

Teacher's Name:
Employee Number:
School:

Social Studies Lesson Plan- SS.4.C.2.1
Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens

1. **Title: Citizen Issues- 4th Grade**

2. **Overview - Big Ideas:**

Enduring Understandings

- Recognize public issues in Florida
- Understand the impact of Florida's public issues on the daily lives of citizens
- Understand government ideas on issues
- Comprehend the impact of issues on government and individuals

Essential Questions - *(What provocative questions will you use to foster inquiry, understanding and transfer of learning?)*

- What are the public issues in Florida?
- What is the impact of these issues on the daily lives of citizens?
- What are the responsibilities of citizens to the issues?
- Why is it important for citizens to be informed on public issues impacting Florida?

3. **Lesson Objectives:**

Standards - (Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Social Studies)

Fourth Grade NGSSS-SS Benchmarks

- SS.4.C.2.1 Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens

Tested Seventh Grade NGSSS-SS Benchmarks Relevant to this Lesson

- SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government.
- SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues

4. **Key Vocabulary:**

Public issues, impact, immigration, environment, government, public interest, media, interest groups, bias, propaganda, debates, platforms, political ads

5. **Evidence of Student Understanding (Assessment) in this Lesson:**

What key knowledge and skills will students acquire as a result of this lesson?

After students complete this lesson, they will have an understanding of the public issues in Florida. They will also be able to understand the impact of these issues on their daily lives as citizens.

What will students be able to do as a result of such knowledge and skills?

As a result of acquiring said knowledge and skills, the students will be able to complete the tables (attached) associated with this lesson. The tables display public issues and their effect on citizens. Students will also be able to explain the impact of immigration on the state and the importance of being informed on both sides of an issue in order to make proper decision. .

In addition, students will be able to correctly answer the questions that are part of the formal assessment included in this lesson.

*Both **formative and summative assessments** are included*

6. **Materials Needed:** *(Resources you will use in this lesson)*

Attachment A: Reading associated with lesson

Attachment B: Chart – “Public Issues and Their Effect on Citizens”

Attachment C: Graph and newspaper activity sheet – “Immigration and Florida”

Attachment D: Preparing a debate on the draining of Lake Okeechobee

Attachment E: Post Quiz on public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens.

7. **Steps to Deliver the Lesson:**

A detailed, step by step description of how to deliver the lesson and achieve the lesson plan objectives.

- a. **Lesson Opening:** Have students think of public issues that they believe impact their daily lives. Make a web of all the public issues suggested by students.
- b. **Reading:** Use effective reading strategies appropriate for your class to read attachment A, "Public issues in Florida" with students. Discuss and check for understanding as students read through passage.
- c. Discuss vocabulary associated with lesson
- d. Have students work individually or as a group to complete attachment B: Table-"Public issues in Florida and their Effect on Citizens"; attachment C: "Immigration in Florida;" and attachment D: "Preparing a Debate" (whether or not to drain Lake Okeechobee).
- e. Have students take the post-quiz associated with the lesson (attachment F). Review quiz with students and check for understanding as needed. Reteach concepts not mastered.

8. Specific Activities: (From Guided to Independent)

Activities designed to facilitate the gradual release of teacher responsibility, from teacher-led to independent

- a. After students have completed attachments B, C and D, have them write summaries that explain the information presented in the graphic organizer.
- b. Pair students who are struggling readers and/or English Language Learners, with another student for assistance.
- c. Be sure to circulate the room to monitor students' abilities in writing the paragraphs. Model writing with the students demonstrating difficulties.
- d. Have students share their writing with the class.

9. Differentiated Instruction Strategies:

How to accommodate a variety of student learning needs, remediation strategies as well as enrichment strategies.

- a. While students are completing the graphic organizers, work individually with students who are having difficulty with reading.
- b. While students are completing the paragraph summary, work on an individual basis with students who are having difficulty.

10. Technology Integration:

Activities incorporating technology; e.g., Addressing lesson content through online resources.

- a. Have students research one of Florida's public issues and develop an action plan as to how they can help with this public issue. Many issues, such as "Health Issues in Florida" can be found on the Florida Government online site below:
<http://www.floridagovernmentonline.com/category/17>
- b. Have students research public interest groups in the state of Florida and develop an advertising campaign for the group and their issue. Possible site- Florida Public Interest Research Group: <http://www.floridapirg.org/>

11. Lesson Closure:

Methods to draw ideas together, review concepts, etc.

