The following instructional plan is part of a GaDOE collection of Unit Frameworks, Performance Tasks, examples of Student Work, and Teacher Commentary for the Kindergarten Social Studies Course.

	Kindergarten - Unit Five – Becoming a Good American		
Elaborated Unit Focus	The historical content in this unit revolves around the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, and his work to ensure the fair treatment of all people. Students will learn about positive character traits exhibited by good citizens, and practice using these traits themselves. They can also identify historical figures and people students know personally to better illustrate the traits and inspire students to demonstrate good citizenship through the traits. By learning about making good choices, students can begin to synthesize their knowledge of civics and economics content, using these character traits and the larger idea of good citizenship as an example.		
Connection to Connecting Theme/Enduring Understandings	Through the connecting theme of culture , students will learn about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and why his birthday is a national holiday. This content can also be taught through the lens of individuals , groups , and institutions , so that students can connect it to the rights and responsibilities held by citizens of the United States, and how they can grow up to be good citizens who make a positive impact on those around them. The economics theme of scarcity addresses choice-making within economic situations, but also as part of students' everyday lives.		
GSE for Social Studies (standards and elements)	 SSKH1 – Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated. e. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day SSKCG1 – Demonstrate an understanding of good citizenship. a. Explain how rules are made and why. b. Explain why rules should be followed. SSKCG2 – Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens, such as honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, and self-control. SSKE4 – Explain that people must make choices because they cannot have everything they want. 		
Connection to Literacy Standards for Social Studies (reading and/or writing)	All of the Kindergarten Reading Informational skills are covered in this unit's activities, ELAGSEKRI1-10. All of the Kindergarten Writing skills, ELAGSEKW1-3, 5-6, 7-8, are also developed within this unit. All of the Kindergarten Speaking and Listening skills are also covered within this unit, ELAGSEKSL1-6. This unit is an ideal opportunity to integrate ELA standards with Social Studies standards for powerful learning.		

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Connection to Social Studies Matrices (information processing and/or map	Information Processing Skills: compare similarities and differences organize items chronologically
and globe skills)	3. identify issues and/or problems and alternative solutions



Es	sential Questions and Related Supporting/Guiding Questions
Culture	 How do we celebrate holidays in our school/community? a. What makes holidays like Martin Luther King, Jr. Day different from holidays like Christmas? b. Why do different people celebrate different holidays in different ways? c. What do we do to honor Dr. King on his holiday? d. How do we celebrate Dr. King's holiday in our school/community?
Individuals, Groups, Institutions	 How do individuals impact the world around them? a. What can people do to affect their families? b. What can people do to affect their communities? c. What can people do to impact their countries? Why do we have holidays to honor individual people? a. What do we remember on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day? b. Why did our country decide to honor Dr. King with a holiday? c. How does having this holiday help us remember Dr. King and his work? What does it mean to be a good citizen? a. How do good citizens make choices? b. What character traits do good citizens try to show? c. How do these character traits affect others in your family/school/community?
Scarcity	 5. Why do we make choices? a. What are some situations where you must make a choice? b. What happens if you make a choice and then wish you had made a different one? c. How do we think through a choice before we make it? 6. How can our choices affect others? a. Why should we consider others when making choices? b. What can we do if we make a choice that hurts other people? c. How does it feel when you are affected by someone else's choice?

Sample Instructional Activities/Assessments

Back to School

- 1. Many classes begin the second semester with a review of the classroom rules and procedures established in the first few weeks of school. For schools with high student turnover, this may take longer than in places where most students have been in the class since the first day.
- 2. Begin by reviewing posted rules and/or procedures. If you made a class reference book for procedures or another visual aid earlier in the year, take time to go back through it thoroughly. Have students act out appropriate procedures inside and outside the classroom. If you have new students, this allows them to start the second half of the year feeling like full members of the community, and provides a leadership opportunity for other students.
- 3. Brainstorm situations that can be problematic or have caused difficulty so far during the year. Discuss the ways that making respectful choices can result in a positive classroom and smoother days. Have students share particular situations faced by themselves or by the class, and the specific choices they could have made. Model, if necessary, to demonstrate how students can acknowledge choices they should have made and work toward making better choices in the future. {Note: guide this discussion in such a way that it doesn't become an "airing of grievances," and rather lets individual students think through their past choices and set a goal to make positive and respectful choices for the rest of the year.}
- 4. This is a time when a little levity and humor can go a long way. Be open about the fact that the best, most respectful, and most positive choices are not always the most fun. Give relevant examples from your experience as a teacher sometimes, you'd rather stay outside and swing longer than line up at the right time, and sometimes you'd prefer to walk out of class when you feel like it to get a drink of water (or use the restroom!) rather than waiting for the appropriate time. Done thoughtfully, this gives you a chance to acknowledge students' feelings, make a real connection with them as people, and reinforce your classroom's culture of respect.
- 5. Depending on your class, this can also be a chance to revisit rules or procedures that may need to be changed. While it is unlikely that you will need to make a wholesale change in your classroom rules, it is certainly possible that a procedure or two may need to be tweaked. Walk students through the current rule/procedure, discuss why you or they think it should be changed, and then brainstorm potential choices regarding the change. Are there particular choices that won't work? Why won't they? Are there several possible acceptable choices? What are they? How can the class decide? While time-consuming, this process gives students ownership of the way their classroom works, and allows them to see real decision-making in action.

