

**Course: Social Studies**  
**Grade Level: Fourth**  
**Topic: Alaska: A Changing State**

Essential Learning	#	Components	Suggested	
			Activities	Assessments
VCS SS4.1 Students demonstrate an understanding of the physical and geographical features that define places and regions in Alaska. AK – B.1.b, C.2, C.3	VCS 4.1.1	Explain and use the coordinate grid system of latitude and longitude to determine the absolute locations of places in Alaska and on Earth.	Draw longitude and latitude lines on a balloon.  Use grid to locate longitude and latitude on map.	Teacher made test  Practice
	VCS 4.1.2	Distinguish between the North and South Poles; the equator and the prime meridian; the tropics; and the hemispheres, using coordinates to plot locations.		
	VCS 4.1.3	Identify the state capital and describe the various regions of Alaska, including how their characteristics and physical environments (e.g., water, landforms, vegetation, wildlife, and climate) affect human activity.	Draw a map of Alaska labeling regions, and using various tactile objects to represent geographical features.	Rubric
	VCS 4.1.4	Identify the locations of the Pacific Ocean, rivers, valleys, and mountain passes and explain their effects on the growth of towns.		

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	VCS 4.1.5	Use maps, charts, and pictures to describe how communities in Alaska vary in, land use, vegetation, wildlife, climate, population density, architecture, services, and transportation		
VCS SS 4.2 Understand the sequence of events in Alaska's history and how Alaska influenced history in the U.S. and the world. AK – A.1, A.4, A.5, A.7, B.1, B.1.a, B.3, C.4	VCS 4.2.1	Identify and sequence major historical events that have influenced Alaska's history.	Develop time line of major events in Alaska's history.	Rubric
	VCS 4.2.2	Discuss important contributions made to the community, state, and nation by individuals and various ethnic groups.		
	VCS 4.2.3	Introduce the growing relationships between Alaska, the Pacific Rim countries, and Russia.	Economic?	
	VCS 4.2.4	Identify the importance of Alaska statehood in the context of U.S. history.		

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	VCS 4.2.5	Understand how the history of Russia and the Pacific Rim nations influenced the history of Alaska.		
VCS SS 4.3 Students understand the structure, function, and powers of the state government and its relation to the federal government. AK – A.4, A.5, B.4, C.5.c, C.5.d	VCS 4.3.1	Recognize the relationship between the U.S. government and the State of Alaska.  Recognize proper procedures for making and changing state laws.	Kids Voting Scholastic News	
	VCS 4.3.2	Develop a familiarity with the Alaska State Constitution.	Constitution Day- 9/17	
	VCS 4.3.3	Describe the basic duties of state government.	Scholastic News	
	VCS 4.3.4		?	

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VCS SS 4.4 Understand the economic life and interactions of Alaska, its neighbors, and the continental United States. AK - A.3, A.4, A.5, A.6, A.9, B.1.b, B.3, C.1, C.5.c, C.5.d	VCS 4.4.1	Identify major resources of Alaska, Pacific Rim, and Russia.	Track path of selected export/import of Alaska  Track price of Alaska Crude Oil	
	VCS 4.4.2	Describe how Alaska's resources relate to the economic and technological lifestyles of past and present.		
	VCS 4.4.3	Begin to explore Alaska's economic relationships with the Pacific Rim and Russia.		
	VCS 4.4.4	Begin to recognize names of Native Corporations (e.g., Arctic Slope Regional Corp., Ahtna, Inc., Chugach Alaska Corp.)		
	VCS 4.4.5	Demonstrate a basic understanding of the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend.	Watch Power Point "Alaska's Permanent Fund: An Overview for Alaska's Students" <a href="http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/lesson_plans/tchrPPT.cfm">http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/lesson_plans/tchrPPT.cfm</a>	Pretest and Posttest

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	VCS 4.4.6	Identify how national resources and their geographic locations have affected the growth and development of Alaska		
VCS SS 4.5 Students demonstrate an understanding of their own cultural and the culture of other ethnic groups. AK – A.4, A.5, A.6, A.8, A.9, B.1.b, B.3, C.4, C.5.a	VCS 4.5.1	Demonstrate respect for one’s own cultural heritage.	Discuss their heritage with parents and create a family tree.  Share a dish or game from their heritage	Personal writing
	VCS 4.5.2	Show respect and appreciation for all ethnic groups.		
	VCS 4.5.3	Participate in observances of ethnic traditions that occur throughout the school and community.		
	VCS 4.5.4	Explore and compare the cultural lifestyles of Alaska’s indigenous people. (e.g., Tlingit, Aleuts, Inupiat, Athabascan, Yu’pik).	Participate in “Cultural Heritage Week”	Daily Journal

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	VCS 4.5.5	Recognize the importance of indigenous people's holistic view of their homelands, cultures, and traditions.	Have elders visit classroom	
VCS SS 4.6 Students know the location of the current 50 states and the names of their capitals. AK – A.9, B.2, C.2	VCS 4.6.1	Introduce 50 states and their capitals, and identify their locations.  3	Mystery State Activity  Puzzles  State reports	Teacher made test
	VCS 4.6.2	List the five regions and identify the states that make up those regions. S.E., MW, W.		