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CELEBRATE BASIC SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS



Basic does not mean boring! There certainly is nothing dull about . . .

- ... designing job descriptions for presidents and other high-level officials
- ... solving puzzles to figure out who's got which governmental powers
- ... following giant footsteps to decide how a bill becomes a law
- ... fooling around with fascinating government acronyms such as the CIA, FBI, DEQ, FCC, FDIC, BLM, BIA, NASA, IRS, FHA, INS, NFS, and the FTC
- ... listening in on speeches about the government and deciding which ones are true
- ... putting the Bill of Rights to work in real-life scenarios
- ... showing off that you can tell a referendum from an initiative and a recession from a depression
- ... matching sensational headlines with the presidents in office while they happened
- ... solving the mystery of who's behind which door in the Cabinet

These are just some of the adventures students can explore as they celebrate basic social studies skills. The idea of celebrating the basics is just what it sounds like—enjoying and getting good at knowing about the government and economy of the United States. Each page invites learners to try a high-interest, appealing exercise that will strengthen or review one specific geography skill. This is no ordinary fill-in-the-blanks way to learn! These exercises are fun and surprising. Students follow a sassy American eagle, Egbert, their tour guide to the American government and economy, as they do the useful work of practicing social studies skills. They'll review intriguing, important facts about the structure of the government, the workings of the economy, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens right along with Egbert!

The pages in this book can be used in many ways:

- to sharpen or review a skill with one student
- to reinforce the skill with a small or large group
- by students working on their own
- by students working under the direction of a parent or teacher

Each page may be used to introduce a new skill, to reinforce a skill, or even to assess a student's performance of a skill. And, there's more than just the great student activities! You will also find an appendix of resources helpful for students and teachers—including a ready-to-use test for assessing government, economy, and citizenship facts and skills. Students will need access to social studies resources such as an almanac and U.S. history book. A copy of the U.S. Constitution is also recommended.

As your students take on the challenges of these adventures with the U.S. government and economy, they will grow. And as you watch them check off the basic social studies skills they've sharpened, you can celebrate with them!

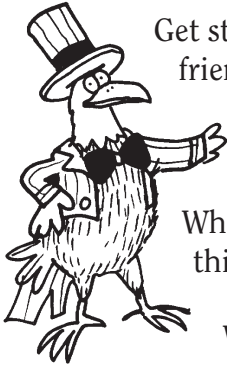
The Skills Test (pages 56–59)

Use the skills test as a pretest and/or a post-test. This will help you check the students' mastery of basic social studies skills in the area of U.S. government, economics, and citizenship, and to prepare them for success on achievement tests.

SKILLS CHECKLIST FOR U.S. GOVERNMENT, ECONOMICS, & CITIZENSHIP

✓	SKILL	PAGE(S)
	Review terms and concepts related to U.S. government and economics	10, 11, 50
	Recognize the key ideas of the Declaration of Independence	12
	Distinguish among important documents in U.S. history and government	12, 13
	Explore the contents and principles of the Constitution	13–18
	Recognize the contents and significance of the Bill of Rights	16, 17
	Recognize the significance of amendments to the Constitution; identify key amendments	18
	Explain the structure of the federal government and the concept of separation of powers	19
	Identify the duties, requirements, and officials of the executive branch	20–23
	Describe the members and functions of the president's cabinet	22
	Identify the names and functions of key government agencies	23
	Identify the duties, requirements, and officials of the legislative branch	24–29
	Identify the powers of Congress and the limits on its powers	27, 32
	Recognize the rights and responsibilities of state governments	27, 32
	Describe how laws are made	28, 29
	Identify the duties, requirements, and officials of the judicial branch	30, 31
	Recognize the significance of some key court decisions	31
	Identify examples of reserved powers, delegated powers, and concurrent powers	32
	Explain how presidents and other officials are elected	33–35
	Identify some U.S. presidents and events that took place during their administrations	36, 37
	Identify national symbols, traditions, and holidays and their significance	38, 39
	Identify key national landmarks	40, 41
	Identify current officials at the national, state and local levels	42
	Describe rights and responsibilities of citizens	43
	Identify ways citizens can participate in government	43
	Recognize some key citizens that made contributions to the United States	44, 45
	Recognize some of the workings of the U.S. economic system	46–49
	Identify some features of the relationship between money and the government	46
	Describe some of the uses of taxes	47
	Describe some economic principles and terms	48, 49

WHERE WOULD YOU FIND IT?



