



**EAST AURORA**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 131

# Elementary Social Studies Pilot 2026/2027

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# Goals of Language Arts and Social Science in IL

Illinois expects teachers to integrate:

- Reading informational text with history and geography
- Writing with civics and economics
- Speaking and listening with inquiry and group problem-solving
- Research skills with all social science disciplines

This integration is intentional—Illinois' Social Science standards are built to support literacy growth.



# Elementary Social Studies Recommendation

**Current resource** - Savvas MyWorld/MiMundo (adopted 2014)

Discussions on elementary social studies have occurred with:

- Curriculum, instruction & assessment
- Language acquisition
- Principals
- Curriculum council team members
- Dual language committee

**Recommendation** - Embed social studies in language arts



# Elementary Social Studies Pilot

- Pilot units will be developed during the first quarter and implemented in the second quarter.
- This program will consist of a curated collection of Social Science instructional materials aligned with current HMH studies.
- Materials will be directly tied to Social Science state standards and instructional mandates and will complement the stories taught through HMH.

# Embedded Social Studies Considerations

## Benefits

- Strong integration between reading, writing, and inquiry
- Maximize instructional minutes
- Reduce instructional transitions
- Emphasize engagement
- Support literacy application

## Areas to Reinforce

- Focus on instructional mandates
- Balancing literacy and social studies content

Timeline	Focus of Our Work
January - April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Research language arts and social studies standards in relation to the ELA/SLA core resource</li> </ul>
April - May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Curriculum Council members reviewed potential pilot options</li> <li>● Inform the BOE of pilot plans</li> </ul>
August - October 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collaborate with Curriculum Council to develop embedded pilot materials for implementation</li> </ul>
October - December 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pilot embedded units</li> </ul>
January - March 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review the pilot results and make recommendations to the Board of Education</li> </ul>
April - May 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plan units and provide professional development to staff for next year</li> </ul>

# Why Embed Elementary Social Studies?

- Maximizes Instructional Time
- Builds Stronger Readers & Writers
- Supports Illinois Literacy & Inquiry Goals
- Makes Learning Meaningful
- Reinforces Social Science Standards
- Focuses on Language of Social Studies
- Improves Engagement
- Flexible & Efficient for Schools

*Thank You!*

