

Back To School

Community & Social Studies

60+ teamwork and social studies activities for the first weeks of school

The collage features several educational resources:

- Back To School Community Edition:** A worksheet titled "30+ teamwork activities for the first weeks of school" with sections for "The Log" and "The Name Game".
- Back To School Social Studies!** A worksheet titled "30+ social studies activities for the first weeks of school" featuring a "Nobel Prize Craftivity Example" (The Nobel Peace Honor), a "Family 'Coat of Arms' Template", and a "Five Components of Social Studies Interactive Notebook Page Example" (History, Geography, Economics, Civics, Government).
- Examples:** A "Nobel Prize Craftivity Example" showing a student's work on "The Nobel Peace Honor" with a starburst graphic. A "Family 'Coat of Arms' Template" showing a blank space for a family crest. A "Five Components of Social Studies Interactive Notebook Page Example" showing a stack of books labeled "History", "Geography", "Economics", "Civics", and "Government" next to a globe.

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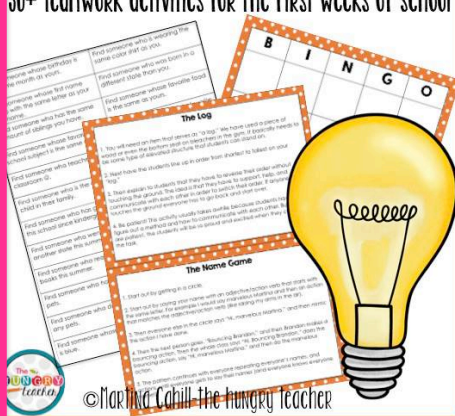
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Check out all of my "back to school" packs!

Back To School

Community Edition!

30+ teamwork activities for the first weeks of school



This pack includes various activities such as a BINGO card, a 'The Log' worksheet, and 'The Name Game' worksheet. A glowing lightbulb icon is featured on the right side.

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Back To School

Writing Edition!

30+ writing activities for the first weeks of school



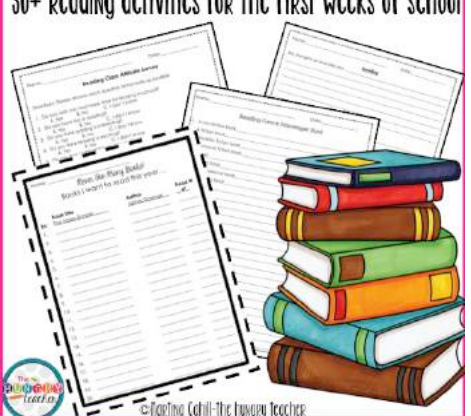
This pack features a 'Persuade' worksheet, a 'The Writing Process Cycle' diagram, and a 'Pencil' illustration. The cycle diagram shows the stages: Prewriting, Writing, Revising, and Publishing.

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Back To School

Reading Edition!

30+ reading activities for the first weeks of school




This pack includes a 'Reading Comprehension' worksheet and a stack of colorful books. A pencil is also visible.

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Back To School

Social Studies!

30+ social studies activities for the first weeks of school



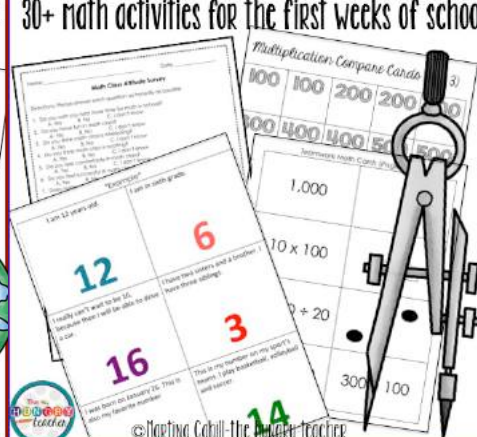
This pack includes a 'Nobel Prize Craftivity Example', a 'Family Coat of Arms Template', and a 'Five Components of Social Studies Interactive Notebook Page Example' with sections for History, Geography, Economics, Civics, and Government. A globe is also shown.

