

The Missouri Show-Me Standards Performance Goals

Goal 1: Students in Missouri public schools will acquire the knowledge and skills to gather, analyze and apply information and ideas.

Goal 2: Students in Missouri public schools will acquire the knowledge and skills to communicate effectively within and beyond the classroom

Goal 3: Students in Missouri public schools will acquire the knowledge and skills to recognize and solve problems

Goal 4: Students in Missouri public schools will acquire the knowledge and skills to make decisions and act as responsible members of society.

The veterans project could be tailored to fit the general statewide goals.

G1: Veterans could discuss current military events as well as events from the past. The Veterans could provide the students with information about how to access such information. The veterans could encourage students to draw their own conclusions about current events and then discuss these conclusions. The veterans could also lead discussions about past decisions and discuss why or why not earlier decisions proved to be successful.

G2: In this standard, the veterans could help students with a variety of communications issues. Students could refine writing communication, as students could write letters to government agencies or veterans regarding issues pertaining to veterans. Students could also interview the veterans and use a variety of media/communications options to further enhance these interviews. Veterans could hold a type of mock session (such as Joint Chiefs or UN) and pose questions for the students to debate/compromise to emphasize the importance or communication.

G3: This could happen through discussions of current and past military events, relating the content material to the events of the students' lives. Veterans could help discuss how certain problems were solved in military service and the process that was used to reach these decisions.

G4: Veterans serve as a representative of the active citizenship that is the purpose of social studies education. Veterans can help provide students with information on the importance of citizenship in our nation and how we protect the freedoms that we hold.

The Missouri Show-Me Standards for Social Studies

In Social Studies, students in Missouri public schools will acquire a solid foundation, which includes knowledge of:

- 1.) Principles expressed in the documents shaping constitutional democracy in the United States**
- 2.) Continuity and change in the history of Missouri, the United States and the World**
- 3.) Principles and processes of governance systems**

- 4.) Economic concepts (including productivity and the market system) and principles (including the laws of supply and demand)
- 5.) The major elements of geographical study and analysis (such as location, place, movement, regions) and their relationships to changes in society and the environment
- 6.) Relationships of the individual and groups to institutions and cultural traditions
- 7.) The use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps, documents)

The Veterans Project Could be Tailored to Fit the Statewide Standards for Social Studies

S1: Veterans could explain to the students why there are certain concepts and freedoms written into the constitution. These freedoms and concepts are often those that we are fighting to protect either for our own nation or in other nations throughout the world.

S2: Veterans have personally experienced and been an influence on the changes in our nation and the world. The experiences of these veterans could be intertwined into the context of nearly every social studies area or era of history. They could be a valuable asset to lessons and units on World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, Desert Storm, and the recent conflicts in Bosnia and Afghanistan.

S3: Veterans can help describe the role that the military plays in our current governmental system and the role that it has had on our government in the past. They can also relate this to the governments other countries they have been stationed at or involved in action with, and how that governmental system effected their actions.

S4: Veterans could discuss with the students the idea of competing economies for various goods and natural resources. Veterans could also discuss issues of economic sanctions and what happens to various economies during wartime.

S5: Veterans can be highly useful to the study of the geographic elements of our world. They can help with the learning process about both various regions of the world and the people that inhabit them. Military campaigns are one of the principal examples of how geography affects the inter-relation of nations and regions. Veterans have a crucial understanding of how actions can effect regions and the changes that can occur on the landscape and to societies.

S6: Veterans could help promote cultural awareness through discussion of their experiences abroad and their reintegration into American society after being away. Veterans could also discuss norms and how they vary from country to country. They could also discuss the role of the military and individual soldiers in American society and the cultural tradition created by our nation's veterans.

S7: Veterans can be very helpful with the promotion of the tools of social studies inquiry. They can assist with the analysis and use of maps through a visual recounting and discussion of their personal experiences. Additionally, students could conduct surveys on veterans regarding various issues or other items. These surveys or working with veterans to gather statistics regarding veterans would be an excellent way of incorporating these tools of social studies inquiry.