



Step 1: Understanding the Curriculum Subjects, Strands and Topics

In Grades 1-6, two **strands** provide an organizational framework for the social studies curriculum.

1. **Heritage and Citizenship** focuses on an understanding of:
 - connections between past and present
 - interactions between various cultural groups in Canada
 - rights and responsibilities of citizens
2. **Canada and World Connections** focuses on an understanding of:
 - Canada and its relationship to the rest of the world

Topics for Social Studies, Grades 1-6						
Strands	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Heritage and Citizenship	Relationships, Rules and Responsibilities	Traditions and Celebrations	Pioneer Life	Medieval Times	Early Civilizations	Aboriginal Peoples and European Explorers
Canada and World Connections	The Local Community	Features of Communities Around the World	Urban and Rural Communities	The Provinces and Territories of Canada	Aspects of Government in Canada	Canada and Its Trading Partners

In Grades 7-8, the Grade 1-6 **strands** become the **subjects** of history and geography. There are three **topics** studied in each discipline for each grade.

Topics for History and Geography, Grades 7-8		
	Grade 7	Grade 8
History	1600-1850 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New France ▪ British North America Act ▪ Conflict and Change 	1850-1918 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Confederation ▪ Development of Western Canada ▪ Canada: A Changing Society
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Themes of Geographic Inquiry ▪ Patterns in Physical Geography ▪ Natural Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Patterns In Human Geography ▪ Economic Systems ▪ Migration