Elementary Social Studies

What your child will be learning and what they will be able to do...

Help your child look at and analyze visual historical information

Teacher Question– What’s happening in this picture? Why is it significant? How would a picture about the same event differ today? Good Student Answer– A person is voting. It’s significant because at one point African-Americans were denied their right to vote. It would look different today by the way people dress and the technology used to vote and now groups are not denied the right to vote based on race.

Look at the political cartoon to the right

Teacher Questions/Student Answers in Elementary Social Studies:

What do you think the Symbols Mean? Good Student Answer: The symbols, which are initials, represent the 13 original American colonies. What message do you think the creator of the cartoon tried to convey? What evidence can you use from the cartoon to support your answer? Good student Answer: The creator is trying to say that the colonies need to unite to survive. The evidence from the cartoon are the words, “Join or Die” and the fact that the snake is broken apart, representing the fact that currently the colonies are NOT united.

To help your child in social studies, try some of the following:
- Visit local museums and historic sites;
- Discuss your family heritage with your child;
- Ask older family members to tell a story when they were young to your child;
- Observe and question things in your environment like: How did your street get its name?
- Make family timelines together!
- Discuss how your family’s cultural values affect the decisions that you make as a family.
- Talk about economic decisions your family is making or needs to make.
- Discuss community issues and problems at home and talk about ways to solve the issue or problem.

What to Read and Use? Primary and Secondary Sources, Political Cartoons, Newspapers, Magazines like Time, Newsweek, & National Geographic, Watch the news and discuss! Read BLOGS on topics of current events AND discuss!

Pay Attention To:
How Your Child Views the World.

Geography
History
Civics
Economics
Global Perspective
Multicultural