



WHAT IS BAYOU BRIDGES?

Bayou Bridges is a K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum for whole-class instruction designed to align with the student expectations of the [2022 K-8 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies](#).

Bayou Bridges units are a coherent set of plans which ensure students have broad and deep knowledge about the world, are able to express reasoned and nuanced arguments, and are prepared to participate in civic life. Each unit topic is organized around a framing question, such as “To what degree were efforts to address the Great Depression and Dust Bowl effective?”, and contains engagingly written texts along with color illustrations, photographs, maps, and primary source documents. Lessons follow an instructional process in which teachers set the context, explore real and engaging primary sources with students, develop and argue claims, and ultimately express those claims in writing. For additional information about Bayou Bridges, access the Louisiana Department of Education’s [Bayou Bridges webpage](#).



SET THE CONTEXT

Introduce key terms, make connections with previous learning, provide necessary context



EXPLORE SOURCES

Read and examine sources to build content knowledge and skills



DEVELOP CLAIMS

Evaluate evidence, make connections, compare and contrast sources

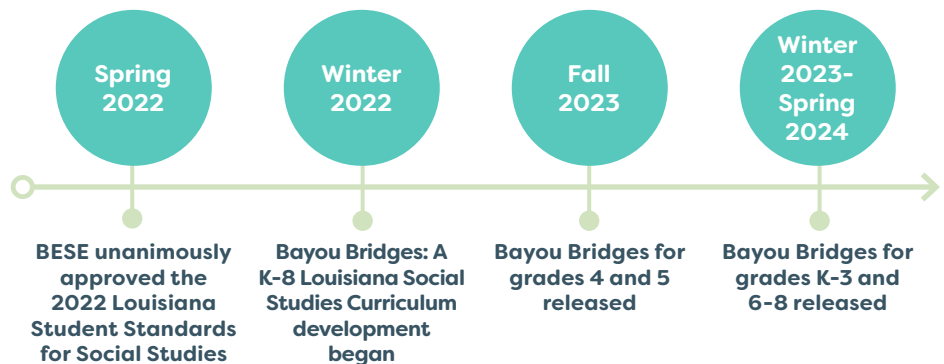


EXPRESS CLAIMS

Through speaking and/or writing, express informed claims supported with evidence

IN THE NEWS

- [Core Knowledge Foundation and Louisiana Department of Education Partnership Announcement](#)



RESEARCH

- [The Opportunity Myth](#), TNTF
- [Using a Curriculum Rich in Arts, History, and Science Led to Big Reading Improvements](#), EdWeek
- [At long last, E.D. Hirsch, Jr. gets his due: New research shows big benefits from Core Knowledge](#), Thomas B. Fordham Institute
- [Dramatic New Evidence That Building Knowledge Can Boost Comprehension And Close Gaps](#), Forbes
- [How Knowledge Helps](#), Daniel T. Willingham
- [Improving Elementary Grade Students’ Science and Social Studies Vocabulary Knowledge Depth, Reading Comprehension, and Argumentative Writing: A Conceptual Replication](#). Educational Psychology Review, 33: 1935-1964.

