

Peer Support Plan History/Social Studies

History and Social Studies classes often require students to master or memorize information, and sometimes to apply that information to answer shorter or longer writing prompts.

To help students prepare for these activities, the **facilitator** could:

- Create weekly or monthly calendars with quizzes, tests, assigned reading chapters, projects, essays and other assessments listed
- Create study guides that highlight and organize important information
- Provide model answers to practice questions ahead of assessments
- Provide review sessions before assessments
- Provide carbon paper for note-sharing among students

The **student** could:

- Use electronic apps or agenda books if calendars are not provided

Classmates could:

- Take clear, organized notes to share
- Model and discuss favorite study habits that work
- Offer to attend review sessions with student (if offered)

At the beginning of class....

<i>The student could...</i>	<i>Classmates could...</i>	<i>The facilitator could...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greet classmates • Turn in any homework • Help pass out text books or handouts • Make sure materials are on desk and ready for class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model greetings like “Hi, how are you?” • Offer to pass out texts or handouts with student • Model by getting necessary materials on desk • Help student get necessary materials on desk • Remind student to turn in any homework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review posted agenda of activities for the class • Ask student for help getting materials passed out to class

When there are lectures or whole group instruction...

<i>The student could...</i>	<i>Classmates could...</i>	<i>The facilitator could...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay engaged and listen to the teacher • Participate by paying attention and answering questions • Take notes or write down answers on worksheets • Watch classmate for appropriate actions • Ask questions by raising hand and waiting for teacher when needed • Contribute to class discussion with comment or question 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model staying focused and following along • Take clear, organized, complete notes • Check to see if student is following along • Let students know when they are doing a good job • Model by asking questions and offering answers • Give positive feedback if student contributes to discussion, such as “I like how her comment made me think about...” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow students to share and compare notes • Allow students to compare worksheets with peers before turning in • Chunk new material into manageable sections • Provide frequent comprehension checks • Provide student with discussion question(s) one day ahead of time, if appropriate. Ask student to write down a comment to share or read in class the next day

When there are small groups or group project work...

<i>The student could...</i>	<i>Classmates could...</i>	<i>The facilitator could...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to join group and face group members • Tell group which role or task is preferred, if appropriate • Ask for help or explanation from group members and teacher if needed • Stay on task; use checklist, if provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make student feel welcome and included • Encourage student to choose a job or task he or she would prefer • Ask student for input/ideas • Encourage student to stay on task • Model supportive and inclusive work for all group members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider tasks that would allow all students to make successful contributions to group • Break down group tasks into clear steps. Provide steps in written form as needed, in checklist form • Help create structured roles for group members • Help students decide appropriate roles and tasks within group

When there is independent seatwork...

<i>The student could...</i>	<i>Classmates could...</i>	<i>The facilitator could...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask for help if needed • Watch classmate for appropriate action • Stay focused on task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model by staying focused and on task • Check to see if student is on task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow student to take classwork to finish for homework if more time is needed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let students know when they are doing a good job • Model by asking questions if needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow student to receive quiet help from classmate if appropriate
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At the end of class...

<i>The student could...</i>	<i>Classmates could...</i>	<i>The facilitator could...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen for teacher reminders about upcoming due dates and assessments • Update agenda • Ask teacher to check agenda • Keep organized as materials are put away • Tell classmate and teacher, “Thanks. See you tomorrow.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share study method for upcoming assessment, and ask student, “How do you study for tests?” • Model by writing down teacher reminders in agenda • Help student stay organized as he/she puts away materials • Show student your organization materials and habits as materials are put away • Remind student of any upcoming quizzes/tests • Walk with student part way to next class • Mention one thing the student did well that day in class; ask if he/she has questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give one or two minutes at end of class to review upcoming activities, requirements, due dates • Offer to check student agenda or list to confirm information written down • Ask individually if unanswered questions from class remain

Big Ideas for Peers

- Get to know your partner ... ask lots of questions and find out what he or she enjoys.
- Involve your partner in conversations with other classmates – interacting with others is an important goal.
- Look for opportunities to involve your partner in class activities, even in small ways.
- Make sure you complete your own work; learning the class material is still your priority.

Specific Ways to Offer Support