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Back To School

Math Edition!

30+ math activities for the first weeks of school



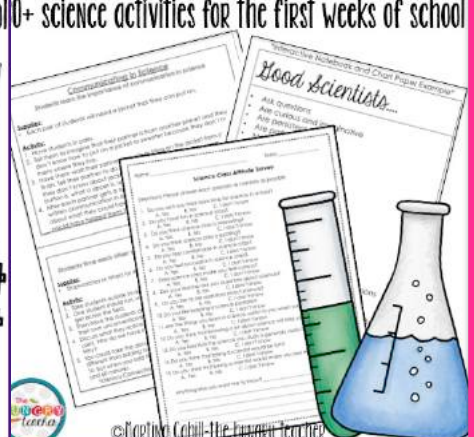
This pack includes a 'Math Class Multiple Choice' worksheet, 'Multiplication Compare Cards' (100, 200, 400, 1,000), and a 'Compass' illustration. A grid with numbers like 12, 6, 16, 3, and 14 is also visible.

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Back To School

Science Edition!

30+ science activities for the first weeks of school

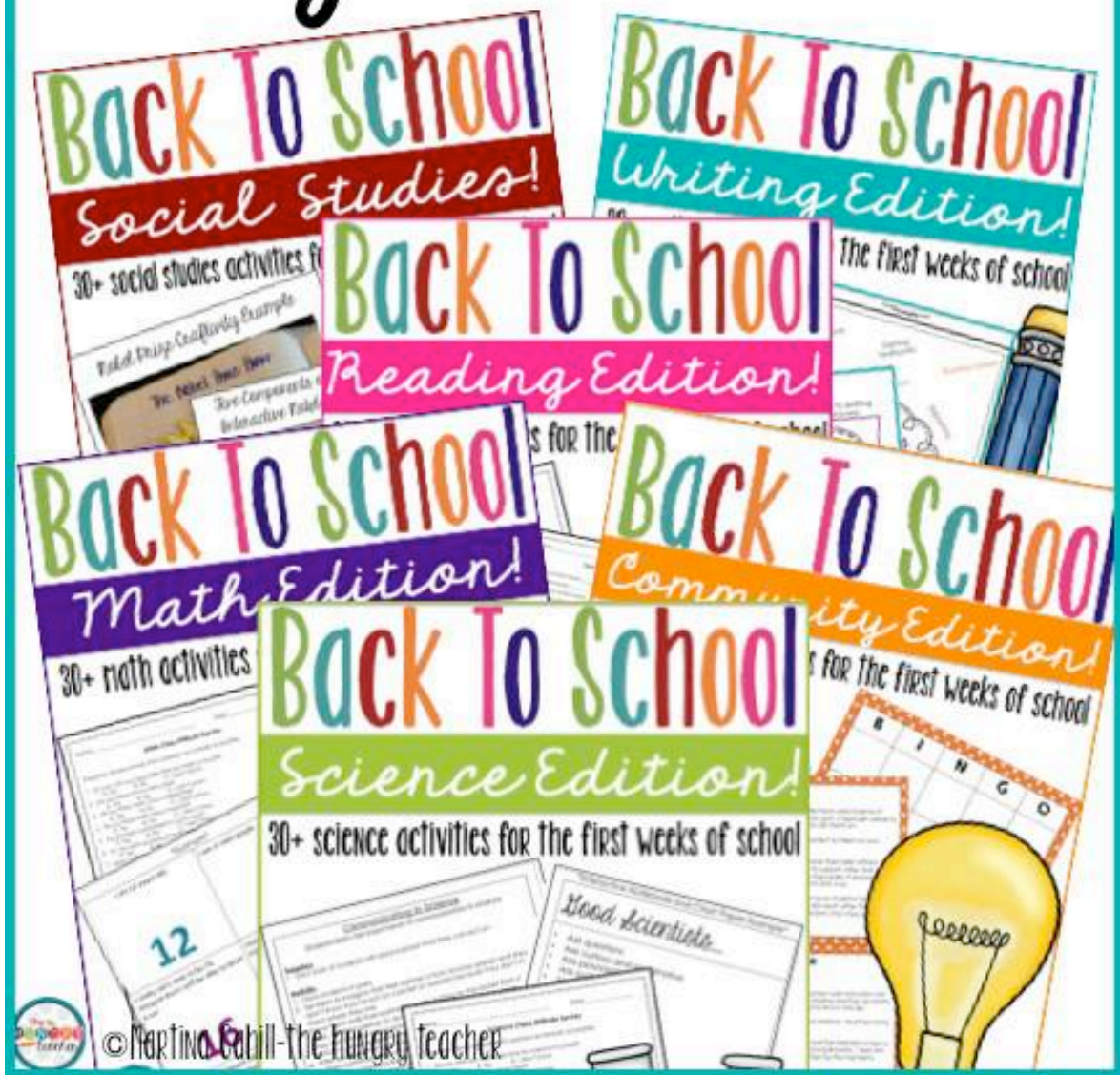


This pack includes a 'Good Scientists...' worksheet, a 'Science Class Multiple Choice' worksheet, and illustrations of a test tube and a flask.

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Check out the complete bundle in my store.
Includes all six back to school packs!

Back To School Big Bundle



Back To School

Community Edition!

30+ teamwork activities for the first weeks of school

Find someone whose birthday is the same month as yours.	Find someone who is wearing the same color shirt as you.
Find someone whose first name starts with the same letter as your first name.	Find someone who was born in a different state than you.
Find someone who has the same amount of siblings you have.	Find someone whose favorite food is the same as yours.
Find someone whose favorite school subject is the same as yours.	
Find someone who teaches in your classroom ☺.	
Find someone who is the oldest child in their family.	
Find someone who has graduated from this school since kindergarten.	
Find someone who went to another state this summer.	
Find someone who reads books this summer.	
Find someone who has a dog as a pet.	
Find someone who has a cat as a pet.	
Find someone whose eyes are blue.	

B	I	N	G	O

The Log

1. You will need an item that serves as "a log." We have used a piece of wood or even the bottom seat on bleachers in the gym. It basically needs to be some type of elevated structure that students can stand on.
