

8th Grade Report Card Skills:

Students Will Know/ Students Will Be Able To...

History Skills

Report Card Skill: Analyze and explain historical connections, key concepts, and changing perspectives throughout American history.

For this skill, students will know:

- Key concepts and vocabulary throughout American history
- Why and how ideas and belief systems develop and change over time
- Key individuals/groups and their contributions to American history
- The definition of bias

For this skill, students will be able to:

- Compare and contrast different beliefs, viewpoints, and arguments of individuals, groups, parties, and/or nations throughout American history
- Make connections between historical events of different eras
- Make unbiased observations on historical eras or events

Report Card Skill: Explain multiple causes and effects of historical events.

For this skill, students will know:

- The definition of multiple causality
- Multiple causes for a historical event
- Multiple effects that are the result of a historical event

For this skill, students will be able to:

- Classify causes and effects as ideas (philosophical), nature/geographical, social, political, economic, cultural, technological
- Analyze and/or propose alternatives to historical events to describe “what might have been.”

Inquiry Skills

Report Card Skill: Develop essential and supporting questions, evaluate and cite sources and use evidence to communicate conclusions.

For this skill, students will know:

- The difference between primary and secondary sources
- The basics of MLA citation
- How/why historians ask and answer historical questions
- What makes a source credible or not credible
- The purpose of giving credit to authors for their contributions
- The definition and consequences of plagiarism and need for paraphrasing

For this skill, students will be able to:

- Classify a source as primary or secondary
- Develop a plan to identify different sources of information
- Cite a source using electronic resources
- Compose a bibliography/works cited page

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Report Card Skill: Organize evidence into a logical argument about the past.	
For this skill, students will know: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of a thesis statement • The importance of developing a unique voice as an author • The importance of citing sources • The basic steps of the writing process 	For this skill, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a system of note-taking to gather resources and information • Create an outline based on self-researched information • Create a multi-page research project

Civics Skills

Report Card Skill: Demonstrate an understanding of political processes and systems.	
For this skill, students will know: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major principles embedded in the Constitution • The basic purposes of the U.S. Constitution • The makeup and structure of the U.S. Constitution • How a bill becomes a law • How the President is elected • How the Constitution is changed over time • The purpose and nature of political parties 	For this skill, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independently complete civics simulations (iCivics) • Identify personal political views • Participate as part of a deliberate body • Pass the U.S. Constitution Test

Economics Skills

Report Card Skill: Describe individual or national economic decisions or policies.	
For this skill, students will know: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic terminology, (tax, surplus, supply/demand, depression, inflation, etc.) • Why and how a government generates revenue through taxes • The impact of technology on labor, supply and demand, etc. • How investment, debt, and interest work • Events leading to and attempts to fight the Great Depression • Explain factors that affect wages, salaries, and employment • Explain the purpose of unions 	For this skill, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create written or verbal explanations to economic problems • Explain the different approaches taken to combat the Great Depression

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Geography Skills

Report Card Skill: Create visual models of geographic or historic information.

For this skill, students will know:

- How the lands of the U.S. and the world have been shaped by human and technological factors (Transportation, Communication, etc.)
- Key components of and different types of maps
- Describe how people migrated to America throughout history

For this skill, students will be able to:

- Create digital, 2D, or 3D models or dioramas of historical events or situations (Trench Model)
- Create maps of historical eras or situations (WWI, Louisiana Purchase, etc)
- Create a presentation/video of a historical figure or event