- a. After completing the post-quiz and going over with students, ask students the following questions for wrap up the lesson.
 - What are the public issues in Florida?
 - What is the impact of these issues on the daily lives of citizens?
 - What are the responsibilities of a citizen with regard to the issues?
 - Why is it important for citizens to be informed on the public issues impacting Florida?
- b. For home learning: Choose a public issue and develop a graphic organizer for both sides of the issue. Then, write a persuasive essay to convince someone take your side on the issue.

Attachment A Reading Activity-Issues Facing Florida Citizens

The citizens of Florida face issues that are unique to their state. Although there are many different issues facing the citizens of Florida at any given time, immigration, the environment and education are three that have a great impact.

IMMIGRATION

Immigration-driven population growth is taking its toll on Florida, the seventh fastest growing state in the U.S. In the last ten years, over three million new residents settled in Florida-an increase that is larger than the entire population of the state in 1950. One-third of these new residents were immigrants. This large-scale population growth is bringing increased traffic, pollution, overcrowded schools, and lack of affordable housing to the state while decreasing quality of life and straining natural resources.

State Population (2006 CB estimate)	18,089,888
State Population in 2000	16,050,166
Average Annual Change 2000-2006	2.1%
Foreign Born Population 2006 ^{1/}	3,195,405
Foreign Born Share 2006	17.7%
Foreign Born Population 2000	2,670,828
Foreign Born Share 2000	15.03%
Average Annual Change 2000-2006	%
Population Projection 2010	17.5 million
Population Projection 2025	25.9 million
Population Projection 2050 (FAIR)	31.5 million

All numbers are from the U.S. Census Bureau unless otherwise noted. Additional Census Bureau, INS, and other immigration-related data are available for [Florida](#).

Illegal Immigration

- The illegal alien population in Florida is now 950,000 persons. This represents 7.3 percent of the national total illegal alien population, and it is the nation's fourth largest concentration of illegal aliens after California, Texas and New York. It is also about 5.2 percent of Florida's overall population.

Costs of Illegal Immigration to Floridians

- \$3.4 billion a year to educate illegal immigrant children and the U.S. born children of illegal immigrants.
- \$290 million a year on unreimbursed health care for illegal aliens.
- \$90 million a year to incarcerate criminal illegal aliens.
- The total represents an annual cost to each of Florida's native-born headed households of \$678.

From: http://www.fairus.org/site/PageServer?pagename=research_researcha956

ENVIRONMENT

Lake Okeechobee, which means "big water" in the language of the Seminole Indians, is the second largest freshwater lake wholly within the United States. It is located in south central Florida (south of Orlando and north of Everglades National Park), and is commonly described as the "liquid heart" of Florida. Not only is it in the center (or heart) of the state, but it historically pumped life-giving water into the Everglades ecosystem like the heart pumps blood in the body.

Because Lake Okeechobee was believed to be the major source of water for the Everglades (which was itself viewed as an impediment to progress, settlement, and agriculture at the turn of the 20th century), Governor Napoleon Bonaparte Broward cruised its waters within a month of taking office in 1904. Broward, who to this day is the governor most closely associated with drainage of the Everglades, "concluded that the lake levels could be lowered by six feet without impeding navigation. In turn, this would result in the drainage of 6 million acres of land, both north and south of the lake." The Everglades Drainage District was created, which crafted a series of muck-scalped canals from Okeechobee to the Atlantic. These canals, when supplemented by the Hoover Dike (completed in 1938 and expanded in the 1960s) and by the more extensive canals, levees, and water control structures of the C&SF Project, changed the Lake's ecology and hydrology in a number of important ways:

