Program Title: Sixth Grade Civics

Program Description: Sixth Grade Civics is designed to develop appreciation and understanding of the ethnic diversity of our country; awareness of the beliefs and values that have shaped our country; understanding of how our United States, Illinois, and local governments work; knowledge of our rights and responsibilities as citizens of the world, the United States and Illinois; understanding of economics and economic systems; recognition of the role of the individual in our society; and skills needed to participate in government.

Program Content:

1. The American Mosaic
   2. Citizenship
   3. Elections
   4. Forms of Government
   5. The United Nations
   6. United States Government
   7. Illinois Government and Constitution
   8. Criminal Justice System
   9. Economics

Program Guide

I. THE AMERICAN MOSAIC / E Pluribus Unum
   A. Ethnic Diversity (18.C)
   C. Common Values and Beliefs (18.C)
   D. Problems (18.C)
      1. Stereotypes
      2. Prejudice
      3. Discrimination

II. CITIZENSHIP
   A. Becoming a U.S. Citizen (14.A)

III. ELECTIONS
   A. Qualifications to Vote (14.C, 14.F)
   C. Voting Responsibly (14.C)
   D. Electoral College (14.A)

IV. FORMS OF GOVERNMENT
   A. Purpose of Government (14.B)
   1. Popularism
      a. Democracy
      b. Republic
   2. Totalitarian
      a. Monarchy
      b. Oligarchy
      c. Dictatorship

V. THE UNITED NATIONS
   B. Purpose (14.E)
   C. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (14.E)

VI. UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
      1. Historical Documents
      2. Experiences of Colonists
   C. Articles of Confederation (16.B, 18.B)
      1. Bill of Rights
      2. Civil Rights (14.F)
   F. Three Branches of Government (14.A)
   G. Lawmaking (14.A)

VII. ILLINOIS GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION
   C. Statehood (14.D)
   I. Articles Not in the U.S. Constitution

VIII. CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
   B. Kinds of Evidence (14.C)
   D. Criminal Justice Careers (14.C)

IX. ECONOMICS
A. Choices, Scarcity, and Values (15.B)
B. Opportunity and Opportunity Cost (15.B)
C. Supply and Demand (15.A, 15.C)
D. Market Prices (15.B, 15.C)
F. Market (Capitalism)
H. Pros and Cons of Both Systems (15.A)

Social Studies Learning Standards
(By the end of the course, students should be able to . . .)

State Goal 14: Understand political systems, with an emphasis on the United States.

A. Understand and explain basic principles of the United States government.
B. Understand the structure and functions of the political systems of Illinois, the United States and other nations.
C. Understand the election processes and responsibilities of citizens.
D. Understand the roles and influence of individuals and interest groups in the political systems of Illinois, the United States, and other nations.
E. Understand United States foreign policy as it relates to other nations and international issues.
F. Understand the development of United States political ideas and traditions.

State Goal 15: Understand economic systems, with an emphasis on the United States.

A. Understand how different economic systems operate in the exchange, production, distribution and consumption of goods and services.
B. Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by consumers.
C. Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by producers.
D. Understand trade as an exchange of goods or services.
E. Understand the impact of government policies and decisions on production and consumption in the economy.

State Goal 16: Understand events, trends, individuals and movements shaping the history of Illinois, the United States and other nations.

A. Apply the skills of historical analysis and interpretation.
B. Understand the development of significant political events.
C. Understand the development of economic systems.
D. Understand Illinois, United States, and world social history.
E. Understand Illinois, United States, and world environmental history.

State Goal 17: Understand world geography and the effects of geography on society, with an emphasis on the United States.

A. Locate, describe and explain places, regions and features on the Earth.
B. Analyze and explain characteristics and interactions of the Earth’s physical systems.
C. Understand relationships between geographic factors and society.
D. Understand the historical significance of geography.

State Goal 18: Compare characteristics of culture as reflected in language, literature, the arts, traditions and
institutions.

A. Compare characteristics of culture as reflected in language, literature, the arts, traditions and institutions.
B. Understand the roles and interactions of individuals and groups in society.
C. Understand how social systems form and develop over time.