Get started on a tour of the United States government and economic systems. This friendly American Eagle, Egbert, has offered to be your guide, since he knows a lot about this topic.

These are some of the things you'll run across on your tour. Where (on your tour of the government and economy) do you think you'll find each of them?



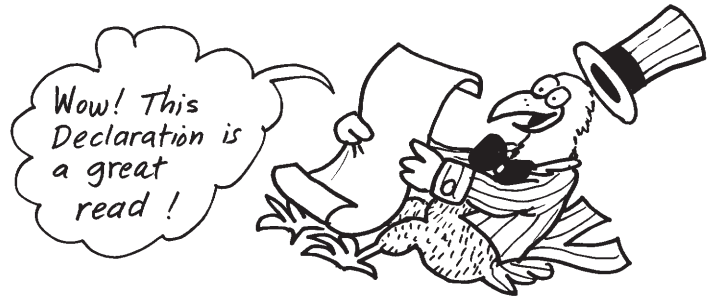
Where would you find . . .

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. . . . a ballot?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. in a bank b. in an election c. near a statue d. in a parade | <p>6. . . . the Attorney General?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. at the Pentagon b. at the Justice Department c. at the U.S. mint d. at the Federal Reserve |
| <p>2. . . . a quorum?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. on the President's desk b. beside the Washington Monument c. in the House of Representatives d. in the Declaration of Independence | <p>7. . . . a habeas corpus?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. in a morgue b. in the Constitution c. in the Department of Transportation d. in the National Forest Service |
| <p>3. . . . a stock?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. in a portfolio b. in a salad c. in the Constitution d. in a ballot box | <p>8. . . . an Article?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. in the Preamble b. in the Declaration of Independence c. in the Department of Agriculture d. in the Constitution |
| <p>4. . . . an entrepreneur?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. sitting on the Supreme Court b. running a business c. leading the U.S. Coast Guard d. robbing a pawnshop | <p>9. . . . a senator?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. at the stock market b. in Congress c. at the Bureau of Engraving & Printing d. in the Department of Labor |
| <p>5. . . . a Secretary of the Interior?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. at a bank b. running a decorating business c. at the Treasury Department d. in the President's Cabinet | <p>10. . . . a suffragette?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. at the Federal Reserve b. at the Pentagon c. in a protest march d. at a Social Security office |

Use with page 11.

Name _____

11. . . . an elastic clause?
- in a laundry
 - at the Department of Education
 - in the Constitution
 - in an election



12. . . . a branch?
- in the federal government
 - at the Federal Reserve
 - at the U.S. Treasury Department
 - at a polling place

17. . . . a bill?
- in Congress
 - in the Constitution
 - in the Declaration of Independence
 - in the Supreme Court

13. . . . the Commander-in-Chief?
- in the Senate
 - at the Pentagon
 - in the White House
 - in the Supreme Court

18. . . . a serial number?
- on the Bill of Rights
 - on a ballot
 - on a dollar bill
 - on the Constitution

14. . . . millions of milled coins?
- at the U.S. mint
 - at the Department of Labor
 - in the President's Cabinet
 - at the Central Intelligence Agency

19. . . . "We hold these truths to be self-evident, . . . ?"
- in the Declaration of Independence
 - in the Army
 - in the Constitution
 - in a stock portfolio

15. . . . a bond?
- on an Air Force bomber
 - at the Department of Labor
 - in a safe deposit box
 - in a courthouse

20. . . . a preamble?
- on a \$5 bill
 - in the Senate
 - at the beginning of the Constitution
 - in a stock portfolio

16. . . . a veto?
- on a new \$100 bill
 - on a legislative bill
 - on new a \$1000 bill
 - on a ballot

21. . . . some currency?
- in a bank
 - in the Declaration of Independence
 - at the Department of Energy
 - at the National Parks Service

Use with page 10.

Name _____