2. Next have the students line up in order from shortest to tallest on your "log."
3. Then explain to students that they have to reverse their order without touching the ground. The idea is that they have to support, help, and communicate with each other in order to switch their order. If anyone touches the ground everyone has to go back and start over.
4. Be patient! This activity usually takes awhile because students have to figure out a method and how to communicate with each other. But if you are patient, the students will be so proud and excited when they complete the task.

The Name Game

1. Start out by getting in a circle.
2. Start out by saying your name with an adjective/action verb that starts with the same letter. For example I would say marvelous Martina and then an action that matches the adjective/action verb (like raising my arms in the air).
3. Then everyone else in the circle says "Hi, marvelous Martina," and then mimic the action I have done.
4. Then the next person goes. "Bouncing Brandon," and then Brandon makes a bouncing action. Then the whole class says "Hi, Bouncing Brandon," does the bouncing action, say "Hi, marvelous Martina," and then do the marvelous action.
5. The pattern continues with everyone repeating everyone's names, and actions until everyone gets to say their names (and everyone knows everyone's names!)



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I Can't Funeral

1.) Start out by explaining to students that we all believe that there are things we "can't" do. Then explain that "I can't" shouldn't be a phrase we use in our classroom because there are so many other things we can say like "I'll try" or "I need help."

2.) Students will write down all the things they believe they "can't" do. After they have written down all the things they think they can't do, you could have a discussion on some strategies they could use instead of saying "I can't." Like ask a friend or use a resource like a book or the computers. You could make a chart paper of these strategies to be displayed in your classroom.

