



Kentucky Department of

E D U C A T I O N

Performance Assessments in Social Studies

Module Overview

Design of Module

This module explains the value of creating and implementing effective performance assessments in social studies. The goals of the Performance Assessment module are the following:

- Learn about different types of assessments in social studies.
- Begin to learn how to use standards to build assessments to identify if students are reaching the standards.
- Identify strategies to build performance assessments in social studies.
- Build an understanding of the inquiry practices in the *Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Social Studies*.
- Build an understanding of the qualities of high-quality rubrics in social studies.
- Plan how to review and revise assessments using student work.

Introduction

- Essential objective: To share an overview of this module.
- Key features: Introduces the goals and overview of the module, examines why this work is important, and provides a self-reflection.

Section A: Classroom Assessments in Social Studies

- Essential objective: To learn about different types of assessments in social studies.
- Key features: Provides a warm-up and explains the purposes and types of assessments, why assessments are important, and an introduction to assessment design. Additionally, there is an opportunity to review the alignment, rigor and precision of an assessment currently being utilized by the participant.

Section B: Connecting Standards to Assessments

- Essential objective: To learn how to use standards to build assessments to identify if students are reaching the standards.
- Key features: Provides an overview of the *KAS for Social Studies* and a discussion of the value of unpacking standards. Participants unpack the standards for a unit and brainstorm opportunities for formative and summative assessments.

Section C: Performance Assessments in Social Studies

- Essential objective: To identify strategies for building performance assessments in social studies and understanding the inquiry practices of the *KAS for Social Studies*.
- Key features: Contains a warm-up and a detailed explanation of performance assessments, including its characteristics, advantages and challenges, and provides examples and steps for creating a performance assessment.



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Section D: Building Rubrics

- Essential objective: To build an understanding of high quality rubrics in social studies.
- Key feature: Provides a warm-up, characteristics of good rubrics and an overview of holistic, analytic and single-point rubrics. Additionally, an opportunity to review rubrics and a reflection are included.

Section F: Reflecting and Adjusting

- Essential objective: To plan how to review and revise assessments using student work.
- Key features: A warm-up is provided, the process for sharing and reflecting is described, and a reflection is included.