



Unit 1: The Physical Setting

10
Days

Chicago's geographic and geological characteristics will be taught in this unit. Students will gain an understanding of how the area's physical characteristics were formed. The evolution of Chicago and the metropolitan area will also be discussed. Other topics covered will be Chicago's grid system and how Chicago compares in size to other metropolitan areas in the United States.



Unit 2: City on the Make

15
Days

Students will examine Chicago as the crossroads of economic and cultural exchange from prehistoric time to the present. Students will understand how Native Americans, European explorers, and early Americans developed Chicago into a hub of economic and cultural activity. Areas of study will include pre-1871, the I & M Canal, development of the railroad, the Chicago Stockyards, and current economic forces.



Unit 3: City in Crisis

15
Days

Students will study how conflicting social, economic, and political forces created disorder and forced changes in the Chicago area. Topics included in this unit will be The Chicago Fire, The Haymarket Affair, Al Capone and Prohibition, and the 1968 Democratic Convention.



Unit 4: Ethnic Chicago

10
Days

Students will gain an overview of how Chicago's communities have developed over ethnic and racial lines. Students will study past and present community settlement patterns and understand forces that have caused changes in these patterns. Other topics of study will include the 1919 and 1968 Race Riots, Jane Addams, and the development of the Reavis community.



Unit 5: Unique Chicago

15
Days

Students will explore institutions and personalities that are uniquely Chicago. Students will learn about innovations associated with Chicago and the unique personalities that have shaped its history. Topics of study will include Chicago architecture, politics, and food.



Unit 6: My Kind of Town

10
Days

Students will learn about major cultural institutions and events that have played a role in Chicagoans' lives. Investigation of music, art, sports, and other institutions will be discussed. Topics such as the development of Blues music, The World's Fairs, and the evolution of professional sports will be covered.