- **The Lake lost its physical connection to the Everglades.** Because a dike was built and an extensive agricultural area was planted south of the Lake (the EAA), water no longer spilled over the Lake's southern rim and dispersed into the Everglades as "sheet flow." Instead, lake waters reach the Everglades through C&SF Project canals and water control structures. The quantity, quality, timing, and distribution of this water varies markedly from pre-drainage conditions.
- **The Lake is now connected to the Caloosahatchee and the St. Lucie Rivers via canals.** Although this connection was extremely helpful for navigation, it enabled some boats to travel from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico without traversing the Florida Keys, it has created long-term problems for estuary organisms. These organisms are occasionally subjected to large releases of freshwater (which alter the salinity of the estuary), and to significant shortfalls of water when water demands in the EAA and urban areas exceed water supply. Although an attempt has been made to mitigate adverse estuary impacts through a new regulation schedule for the Lake (Water Supply Environmental or WSE), and through the development of Minimum Flows and Levels, these modifications have not entirely mitigated the ill-impact of release schedules on associated estuaries.
- **Thousands of acres of natural habitat have been lost.** The construction of the Hoover Dike and the C&SF Project catalyzed transformation of 700,000-acres of the Everglades into agricultural fields south of Lake Okeechobee (the EAA), and of thousands of acres north of the Lake into improved pasture and rangeland. (About 62% of the land north of the lake is now used by agriculture.)

- **The size, shape, and condition of the Lake's littoral zone has declined.**
Because the Lake is now entirely encircled by the Hoover Dike, its water can no longer expand and contract into littoral marshes that once surrounded the lake. Instead, a new, smaller littoral zone has emerged inside the Hoover Dike. The nutrient loads within the littoral zone vary markedly depending on water level, as does the health of its vegetative communities and associated fish and macrophyte communities.
- **Water levels in the Lake are now artificially controlled.** Water managers at the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the USACOE now manage water levels on a daily and annual basis. Decisions about lake levels can be contentious, and a regulatory schedule/mechanism known as Water Supply Environmental (WSE) has been devised.
- From:
http://www.lakeokeechobee.org/content.php?section=about_the_lake&page=about_the_lake/introduction.html

EDUCATION

Florida's education system is not producing the quality and quantity of graduates required to ensure that it has the high quality leadership, workforce, and citizenry needed to sustain a vibrant economy and society.

- Three out of ten ninth graders drop out and do not attain a high school diploma.
- Of the seven ninth graders who will later graduate from high school, only four will enter a college or university degree program. Forty percent of those students will require remediation.
- Over 13,000 high school seniors did not have the skills and knowledge to attain a passing score on the FCAT in 2003.
- High quality career education opportunities are limited for those six out of ten high school students who do not graduate from high school or attend postsecondary education.

These problems are not new to Florida. Past efforts to address them have been limited and largely unsuccessful. A comprehensive and consistent long-term effort is needed to solve the problems facing Florida's education system.

These problems have a major negative and costly impact in terms of:

- Depriving young people of the opportunity to achieve their full potential.
- Diminishing the vitality and success of Florida's economy and society.

From: http://www.fldoe.org/board/meetings/Aug_19_03/CEPRI.pdf

ATTACHMENT B

Public Issues and Their Effect on Citizens

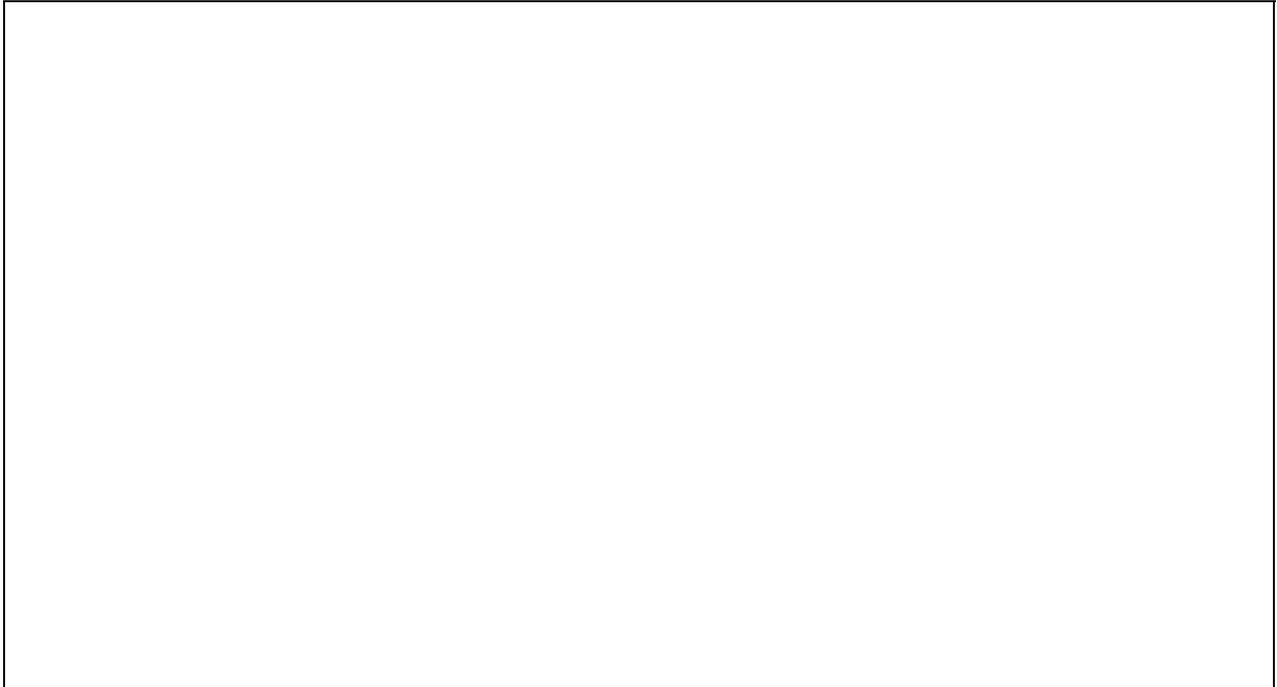
Research different public issues and find the effects that these issues are having on the citizens of Florida and the state as a whole. Complete the chart.