3.) Pick a day for your "I can't" funeral and encourage your students to wear black that day. We made a tombstone out of cardboard that said "Here lies the I Can't statements of the 5th grade class. RIP." The students took turns digging a hole (with permission from our principal) and we buried our "I Can't" statements in a shoebox. Any time a student says "I can't," you can just say "I can't is buried."

The Facts Game - Beat the Teacher

1.) Start out by writing 20-30 interesting facts about yourself.

2.) Create a score keeping area. One place for your (the teacher) score and one place for your students' score. It's you vs. them.

3.) On the day you do this activity have students write three different facts about themselves on index cards.

4.) Then read all your facts and then have each student read their facts.

5.) Now the fun begins! I have to say a fact and the name of the person who said the fact. If I get it right then I get a point. If I guess right, the student whose fact I called out goes next. They have to try and remember a fact about me. If they get one right, the students get a point.

6. The pattern continues until you run out of facts.... Or time! ☺

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Blanket Buddies

- 1.) You will need a blanket that your students can stand on.
- 2.) Explain to students that the ground they are standing on is too cold and if they are on it for too long they will freeze. Because of this, you have provided them a blanket to stand on that will keep them warm.
- 3.) Explain to them that the blanket only works to help them if the whole class is standing on it. Allow students to figure out how they are all going to stand on it and then work out their plan.
- 4.) After students have completed this task explain to them that another class needs half of the blanket to keep them warm. Fold the blanket in half and then tell the students that they all have to fit on half of the blanket now. Enjoy watching them get cozy.

Dynamic Duos

- 1.) You will need the dynamic duo matching card set (next page).
- 2.) Give each student one of the cards (or you could tell them which part of the dynamic duo they are).
- 3.) Then explain to students that they will have to find their dynamic duo match without doing any talking.
- 4.) Spread students out in your classroom or outside on the playground and then tell them to "go" whenever you are ready for them to start.
- 5.) Sit back and enjoy the show! (Make sure to watch out for the student who has to act out a meatball ☺).

Spongebob	Patrick
Spaghetti	Meatballs
Peanut Butter	Jelly
Chips	Salsa
Jack	Jill
Mickey Mouse	Minnie Mouse
Harry Potter	Ron Weasley
Salt	Pepper

Bert	Ernie
Rock	Roll
Chocolate Chip	Cookie
Grilled	Cheese
Ketchup	Mustard
Mario	Luigi
Calvin	Hobbes
Batman	Robin

Back To School

Social Studies!

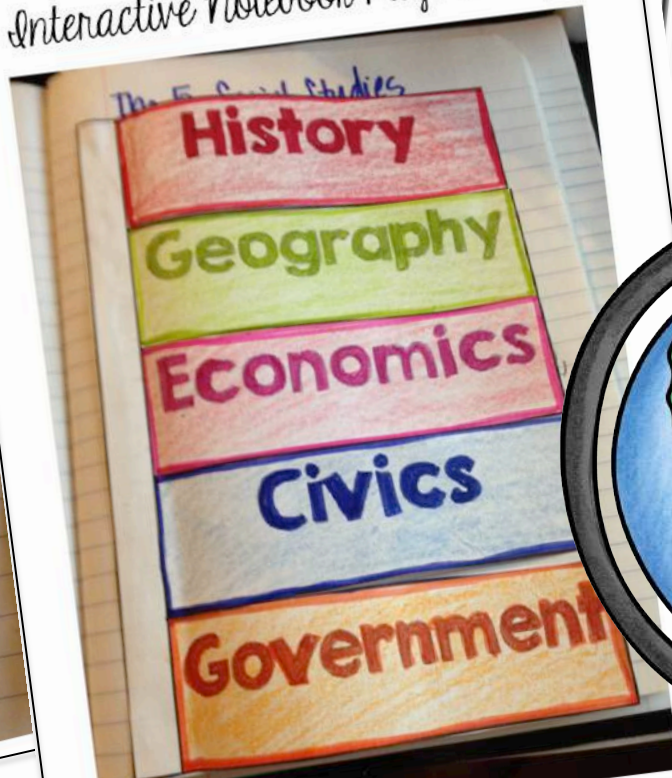
30+ social studies activities for the first weeks of school

