2010 Social Studies Summer Review Institute

Teacher Perspective Textbook Critique

Local school boards may also want to consider other criteria to meet the needs of their student population.
All teachers that reviewed this material are highly qualified in their specific field in education.

Textbook Title: *New Mexico Social Studies: People We Know*
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Grade Level: 2
ISBN No. Teacher Edition: 9780547390635
ISBN No. Student Edition: 9780547390574

TEXTBOOK ORGANIZATION

This textbook was clearly organized into thematic units. Resource augmentation is provided through online resources for both the teacher and student: reading support, differentiated instruction, vocabulary, ELL, homework, background knowledge, relevancy to community, holidays, project-based learning, research handbook, technology, print, atlas and dictionary, encyclopedia, non-fiction books, etc. Important historical documents are included but only online. Teaching strategies provide opportunities for universal access, i.e. reteaching and etending, technology and literature. Parent support through parent letters is built in. Some materials are available in Spanish.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT SUPPORT

Student practice allows for a variety of responses: multiple choice, short-answer, critical thinking, and extended response. Rubrics are provided for project and extended response assessment. The textbook provides strategies to address needs of both struggling students and challenge for gifted/advanced students.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

There are suggestions for connecting content to students' experiences. It provides multiple writing activities with rubrics for assessment feedback. It provides non-fiction books to allow integration for reading at appropriate levels. Leveled readers are available for content integration. Substantial activities and opportunities for hands-on-learning are available. Visuals are used to enhance vocabulary development.

ADDITIONAL TEACHER COMMENTS

- The book offers multiple strategies to address all levels of learners. SH: Grade 5
- The text is well-organized and strongly aligned to the standards. The teacher's edition is easy to follow and provides direct instruction and extension activities giving content access to all learners. CK: Grades K-5
- This text followed all of the standards and benchmarks. The textbook is very student friendly and great for new teachers. It has lots of great hands-on activities. LM: Grade 2