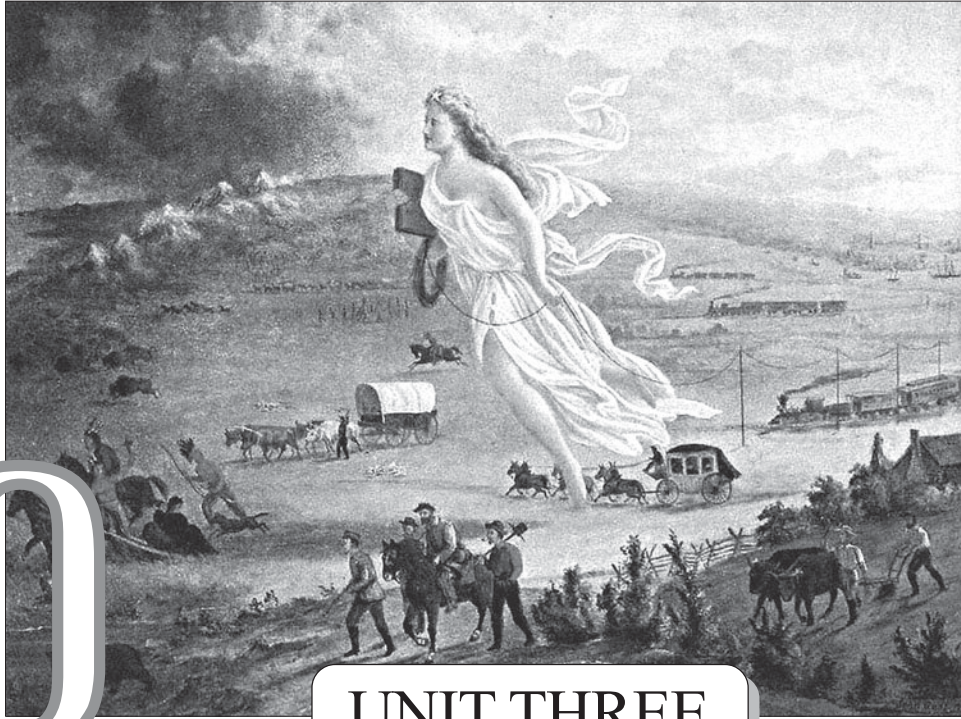


**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM
BASED ON MSDE STANDARDS AND GOALS**

Eighth Grade Social Studies



UNIT THREE

Geographic and Economic Change Shape the Nation

1815–1850

THIS UNIT IS TAUGHT IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.



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Introduction

The Unit 8.3 guide provides the most essential information needed for instruction - Content Standards, MCPS Focus Statements, and an instructional sequence. This guide is aligned with the MSDE indicators and prepares students for success on the Government High School Assessment (HSA). It lays a foundation for student understanding of how political systems develop, function, and change over time. These ideas are an integral part of the National, State, and Local Government course students in MCPS take in tenth grade and a key component of the Government HSA exam.

Begin by reading the *Enduring Understanding* and *Essential Questions* below. Those two items encapsulate the whole idea or **WHY** of the unit. Why, as in “Why study this?” In Unit Three students delve into questions about how a nation’s geography impacts its culture. As students study how geographic and economic expansion changed American culture, they build important foundations for understanding the Civil War, the central topic of Unit Four.

As you read through the outline, you will see that the unit sequentially builds the ideas expressed in the Enduring Understanding. Next review the **WHAT**- the MSDE Content Standards for the unit. These standards represent what MSDE wants students to be able to know and do. MCPS has broken the Content Standards down into more discrete Content Focus Statements that can be found on the front page of each Lesson Sequence. Use the Focus Statements for each session as a basis for your daily mastery objectives. What you do in the classroom is the **HOW**.

Why?

