

8th Grade Priority Standards

- Understand and use scale to find distance on a map and latitude and longitude to locate places within the U.S.
- Identify the 50 States and their capitals
- Understand and become knowledgeable of the mental, physical, and geographic challenges faced by the Lewis and Clark Expedition.
- Compare and contrast the push and pull factors that led to the migration of people to the newly acquired lands and explain the resulting effects.
- Examine the causes, course, and effects of the Mexican American War.
- Identify inventions that led to the Industrial Revolution in America and understand their impact on the U.S. economy and society.
- Understand and be able to compare the economic and cultural differences between different areas in the US.
- Understand how cultural differences and economic differences would lead to conflicts between the North and the South prior to the Civil War.
- Explain the causes and effects of the Missouri Compromise, the Compromise of 1850, the Fugitive Slave Act, the Kansas–Nebraska Act, the Dred Scott decision, the election of Abraham Lincoln, and the Emancipation Proclamation and identify the events that led to the US Civil War.
- Identify the areas slave and non–slave holding territories of the United States.
- Understand and explain the factors that led to the Union's victory during the Civil War.
- Explain how conflict changed the United States economy, society, and politics.
- Identify territorial acquisitions from 1803–1877
- Know and apply the 5 themes of geography