
a basket shaped
like a horn



Values

Kindergarten Unit 4

important beliefs and ideas that
guide the way we behave

Values



Waterways

Kindergarten Unit 4

bodies of water that people can
travel on with boats

Waterways



Coast

Kindergarten Unit 4

Coast
an area of land next to
the ocean



Geography

Kindergarten Unit 4

Geography
the study of Earth's
features and where
they are



Floats

Kindergarten Unit 4

large structures that people decorate
and ride on during parades

Floats



Justice

Kindergarten Unit 4

Justice
what is fair



Power

Kindergarten Unit 4

to be in control of yourself or others

Power



Faith

believing in something

Faith

Kindergarten Unit 4



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