**Essential Skills for Social Studies:**

**Organizing and Using Information**

***Thinking Skills*:**

**Classify Information**

Identify relevant factual material

Identify relationships between items of factual information

Group data in categories according to appropriate criteria

Place information in order of occurrence

Place information in order of importance

Place data in a variety of forms, such as tables, charts, graphs, illustrations

**Interpret Information**

State relationships between categories of information

Identify cause/ effect relationships

Draw inferences from factual materials

Predict likely outcomes based on factual information

Recognize multiple valid interpretations of factual information

**Analyze Information**

Organize key ideas related to a topic

Separate a topic into major components according to appropriate criteria

Critically examine relationships between and among elements of a topic

Detect bias in information presented

Compare and contrast differing accounts of the same event

**Summarize Information**

Extract significant ideas from supporting illustrative details

Form a conclusion based on information

Restate major ideas of a topic in concise form

Form an opinion based on critical examination of relevant information

**Synthesize Information**

Present information visually (e.g., chart, graph, diagram, model)

Prepare an essay that requires an answer to a task

Communicate orally and in writing

**Evaluate Information**

Determine whether or not information is pertinent to the topic

Determine whether information is important to know or interesting to know

Estimate the adequacy of the information

***Decision-Making Skills*:**

Secure needed factual information

Make decision based on the data obtained

Take action to implement decision

***Metacognitive Skills*:**

Select appropriate strategy to solve a problem

Self-monitor one’s thinking process