Nobel Prize Craftivity Example

The Nobel Peace Honor

Family "Coat of Arms" Template

Five Components of Social Studies
Interactive Notebook Page Example



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Social Studies Goals

Students discuss goals and strengths in Social Studies

Supplies:

1. Social studies goal sheet for each student (next page).

Activity:

1. At the start of every school year, I have students fill out goal sheets for each subject. This allows you and them to see how they feel about subjects, what they are good at, and what goals they have for themselves.
2. We then place these in portfolios to be saved all year.
3. At the end of the year, students fill out similar reflection sheets to see how they have grown in social studies.
4. Have students fill them out and have a class discussion about what some of their goals and strengths are.

Social Studies Class Attitude Survey

Students complete surveys so you can assess their attitudes towards social studies

Supplies:

1. Social studies class attitude survey for each student (after goal sheet)

Activity:

1. Explain to students that you want to assess their attitudes about social studies and that you have a short survey you would like them to fill out.
2. Hand-out the surveys and have students fill them out.
3. When they are done, you could have a class discussion about the surveys to get an even better idea of their attitudes toward social studies or to clear up any misconceptions they may have.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Social Studies

My strengths in social studies are... _____

My goals in social studies are... _____

Some ways that I can achieve this goal are... _____

My teacher and classmates can help me achieve this goal by... _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Social Studies Class Attitude Survey

Directions: Please answer each question as honestly as possible

1. Do you wish you had more time for social studies in school?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
2. Do you have fun in social studies?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
3. Do you think the social studies are interesting?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
4. Do you think the social studies are exciting?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
5. Do you feel comfortable during social studies?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
6. Do you feel successful in social studies?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
7. Do the social studies make you feel curious?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
8. Does your teacher ask you questions about social studies?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
9. Do you like to ask questions about social studies?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
10. Do you like keeping a social studies portfolio?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
11. Are the things you learn in social studies useful to you when you are not in school?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
12. Do you think that knowing a lot about social studies will help you in the future?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
13. Do you feel that the social studies you study are generally useful to you?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
14. Do you think that being a historian would be fun?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know
15. Do you think that being a historian would make you feel important?
A. Yes B. No C. I don't know

Anything else you want me to know? _____

Fishing for Headlines

Supplies:

- Newspapers that you can cut the headlines out of (one newspaper per group)
- Scissors
- If you wanted to create actual “fishing rods” you would need a magnet, sticks of some sort, string and paperclips. If you make “fishing poles,” just tie the string to the stick and then tie the magnet to the other end of the string. You would then need to attach paperclips to each heading.

Activity:

1. This is a fun activity to encourage students to read articles from a newspaper.
2. For this activity, cut out the headings from a newspaper(s) and place them in bags or containers for each group of students.
3. Students then go “fishing” for headlines, either by using the fishing poles or just using their hands to blindly select a heading.
4. Students could try to infer what their article is about and then they should read their article.
5. Students could then share what they learned from their article and what they learned about newspapers and their headings.

The Five Components of Social Studies

Supplies:

- “The Five Components of Social Studies” interactive notebook page. (Found on next page).

Activity:

1. This is a great activity for the beginning of the year to start the set-up of your social studies notebooks.
2. Start out by showing my example or have your own example of how to glue in the interactive notebook page.
3. Have students cut and paste the interactive notebook page into their notebooks.
4. Then, either as a class or with groups of students, have students fill out the interactive notebooks page to learn about the five components of social studies. This would be a great time for students to get familiar with their social studies textbooks if you have one.
5. Make sure to give them time to color the front flaps of their interactive notebook templates.

