

## Chapter 3: Framing the Problem

Social Studies Tasks by Rigor/Relevance Quadrant  
(ES, MS, HS)

## Learning Experiences in the Rigor/Relevance Framework

## Social Studies

## Elementary Examples

- 6** **Quadrant C Assimilation**
- Write an essay on some aspect of your family or neighborhood.
  - Analyze similarities/differences between current and previous practices (e.g., compare school today to the 19<sup>th</sup> century).
- 5**
- Role play a simulation of the American Revolution to seek resolution of grievances.
  - Study African art and folktales and create art objects and related tales.
- 4**
- Contrast citizens' roles/responsibilities under different forms of government.
  - Speculate on and describe how changes in climate and natural resources will influence various regions of the world.
  - Play a simulation game that illustrates supply and demand.

- 3** **Quadrant A Acquisition**
- Brainstorm meaning of a term such as *citizenship* and read a related book.
- 2**
- Create a book illustrating and describing landforms using geographic terms.
  - Memorize names, locations, and capital cities of U.S. states.
  - Read a biography of a Native American.
  - Research and celebrate a holiday from another country.
- 1**
- Read historical novels about the contributions of American women.
  - Develop a timeline of U.S. history events.
  - Visit a historical museum.

- Quadrant D Adaptation**
- Create a class business by designing, producing, marketing, and selling a product, such as cookies.
  - Explore an online resource on inventions and then design an invention to solve a problem.
  - Research a location in the U.S., and explain why it is a good place to live.
  - Create a school bank simulation to illustrate loans, investments, and interest.
  - Read a story about survival and brainstorm strategies for surviving a disaster (e.g., snowstorm, tornado).
  - Identify a family buying choice, list benefits and costs, and explain why the decision was made.

- Quadrant B Application**
- Map a school facility.
  - Describe geographic and climatic characteristics of the local community.
  - Prepare foods from different countries.
  - Trace family histories of the class and map immigration movements and timelines.
  - Interview people who have lived elsewhere and develop a list of different community characteristics.
  - Observe a local farming enterprise and discuss career and business opportunities.
  - Explore buying options and comparison shop for a product.
  - Use different map scales (linear, fractional, and word) to measure the distance between two places.

1

2

3

4

5

## Chapter 3: Framing the Problem

Social Studies Tasks by Rigor/Relevance Quadrant  
(ES, MS, HS)

Continued from previous page



## Learning Experiences in the Rigor/Relevance Framework

## Social Studies

## Middle Level Examples

6 **Quadrant C Assimilation**

- Complete an interdisciplinary research project for a significant historical event.
- Use physical, topographical, political, and economic maps to compare and contrast early American civilizations.

- 5 • Research and role play the first U.S. Constitutional Convention.
- View a historical video and critically evaluate perspective and point of view.
- Play a budget simulation game to analyze results of economic decisions.

- 4 • Identify and analyze primary and secondary source documents to understand the usefulness of each.
- Research how economic decisions are made in other countries as compared to the U.S.

3 **Quadrant A Acquisition**

- Discover characteristics of society in an earlier decade by reading historical documents, such as wills and letters.
- 2 • Read about and discuss personal credit options.
- Research inventions of ancient civilizations.
- Define common terms used in various forms of government.
- View a historical video and answer factual questions.
- 1 • Construct a replica of a Native American village.
- Study colonial life through historical fiction.
- Make a map showing the growth of the United States from 1783 to 1914.

**Quadrant D Adaptation**

- Participate in an online discovery adventure exploring historical ruins.
- Analyze and debate the role of advertising in school.
- Solve problems by evaluating, taking, and defending a position on an issue, such as immigration or public transportation policy.
- Create a WebQuest to illustrate the "American Dream."
- Create a website for the local community.
- Research and present opinions of candidates running for office.
- Find examples of stereotyping in historic and current events.
- Compare the shaping of public opinion in colonial times to modern times.

**Quadrant B Application**

- Develop a personal financial plan.
- Compete in a stock market investment simulation or game.
- Locate and catalog community service organizations.
- Research the status of specific legislation using a Congressional Internet site.
- Research what items cost in other countries and use exchange rates to relate to U.S. prices.
- Explore buying options and comparison shop for products.
- Plan and participate in a community service activity.
- Hold an international festival.

1

2

3

4

5

## Chapter 3: Framing the Problem

Social Studies Tasks by Rigor/Relevance Quadrant  
(ES, MS, HS)

Continued from previous page



## Learning Experiences in the Rigor/Relevance Framework

	Social Studies	High School Examples
<b>6</b>	<b>Quadrant C Assimilation</b>	<b>Quadrant D Adaptation</b>
<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compare/contrast how ancient civilizations valued women, social responsibility, and equality.</li> <li>Research and give a presentation on an historical example of nationalism.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a survey and analyze results on First Amendment issues related to Internet use.</li> <li>Analyze a local, state, or national issue and prescribe a response that promotes the public interest or general welfare (e.g., a voter registration campaign).</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Answer data-based questions using copies of original historical documents.</li> <li>Participate in a Socratic seminar on a policy issue, such as privacy.</li> <li>Use case studies to investigate how economic systems affect people's incentive for economic gain.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research and debate economic issues and public policy related to the Internet, such as sharing of online music.</li> <li>Evaluate a common practice or proposed legislation for consistency with the Constitution/Bill of Rights, and write your opinion in a letter to an elected official.</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>Quadrant A Acquisition</b>	<b>Quadrant B Application</b>
<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Observe local government proceedings.</li> <li>Complete interactive mapping activities on European geography.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be a juror on a local youth court.</li> <li>Conduct a school/community survey on a social issue and analyze results.</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report on a complex historical event.</li> <li>Complete an in-depth geographic study of a world region by analyzing demographic data.</li> <li>Recognize why international trade takes place and the role of exchange rates in fostering or inhibiting trade.</li> <li>Trace the evolution of American values, beliefs, and institutions through a study of their constitutional and institutional development.</li> <li>Research key aspects of the state constitution.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write a letter of support for a proposed local or state policy.</li> <li>Complete an income tax form.</li> <li>Draw from memory a map of the world indicating the relative location of continents, oceans, major river systems, nations in the news, and important cities.</li> <li>Locate and interpret current and historical economic data (e.g., GDP, CPI, employment).</li> <li>Analyze credit options, calculate purchase costs, and complete a credit application.</li> </ul>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>