



GEORGIA STUDIES:

Exploring and Connecting

8



Clairmont Press





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To the Students

Welcome to *Georgia Studies: Exploring and Connecting 8*. This one-year program will introduce you to the history, geography, government, and economics of our wonderful state—the state you call home! This textbook was written with you, the student, in mind. It aligns with the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Social Studies, assisting you in demonstrating your mastery of the standards. More importantly, this book is designed to help you become an active citizen in the state, capable of taking advantage of its many opportunities.

You might wonder why you should study Georgia. Since it is important to know about the whole world, why should you spend time learning about just one part? Why learn about our small state? The answer is simple. Everything global has a local basis, and your local area is Georgia. Americans today are closely connected to the whole world, but they live in fifty different units of government called states, and the states matter in our lives.

Georgia serves as the backdrop for your life story. The physical, educational, social, and economic needs of its residents are addressed here. The state government maintains law and order, assists those in need, plans for growth, and offers opportunities for citizens to lead fulfilling lives. Georgia also gives each of us a distinct identity within the United States. While we are Americans, our role in the American story is unique. As a citizen of Georgia, our state's story is also a part of your personal story.

Whether you are a native or a newcomer, Georgia is a place that its residents are proud to call home. Our state is more than just its boundaries, its government, and its economy. These aspects are certainly important. However, our state and nation share a story woven with history, culture, literature, folklore, nature, and many other fascinating subjects. As you delve into social studies this year, this book will help you develop a deeper appreciation for both the story of Georgia and your own story! It is a privilege for us to be part of your journey.

Sincerely,

The Clairmont Press Team

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