Issues in Florida	Effect on Citizens' lives or state

Attachment C

Immigration and Florida

In the following space, draw a graph depicting one trend of immigration in the state of Florida over a period of time. (Example, illegal immigrants, healthcare cost, education cost etc.)

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to draw a graph depicting a trend of immigration in Florida over time.

Using the graph as your guide, write a newspaper article describing the impact of the aspect of immigration on the state of Florida.

Post Quiz - Public Issues of Concern to Citizens of Florida

Low Complexity Items (3 items):

1. Which of the following is a list of public issues dealt with at the state level in Florida?
 - a. City taxes, garbage collection, environment
 - b. Environment, U.S. postal service, education
 - c. Mail service, snow removal, recycling
 - d. Immigration, education and environment

2. Which of the following is not impacted by Illegal immigration in Florida?
 - a. Tax collections
 - b. Education
 - c. Environment
 - d. Healthcare

3. The environmental issue of draining Lake Okeechobee, has an impact on the citizens lives because?
 - a. The water supply is polluted
 - b. The water supply is limited
 - c. The Everglades drainage system is old
 - d. The legislators are arguing over the system

Moderate Complexity Items (3 items):

4. If illegal immigrants began to pay taxes which of the following would occur?
 - a. There would be more money to cover the deficit to the health care system and education
 - b. The environmental issues facing Florida would be diminished
 - c. The graduation rate of the state of Florida would increase
 - d. The children of immigrants could begin attending school.

5. Why is it necessary to be informed on both sides of a public issue in the state of Florida?

- a. To be able to shift to your opinion from side to side depending on your audience
- b. To be an informed citizen who knows how both sides are affected
- c. To raise public interest for both sides
- d. To place a political add with the information

6. Read the following statement from the passage:

Immigration-driven population growth is taking its toll on Florida, the seventh fastest growing state in the U.S. In the last ten years, over three million new residents settled in Florida-an increase that is larger than the entire population of the state in 1950.

From this statement, what can one conclude about Florida's population?

- a. The state has an open door policy and allows all immigrants in at no real loss to the state
- b. The population growth has been slow and steady allowing the citizens and state to adjust accordingly.
- c. The population growth has been good because it has made the state stronger.
- d. Florida has grown so much and so fast that the citizens of the state are feeling the pressure.

High Complexity Items (4 items: 2 of which are Document Based Questions- DBQ):

SECTION 1. Public education.—

(a) The education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida. It is, therefore, a paramount duty of the state to make adequate provision for the education of all children residing within its borders. Adequate provision shall be made by law for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high quality education and for the establishment, maintenance, and operation of institutions of higher learning and other public education programs that the needs of the people may require. To assure that children attending public schools obtain a high quality education, the legislature shall make adequate provision to ensure that, by the beginning of the 2010 school year, there are a sufficient number of classrooms so that:

- (1) The maximum number of students who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms for prekindergarten through grade 3 does not exceed 18 students;
- (2) The maximum number of students who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms for grades 4 through 8 does not exceed 22 students; and
- (3) The maximum number of students who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms for grades 9 through 12 does not exceed 25 students.

