

Parent Guide to Student Success

Rutherford County Schools is committed to providing high quality instruction anchored in the [Tennessee State Standards](#) using state adopted and board approved curriculum resources.

What to Expect in 8th Grade Social Studies

This course focuses on American History from Colonization to Reconstruction. Building on foundational knowledge from elementary school, students will examine the relationship between Tennessee history, government, and geography and U.S. history to identify the roles that our state has played in American history.



A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working On

8th Grade Units Include:

- Colonization (1607-1750)
- The New Nation (1775-1800)
- Growth of a Young Nation (1800-1820)
- Sectionalism and Reform (1790s-1850s)
- The Jacksonian Era (1824-1840)
- Expansion and Division of the Nation (1820s-1860s)
- The Civil War (1860-1865)
- Reconstruction (1865-1877)



Conversation Starters

With Students

- What era are you covering in your history class? What type of work is the teacher asking you to complete and can you show me a sample?
- What primary and secondary sources have you read in class?
- What patterns do you notice in what you're learning in history?
- What goals do you have for your history class? How can I help?

With Teachers

- Is my child meeting the expectations of this class?
- How can I keep track of their progress and what they are currently studying?
- Are there additional resources you would recommend to support learning outside the classroom?
- Are there additional books, movies, or podcasts you would recommend to support what you are studying in class?
- Is my child prepared for high school? How do you know?



Resources:

[TN State Standards](#) |