

Simple, everyday activities to help develop your child's social studies skills

STANDARD: Understands Families and Jobs

- ☐ **FAMILY NAMES AND JOBS** Look at family photos and talk with your child about who is in your family. Help your child name the grown-ups and talk about the jobs they have.

STANDARD: Understands Community and Roles

- ☐ **TELL WHAT THEY DO** When you walk through your community, point out the people who work there. "There is Mr. Perez, who works at the market. How does he help people?"; "There is Ms. Jackson, the crossing guard. How does she help children?"
- ☐ **INTERVIEW HELPERS** Help your child "interview" community helpers. For example, when at the dentist, invite your child to ask the dentist about his or her work and things in the office.

STANDARD: Demonstrates Awareness of Places (Geography)

- ☐ **IDENTIFY PHYSICAL FEATURES** Show your child land features of the area in which you live (bodies of water, mountains, hills, desert). Help your child make a map to show the land features. This is a good topic for drawing and writing about.

STANDARD: Develops Awareness and Appreciation for One's Own Culture and Cultures of Others

- ☐ **SHARE FAMILY TRADITIONS** During family celebrations and holidays, make it a point to talk to your child about where certain traditions come from and why they are important to your family.
- ☐ **EXPLORE CULTURES** Talk about the different languages you hear people speak in your neighborhood. Notice any signs that are in languages other than English. Talk about the holidays the people in your neighborhood celebrate.
- ☐ **EXPLORE FOOD AND CULTURE** Look for foods from different cultures in your grocery store. For example, note different rice, noodle, or pancake dishes that each culture enjoys. What is similar and what is different?

STANDARD: Understands Past, Present, and Future

- ☐ **TALK ABOUT THE PAST** Remind your child about things he or she could not do when he or she was younger but can do now. For example, "When you were younger, you could not play board games, but now you can!"
- ☐ **TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE** To help your child understand time, ask him or her to make plans for the next day, the next week, the weekend, or an upcoming holiday.