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History

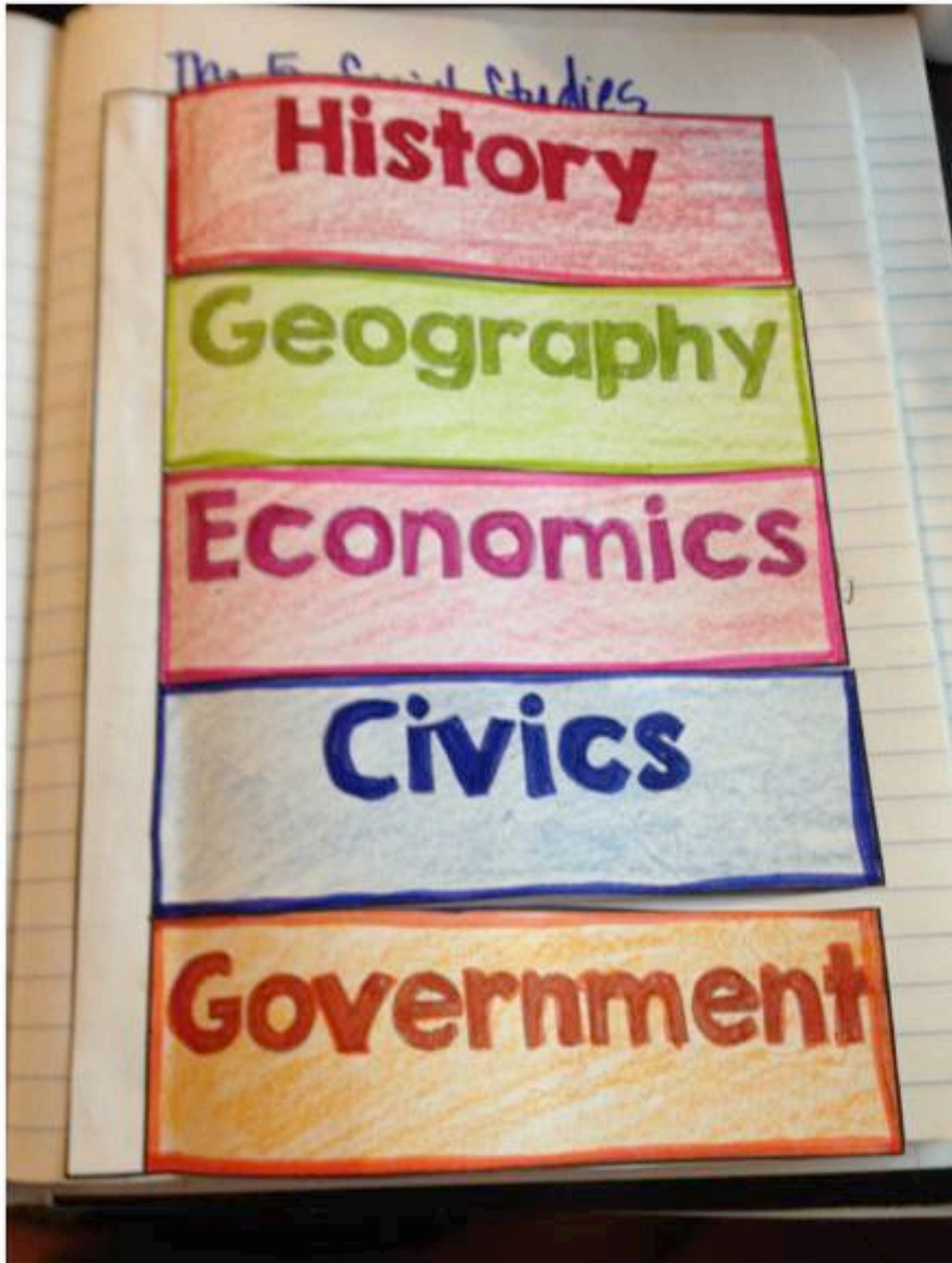
Geography

Economics

Civics

Government

Five Components of Social Studies
Interactive Notebook Page Example



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