

## Gifted & Talented and Advanced Potential in Social Studies

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Social Studies is a multidisciplinary subject area developed from state and national models to include 6 standards, Civics, Peoples of the Nations and World, Geography, Economics, History, Skills and Processes. It prepares students to respect, analyze and understand local and global societies, history, and cultures.

Identifying giftedness and potential for success in advanced academics in Social Studies takes into consideration a student's ability to inquire, comprehend, question, analyze, debate, expand, transfer, and synthesize information.

### AREAS OF IDENTIFICATION

- The following is a non-exhaustive list of characteristics and identifying behaviors that can be used to recognize giftedness or advanced potential in Social Studies, across all grade bands. Students may:
- Demonstrate highly analytical thinking and curiosity, and reasoning beyond those of their peers.
- Possess advanced vocabulary and strong reading comprehension.
- Connect interdisciplinary themes connections and concepts.
- Fluently debate multiple sides of an argument and consider various perspectives.
- Demonstrate deep interest in human beings and the world in which they live.
- Demonstrate a deep interest in historical or current events, geography, politics, etc.
- Possess advanced understanding and interest in several complex and mature topics such as religion, politics, race etc. more than usual for age level.
- Demonstrate deep knowledge of advanced, technical, and specific topics in the social sciences (maps, economic or political trends, historical facts and trivia, ethics, laws and justice, cultures and anthropology, etc.)
- Possess deep or unusual insight into causal relationships, inquiries about conceptual and debatable ideas.
- Demonstrates advanced inquiry. Asks deep/probing and provocative questions.
- Understands broad concepts and principles and can quickly make a valid generalization about events, people, or things; seeks connection and relationships between events, people, and things.
- Absorbs and involves themselves deeply in causes, topics or problems; is persistent in seeking task completion.

- Generates a range of ideas or solutions to problems and questions; often offers unusual and clever responses.

As students' progress through grade bands the following additional characteristics should also be considered:

- Strong technical and analytical writing skills
- Able to conduct and apply complex inquiry and research methods.

Evidence of giftedness or potential for success in advanced academics in Social Studies may also include assessment data and top scores or significant growth from the following assessments, as one possible measure among other considerations.

- MCAP Social Studies 8
- MCAP American Government
- Stanford 10
- Aprenda 3
- Terra Nova 3rd edition

Additional evidence should include a [portfolio](#). Portfolio should contain evidence of unusual presentation styles, topics and ideas, evidence of advanced work quality or mature interests, in-depth understanding of an idea or problem, creative, and well-organized work.

Sources cited:

[https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/gifted/Leadership\\_Infographic.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/gifted/Leadership_Infographic.pdf)

<https://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DCAA/Social-Studies/MSSS.aspx>

[https://www.sengifted.org/post/recognizing-social-and-emotional-traits-of-young-gifted-children#:~:text=Research%20on%20the%20social%20and,reasoning%20\(Rinn%2C%202021\).](https://www.sengifted.org/post/recognizing-social-and-emotional-traits-of-young-gifted-children#:~:text=Research%20on%20the%20social%20and,reasoning%20(Rinn%2C%202021).)

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<https://doi.org/10.1080/00377996.1978.9957389>