Enduring Understanding

- **Geographic characteristics, which include both physical and human features, influence the development of economic and cultural systems.**
- **Market systems thrive on competition, private ownership, free enterprise, trade, limited government involvement, and continual growth.**
- **Characteristics of geographic and economic systems help shape the cultural norms of a society.**
- **From 1815-1850, the changing geography and economy of the United States included industrialization, extension of the slave-based plantation system, expansion of national boundaries, arrival of new immigrant groups, removal of Native American groups, and growth of cities and transportation networks.**
- **These changes helped develop fundamental aspects of American political and social culture such as American nationalism, role of the common man, belief in social reform, and participation in the political process.**

Possible Essential Questions

1. What makes up the geography of a region?
2. How does geography impact the development of a nation?
3. How do geographic and economic systems work together?
4. What are the benefits of economic expansion?
5. What are the costs of economic expansion?

What?

MSDE Content Standards

The student will be able to:

U.S. History

1. Analyze reasons for exploration and the acquisition of territories including the Louisiana Purchase and Manifest Destiny.
2. Analyze the United States' relations with Native Americans, including treaty relations, land acquisition, and the **policy** of Indian removal.
3. Analyze changes in land and water transportation, including a network of roads, canals, and railroads, and their impact on the economy and **settlement patterns**.
4. Describe the origins and provisions of the Monroe Doctrine and explain how it influenced foreign affairs.
5. Evaluate the influence of industrialization and technological developments including the factory system and its effects on individuals and families.
6. Identify the push pull factors responsible for immigration to the United States, such as the forced migration of Africans, Western European immigration.
7. Explain how the cotton gin and the opening of new lands in the South and West led to the increased demand for slaves.
8. Explain the importance of Jacksonian Democracy and how it represented a change in American social, political, and economic life.
9. Explain how tariff policy and issues of states' rights influenced political party development and prompted sectional differences.
10. Identify how government policies resolved or promoted sectional differences before 1840, such as the Missouri Compromise.
11. Describe the impact of the various reform movements including the abolitionist movement.

Economics

1. Analyze the relationship between the availability of natural, capital, and human resources, and the production of goods and services now and in the past.
2. Analyze the impact of technological change (factories, machinery, transportation, communication, new technology) and resource use in promoting economic growth.
3. Describe the effects of government actions on the banking system prior to 1877.

Geography

1. Construct and interpret graphs, charts, databases, and thematic maps using map elements including a title, symbols, cardinal and intermediate directions, compass rose, border, longitude and latitude, legends/key and scale.
2. Explain interrelationships among physical and human characteristics that shape the identity of places
3. Explain why Americans migrated west, such as fertile soil, abundant resources, and economic opportunity, and the impact on that region.
4. Analyze how geographic characteristics, such as waterways, mineral resources, and agriculture contributed to the rise of industry.

Political Systems

1. Describe the development of political parties and their effects on elections and political life.

Peoples of the Nations and World

1. Explain differing points of view about slavery and states' rights.
2. Analyze why America is a diverse society.

Social Studies Skills

1. Use formal writing, such as multi-paragraph essays, historical investigations, editorials, and letters to persuade.

How?

Unit 8.3 *Geographic and Economic Change Shape the Nation* Instructional Flow

Pre-assessment

Lesson Sequence One: American Geography, American Markets

- modern mental map of geographic characteristics of the United States
- factors that promote economic growth and the resulting costs and benefits
- principles of geography, economics, and politics from Grades 6-7, including elements of a market economy

Lesson Sequence Two: Settlement Shapes a Nation

- mental maps that display territorial expansion of the nation through the mid 1800s.
- Manifest Destiny and the Monroe Doctrine reveal American beliefs about the future of the nation
- arguments for and against extending slave-based economies into the Louisiana Territory and the resulting Missouri Compromise
- government policy towards Native Americans, including the Indian Removal Act, and its impact on Native Americans

Lesson Sequence Three: National Growth Shapes Democracy

- mental maps and data graphics that reveal changes in the nation's demographics and increases in political participation that characterized Jacksonian Democracy
- the National Bank and nullification crisis highlight social and political divisions within the nation
- the Trail of Tears, an injustice against the Cherokee in Georgia, reveals the limitations of American democracy

Lesson Sequence Four: Economic Growth, Regional Responses

- mental maps show how changes in transportation encouraged regional economic growth
- Northern, Southern, and Western resources support the growth of the cotton market, encouraging the expansion of slavery into the West
- the causes and effects of industrialization and immigration
- changing economic, political, and social systems of the nation prompt social reform movements

End of Unit Assessment