**Question #1:**

**Why is it important to teach Social Studies to elementary students?**

* See the world outside of self
* How they relate to world and peers
* Think about past to understand world changes and cause/effect relationships
* Break ethnocentricity (accepting/tolerant)
* Role models; see themselves as leaders
* The past informs our present; repeat or not
* The foundation of life; every aspect intersects
* Impact of different perspectives
* Identify and appreciate
* Be respectful citizens
* Understand our laws
* Learn about heritage (lost/gained)

**Question #2:**

**What are the most significant impediments to teaching social studies to elementary students?**

* Time!
  + Focus on ELA and Math
  + Not tested
  + Interest
* Lack of experience, interest and background knowledge
  + Students
  + Teachers
  + Students must be taught how to debate/discuss
* Lack of resources and knowledge at appropriate reading level and where to find them or time to find them.
* Irrelevant to students
* Controversial content... uncomfortable for students and parents

**Question #3:**

**What are your favorite sources for social studies content, lessons or materials?**

Online Resources:

* + Discovery Education
  + MAPS 101
  + Read Works
  + National Archives
  + History.com
  + You tube
  + TPT
  + Mr. Nussbaum
  + Icivics.com
  + Peter Pappas
  + Teaching for Tolerance
  + Edutopia. Org
  + Weareteachers.com
  + Bookflix
  + Virtual tours
  + Getepic.com
  + Brainpop
  + Storycorps

Printed materials:

* + District purchased materials
  + Missouri Studies Weekly
  + Missouri Notebooks
  + Newspapers, magazines
  + Primary resources, photos
  + My name is America Series
  + Picture books,
  + Scholastic news
  + National Geographic’s
  + Artifacts-money, clothing, food, music, etc. form other countries
  + Colleagues, community resources, museums, etc

**Question #4:**

**What do elementary students like most about social studies?**

**Learning about different cultures and places and how people live!**

* Role playing
* Learning about war, Missouri history, Native Americans, States and Capitals, Maps, Symbols.
* Looking at videos and pictures to see similarities and differences
* Stories from different events and different perspectives
* Creating projects in groups to use supplies and interact with their peers and taping into multiple intelligences.
* More engaging and hands-on, no formula or memorization needed
* Relates to their own lives through geographical locations and ancestry.
* Correlation between the past and the present.
* Understand other people and cultures
* Relatable to all students and it can reach students that are otherwise unreachable as students.

**Question #5:**

**Describe your best social Studies teacher; what made that individual so great at teaching social studies?**

* Made history relevant-connections to personal lives and current events
* Engaging
  + Technology
  + Roleplay
  + Storytelling
* Pushed to the limits- brought them to deeper critical thinking (analyze and evaluate)
* Strong relationships-safe classrooms
* Passionate and knowledgeable
* Taught SS through literacy-small use of textbook
* Shaped us into responsible citizens, respectfully disagree.

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