

## TEACHER CRITICAL CONTENT NOTES

### BENCHMARK

**SS.2.CG.2.4** *Recognize symbols, individuals, and documents that represent the United States.*

### BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS

- Students will recognize the U.S. Capitol, the White House, the U.S. Supreme Court building, and the Statue of Liberty as symbols that represent the United States.
- Students will recognize Rosa Parks and Thomas Jefferson as individuals who represent the United States.
- Students will recognize the Declaration of Independence as a document that represents the United States.

### WHERE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN

1st Grade	<p>SS.1.CG.2.4 Recognize symbols and individuals that represent the United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students will recognize the national motto (“In God We Trust”) and “We the People” as symbols that represent the United States.</li> <li>● Students will recognize Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Daniel Webster, and Martin Luther King Jr. as individuals who represent the United States.</li> </ul>
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### WHERE STUDENTS ARE GOING

3rd Grade	<p>SS.3.CG.2.4 Recognize symbols, individuals, documents, and events that represent the United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students will recognize Mount Rushmore, Uncle Sam, and the Washington Monument as symbols that represent the United States.</li> <li>● Students will recognize James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, Booker T. Washington, and Susan B. Anthony as individuals who represent the United States.</li> <li>● Students will recognize the U.S. Constitution as a document that represents the United States.</li> <li>● Students will recognize the Constitutional Convention (May 1787-September 1787) and the signing of the U.S. Constitution (September 17, 1787) as events that represent the United States.</li> </ul>
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### TIMING/PACING NOTES

- This benchmark may be taught at any time during the school year.
- Every benchmark clarification does not need to be taught at the same time. They may be broken up and taught over the course of the school year.

- This benchmark may be taught with SS.2.CG.2.5, which connects to symbols associated with Florida.
- Some of the symbols, individuals, and documents listed in the benchmark clarifications may be taught with SS.2.CG.2.3 as they overlap with patriotic holidays/observances.

## UNDERSTANDING THE BENCHMARK

### → What to know:

- ◆ Recognize can mean: name, associate, match, or list
- ◆ U.S. symbols are things that have special meaning to the United States
- ◆ Symbols help students visualize important representations associated with the United States
- ◆ Recognizing historical figures requires students to have a generalized understanding of the individuals and their significance in U.S. history
- ◆ The words from the Declaration of Independence define core American values such as life, liberty (freedom), and happiness
- ◆ National monuments (e.g. constructed, geographic, protected areas etc.) are offered permanent protection by Congress or by the president through the use of the Antiquities Act of 1906

### → Main concepts to teach:

- ◆ The definition/meaning of a symbol
- ◆ U.S. symbols
  - U.S. Capitol, White House, U.S. Supreme Court building, Statue of Liberty, and Declaration of Independence
- ◆ Brief biographical information that focuses on the historical contributions of Thomas Jefferson and Rosa Parks

### → Examples:

- ◆ U.S. Capitol Building
  - Located in Washington, D.C.
  - Workplace of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate (legislative branch)
- ◆ The White House
  - Located in Washington, D.C.
  - U.S. President's home and workplace (executive branch)
- ◆ U.S. Supreme Court Building
  - Located in Washington D.C.
  - Workplace of the justices on the highest court (judicial branch)
- ◆ The Statue of Liberty
  - Located in New York (Ellis Island)
  - Gift from France
  - A symbol of American values welcoming immigrants to the United States
- ◆ Rosa Parks
  - Fought for equal rights, peaceful protestor, helped start the Montgomery Bus Boycott
- ◆ Thomas Jefferson
  - Declaration of Independence author, third president, on the nickel, Founding Father, doubled size of U.S. with Louisiana Purchase

- ◆ Declaration of Independence
  - Adopted on July 4, 1776
  - Written to King George III explaining why the colonies were breaking away from British rule

## CONTENT BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Information on symbols that represent the United States:

1. [White House: The White House](#)
2. [Supreme Court of the United States: The Building](#)
3. [National Geographic for Kids: Statue of Liberty](#)
4. [U.S. Capitol Visitor Center: About the Capitol](#)

Information on individuals that represent the United States:

1. [White House: Thomas Jefferson](#)
2. [Women's History: Rosa Parks](#)

Information on documents that represent the United States:

1. [Archives: The Declaration of Independence](#)
2. [Kids Britannica: Declaration of Independence](#)

Information on laws/statutes regarding the teaching of diverse individuals and groups:

1. [Florida State Statute 1003.42: Required Instruction](#)