7. According to the above excerpt from the Florida Constitution, it is a paramount duty of the state to make adequate provision for the education of all children residing within its borders. If this is the case, which statement below would support the idea that education is a public issue?

- a. Education is not equal throughout the state
- b. Studies show that the education is not high quality
- c. Education is not a fundamental value of the people of Florida
- d. Florida education system is providing citizens that help sustain the economy and growth within the state.

8. Which of the following would be a logical argument to present to the Florida legislature to convince them to address the issue of the draining of Lake Okeechobee?
- a. The change in the water levels has greatly affected the balance of the ecosystem in the Everglades.
 - b. Economic growth in the area is more important than the water supply of the area.
 - c. The quantity of the water in the area is not important, only the quality.
 - d. The change in water supply has not caused much damage to the Everglades area.

i. Article X, section 17 of the Florida Constitution states:
Everglades Trust Fund.—

(a) There is hereby established the Everglades Trust Fund, which shall not be subject to termination pursuant to Article III, Section 19(f). The purpose of the Everglades Trust Fund is to make funds available to assist in conservation and protection of natural resources and abatement of water pollution in the Everglades Protection Area and the Everglades Agricultural Area. The trust fund shall be administered by the South Florida Water Management District, or its successor agency, consistent with statutory law.

(b) The Everglades Trust Fund may receive funds from any source, including gifts from individuals, corporations or other entities; funds from general revenue as determined by the Legislature; and any other funds so designated by the Legislature, by the United States Congress or by any other governmental entity.

(c) Funds deposited to the Everglades Trust Fund shall be expended for purposes of conservation and protection of natural resources and abatement of water pollution in the Everglades Protection Area and Everglades Agricultural Area.

(d) For purposes of this subsection, the terms “Everglades Protection Area,” “Everglades Agricultural Area” and “South Florida Water Management District” shall have the meanings as defined in statutes in effect on January 1, 1996.

History.—Proposed by Initiative Petition filed with the Secretary of State March 26, 1996; adopted 1996.

9. A logical argument for the statement: The purpose of the Everglades Trust Fund is to make funds available to assist in conservation and protection of natural resources and abatement of water pollution in the Everglades Protection Area and the Everglades Agricultural Area, would be all of the following EXCEPT ?
- a. The conservation and protection of natural resources is an important public issue in the state of Florida.
 - b. The abatement of water pollution is important to the environment and citizens of the state.
 - c. The protection of the Florida Everglades has become a public issue of concern for the citizens of Florida
 - d. The conservation and protection of natural resources in Florida are not a priority to the citizens of Florida.
10. Article X, Section 23 of the Florida constitution covers another public issue in the state concerning employment and minimum wages. This section states: Florida minimum wage.— (a) PUBLIC POLICY. All working Floridians are entitled to be paid a minimum wage that is sufficient to provide a decent and healthy life for them and their families, that protects their employers from unfair low-wage competition, and that does not force them to rely on taxpayer-funded public services in order to avoid economic hardship.

From this statement one can draw the conclusion that?

- a. All employers were fair in compensation of their employees
- b. The state finds it important for working Floridians to be entitled to healthcare.
- c. The state finds it important for working Floridians to be paid sufficiently to have a decent life
- d. The state finds it important for working Floridian to rely on public services.

Answer Key:

1. d
2. c
3. b
4. a
5. b
6. d
7. b
8. a
9. a
10. c

**Civic Integration
Lesson Plan Quiz Blueprint
NGSSS-SS Main Benchmark:**

SS.4.C.2.1 Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens

Title of Lesson: Public Issues of Concern to Citizens of Florida

Grade Level: 4th

Pacing Guide Connection: 4th Grade Florida History 4th Nine Weeks Topic 15: Citizenship and Florida

Question #	Benchmark Grade Level	Benchmark 7 th Grade Tested	Answer	Complexity Level
1	SS.4.C.2.1 Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	d	Low
2	SS.4.C.2.1 Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	c	Low
3	SS.4.C.2.1 Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	b	Low
4	4.C.2.1 Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	a	Moderate
5	SS.4.C.2.1 Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	b	Moderate

6	SS.4.C.2.1	Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	d	Moderate
7	SS.4.C.2.1	Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	b	High
8	SS.4.C.2.1	Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	a	High
9	SS.4.C.2.1	Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	a	High DBQ
10	SS.4.C.2.1	Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government. SS.7.C.2.13 Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues	c	High DBQ