Selected References and Other Materials

Textbook: Civics: Participating in Government (Prentice Hall, 2001)

Teaching Resources: Civics: Participating in Government Teaching Resources (Prentice Hall, 2001)
- Freedom (Teacher Created Materials, 1994) - P
- Democracy, Law, and Justice (Mark Twain Media, Inc., 1996)
- Update on Law-Related Education (American Bar Association)
- Illinois State Bar Association Mock Trial Program Training Materials (Illinois State Bar Association Committee on Law-Related Education for the Public)
- Laws for Youth (Legislative Research Unit, August 1994)
- Youth and Society (Constitution Rights Foundation, 1991)
- Quarrels that have Shaped the Constitution (Harper & Row, Publishers, 1962)
- Social Education (National Council for the Social Studies)
- The Prejudice Book (Anti-Defamation League, 1994)
- Teaching About Cultural Awareness (Center for Teaching International Relations, 1994)
- On Trial (Dandy Lion Publications, 1997)
- Jury Trials in the Classroom (Teacher Ideas Press, 1998)
- Illinois Handbook of Government (Secretary of State, 1997-98)
- Our Federal and State Constitutions (AJS Publications, Inc.)
- Illinois Issues - (University of Illinois at Springfield)
- Illinois History Teacher (Illinois Historic Preservation Agency)
- Broken Squares: A Simulation of Group Cooperation (SPICE, 1994)
- The Silk Road: Sharing Beliefs and Ideas (SPICE)
- Heelotia: A Cross-Cultural Simulation Game (SPICE, 1991)
- Living in a Global Age: A Simulation of International Trade (SPICE, 1992)

Readings: Newsweek magazines
Life magazines
Newspapers
Number the Stars (Houghton-Mifflin, 1989)
Justice for All (Prentice-Hall, 1997)
Sadako and the Thousand Cranes (G. Putnams’s Sons, 1977)
Zlata’s Diary (Viking, 1994)
Sleuth’s Supper (Prentice-Hall, 1996)
The Apartment House Murder (Paul S. Amidon and Assoc., Inc., 1980)
Crime and Punishment (Wild Side)
Vachel
Spoon River Anthology

Films and Videotapes: Prejudice: The Monster Within
America Rocks
A Few Good Men (excerpt)
12 Angry Men
Eyes on the Prize (excerpt)
Introduction to Economics
China News Stories

Computer Software: Decisions, Decisions — Prejudice
Decisions, Decisions — On the Campaign Trail
Decisions, Decisions — Violence in the Media
Decisions, Decisions — Town Government
Branches of Government Series (Cambridge Educational)
Various Internet sites as appropriate throughout the year, to include:
<about.com>
<mycounsel.com>
<civnet.org>
<www.closeup.org>
<www.un.org>
<www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags>
<www.usflag.org>
<www.vote-smart.org>
<www.whitehouse.gov>
<www.state.il.us>
<oyez.nwu.edu>

Audio Tapes: May It Please the Court
Various thematic musical selections

Equipment: Overhead Projector and Screen
              Television/VCR
              Tape Player
              Computer and Computer Projector

Field Trips: Polling Place
             Illinois State Capitol
             Illinois State Museum

Speakers: State Appellate Defender Theodore Gottfried
         Representative Raymond Poe
         Attorneys
Police officers
Naturalized citizens

Assessment

Heritage Quilt Block
Recruitment Collage for Oobleck
Broken Spears Simulation
Teamwork Simulation
Decisions, Decisions CD-ROM Activities
Mock Trial
Issues Research and Display
Political Party Research
Creation of Government for Oobleck
Creation of Flag for Oobleck
Universal Declaration of Rights Bulletin Board
Heelotia Simulation
United Nations Day Celebration (optional)
Political Cartoon on Weaknesses of the Articles of the Confederation
The Silk Road: Sharing Beliefs and Ideas Activity
Equality Simulation
Evaluation of Significant Supreme Court Case
Poster of Supreme Court Case
Mock Legislative Session
Branches of Government Series Interactive Activity
Map of Illinois Geographic Features
Cultural Groups of Illinois Presentation
Mock General Assembly Session
Mock Trial
Market and Command Economy Political Cartoon
Living in a Global Age Simulation
Big Apple Economic Activity (optional)
Classroom City Simulation
Worksheets
Essays
Unit Tests