Virginia Studies Scope and Sequence

Week	Title	Summary
Unit 1: In	quiry	
1	Geography of Virginia	Students will analyze and interpret maps to explain relationships among landforms and water features of Virginia. They will demonstrate knowledge of the geography of the state by locating Virginia, its geographical regions and its bordering states on a U.S. map. Students will locate and describe Virginia's regions: Coastal Plain (Tidewater), Piedmont, Blue Ridge Mountains, Valley and Ridge, and Appalachian Plateau.
2	Waterways of Virginia	Students will continue to analyze and interpret maps to explain relationships among landforms and water features of Virginia. They will locate and identify water features important to the early history of Virginia (e.g., Atlantic Ocean, Chesapeake Bay, James River, York River, Potomac River and Rappahannock River) and understand why many early cities developed along the Fall Line. They will recognize that peninsulas separate the four main rivers that flow into the Chesapeake Bay and that the Chesapeake Bay separates the Eastern Shore from the mainland of Virginia.
3	Special Government Issue—VA Government and Constitution Day	Students will demonstrate knowledge of government, geography and economics by identifying the three branches of Virginia government and the function of each. Students will understand the Virginia state government is made up of three branches that ensure Virginia laws agree with the state constitution. They will recognize and celebrate Constitution Day.
4	American Indian Groups of Virginia—Where Did They Live?	Students will demonstrate knowledge of the geography and early inhabitants of Virginia by locating three American Indian language groups (Algonquian, Siouan and Iroquoian) on a map of Virginia. They will recognize American Indians as the first people to live in Virginia.
5	American Indian Groups in Virginia—How Did They Live?	, 2g) Students will describe how American Indians adapted to their environment to secure food, clothing and shelter. They will recognize the characteristics of Virginia's climate and environment
6	English Colonization of America	Students will demonstrate knowledge of Jamestown as the first permanent English settlement in America by explaining the reasons for English colonization. They will understand why European countries were competing for wealth and power in America.

Settlement of Jamestown: How, Where, When and Why?	Students will describe how geography influenced the decision to settle at Jamestown. They will recognize the importance of the charter of the Virginia Company of London in establishing the settlement. Students will also understand the power of the king of England in the settlement of Jamestown.
House of Burgesses	Students will identify the importance of the Virginia Assembly in 1619 as the first representative legislative body in English America. They will understand that as Jamestown grew, so did the system of government.
Diversity at Jamestown	Students will understand the importance of the arrival of Africans and women to the Jamestown settlement. They will recognize that, by 1620, Jamestown had become a more diverse colony
Hardships at Jamestown	Students will describe the hardships faced by settlers at Jamestown and the changes that ensured their survival. They will understand the English colonists found life in Jamestown harder than they had expected.
Jamestown Settlers and the Powhatan	Students will describe the interactions of the English settlers and the Powhatan people, including contributions of the Powhatans to the survival of the settlers. They will understand that the Powhatan people and the English settlers at Jamestown established trading relationships that, over time, changed from positive to negative.
Agriculture of Virginia Colony	Students will explain the importance of agriculture and its influence on the institution of slavery. They will understand that the success of tobacco as a cash crop transformed life in the Virginia colony and encouraged slavery.
Cultural Landscape of Virginia	Students will describe how European immigrants, American Indians and Africans influenced the cultural landscape and changed the relationship between the Virginia colony and England. They will learn that a cultural landscape reflects the beliefs, customs and architecture of people living in an area. Students will also understand that Virginia developed a unique culture different from that of England.
Virginia's New Capital	Students will understand that geographical factors often influence the location of a capital and explain how geography influenced the relocation of Virginia's capital from Jamestown to Williamsburg to Richmond.
Money in Early Virginia	Students will describe how money, barter and credit were used in the Virginia colony. They will understand that money was not commonly used in early agricultural societies and will recognize the forms of payment that were acceptable in a time period when banks did not exist.
	Jamestown: How, Where, When and Why? House of Burgesses Diversity at Jamestown Hardships at Jamestown Jamestown Settlers and the Powhatan Agriculture of Virginia Colony Cultural Landscape of Virginia Virginia Virginia's New Capital Money in Early

16	Virginia and the American Revolution: Conflict with England	Students will identify the reasons the colonies went to war with England. They will understand that conflicts developed between the colonies and England over how the colonies should be governed and will identify ideas for self-government as written in the Declaration of Independence.
17	Virginia and the American Revolution: Important People and Places	Students will identify the roles played by some Virginians in the Revolutionary War era, with emphasis on George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry. They will also explore the contributions of African Americans, women, patriots, loyalists and those who remained neutral. Students will identify the importance of the American victory at Yorktown.
18	Virginia and the New Nation: The Constitution	Students will identify the roles played by some Virginians in the Revolutionary War era, with emphasis on George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry. They will also explore the contributions of African Americans, women, patriots, loyalists and those who remained neutral. Students will identify the importance of the American victory at Yorktown.
19	Virginia and the New Nation: Western Migration	Students will explain the influence of geography on the migration of Virginians into western territories. They will understand that geography shaped the movement of people and ideas as Virginians moved to and beyond the Virginia frontier.
20	Virginia and the Civil War: Virginia Secedes	Students will identify events and issues that divided our nation and led to the Civil War. They will understand that economic differences between the North and the South caused the South to secede from the United States. Students will recognize that Virginians were divided about secession, which led to the creation of West Virginia.
21	Virginia and the Civil War: Major Battles and Important People	Students will describe Virginia's role in the Civil War and identify major battles that took place in our state. They will understand how Virginia became a major battleground between Union and Confederate troops and identify Virginians who played a significant role in the war.
22	Reconstruction in Virginia	Students will describe Virginia's role in the Civil War and identify major battles that took place in our state. They will understand how Virginia became a major battleground between Union and Confederate troops and identify Virginians who played a significant role in the war.
23	Virginia and Jim Crow	Students will identify the effects of segregation and Jim Crow on life in Virginia. They will understand that the freedoms and rights promised to African Americans were slowly taken away

		after Reconstruction, and it would take years to win them back.
24	Virginia's Economy Grows after the Civil War	Students will describe the importance of railroads, new industries and the growth of cities to Virginia's economic development. They will understand that industry, technology, transportation and cities began to grow and contribute to Virginia's economy after the Civil War.
25	Twentieth Century Virginia	Students will describe Virginia's economic and social transition from a rural, agricultural society to a more urban, industrialized society, including the reasons people came to Virginia from other states and countries. They will understand that this transition caused Virginia's urban areas to begin to grow.
26	Civil Rights in Virginia	Students will identify the social and political events in Virginia linked to desegregation and Massive Resistance and their relationship to national history. They will understand that, after World War II, African Americans demanded equal treatment and the recognition of their rights as American citizens. Students will identify laws that made racial discrimination illegal.
27	Important Virginians in the Twentieth Century	Students will identify the political, social and/or economic contributions made by Maggie L. Walker, Harry F. Byrd Sr., Oliver Hill, Arthur R. Ashe Jr., Linwood Holton and L. Douglas Wilder.
28	Virginia's Prosperity in the Twentieth Century	Students will describe the major products and industries of Virginia's five geographic regions. They will explain how advances in transportation, communications and technology have contributed to Virginia's prosperity and role in the global economy.