GSE Standards and Elements	 SSKCG1 – Demonstrate an understanding of good citizenship. a. Explain how rules are made and why. b. Explain why rules should be followed. SSKCG2 – Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens, such as honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, and self-control.
Literacy Standards Social Studies Matrices Enduring Understanding(s)	Information Processing Skills: 3. identify issues and/or problems and alternative solutions EUs: Culture; Individuals, Groups, Institutions

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		Good Neighbors
1.	school building	ing this activity with your class, arrange to cooperate on these ideas with neighboring classrooms. Depending on the layout of your g, these may be other Kindergartens, or classes from other grades/specials. In addition, try to engage one or two "other adults" – rators, counselor, media specialist, etc.
2.	school affects members? Kee	view of rules/procedures used in your classroom, discuss the ways that behavior within your classroom and by your class within the others who work and study there. Conversely, how does the behavior of other students and adults affect your classroom and its eping in mind that we treat others the way we would like to be treated, what does this tell students about the choices they should and outside the classroom? What guidelines are there to help them make these choices?
3.		
4.	4. Most Kindergarteners will enjoy a visual reminder of these observations. This could be as simple as a sticky note stuck on the inside of the classroom door – written by the neighbor who noticed the good choices, or by you following a verbal report – or as complicated as a die-cut symbol that the noticing person can grab and use to make a note. They could be displayed anywhere, but often kids respond well to having then put inside the classroom as a signal that they are working together to be good classroom citizens rather than bragging on their personal behavio by putting them on display outside. However, teachers can certainly adapt this for their situations and circumstances.	
5.		
6.	 You may want to include children's literature during the introduction of this system, and during your review of classroom rules/procedures. Take the time to pre-read a book with a focus on "good behavior" before using it, just to make sure that you aren't introducing problems your class hasn't had! Suggestions include: *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse, by Kevin Henkes *Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon, by Patty Lovell *Officer Buckle and Gloria, by Peggy Rathman 	
GSE Sta Elemer	andards and Its	 SSKCG1 – Demonstrate an understanding of good citizenship. a. Explain how rules are made and why. b. Explain why rules should be followed.
		SSKCG2 – Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens, such as honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, and

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Kindergarten Frameworks for the Georgia Standards of Excellence in Social Studies

	self-control.
Literacy Standards Social Studies Matrices Enduring Understanding(s)	Information Processing Skills: 1. compare similarities and differences 3. identify issues and/or problems and alternative solutions EU: Culture; Individuals, Groups, Institutions

		Picture It!	
1.	playground, etc.	e a simple map of the classroom and places within the school where students go – specials classrooms, lunchroom, media center, Use bulletin board paper or taped-together chart paper so that the map can be drawn to a fairly large scale. (Note: if the layout nakes this difficult, use the posted fire exit map/emergency plan as a basic blueprint for the map.)	
2. Discuss the different rules and procedures that students use for different places inside and outside the building.		rent rules and procedures that students use for different places inside and outside the building.	
3.	 Have students select specific locations for which they would like to illustrate the rules/procedures. Using large index cards, or construction paper cut to size, have students create those illustrations and label them as appropriate. Connect these cards to their correct places on the map using string. 		
4.	. When the map is complete, display it, and refer to it when reviewing good choices and different procedures that students use in different parts of the building.		
GSE Sta	indards and	 SSKG2 – Explain that a map is a drawing of a place and a globe is a model of Earth. b. Explain that maps and globes show a view from above. c. Explain that maps and globes show features in a smaller size. 	
Elemen	ts	 SSKCG1 – Demonstrate an understanding of good citizenship. a. Explain how rules are made and why. b. Explain why rules should be followed. 	
Literacy Standards			
Social Studies Matrices Enduring Understanding(s)		EU: Individuals, Groups, and Institutions	

	Introducing Character Traits		
1.	Before beginning this introduction, think through the number of character traits you can reasonably expect students to learn in a single lesson. This will depend on your class, of course, but in general, it is better to have several short lessons than to try to teach them all at once. Then, decide which traits you would like to teach first. You may choose to focus on traits that you have seen exhibited frequently by your students, or to specifically enumerate traits that you have addressed through previous content.		
2.			
3.			
4. Once students have thought of "real-life" examples, see if they can list examples drawn from books they have read or previous content taugh While it's fine to model an example or two, try to let most of the list come from students' own thoughts. It is better to let the lists look blank add to them slowly as students think of their own examples rather than the teacher doing all the work to create long lists during the initial discussion of the character trait.			
5. Repeat this with the remaining character traits.		-	
6.	6. Keep the charts available so that students can add examples as they come across them in new content.		
GSE Sta Elemen	andards and its	SSKCG2: Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens, such as honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, and self-control.	
Literacy	y Standards	Information Processing Skills:	
Social S	Studies Matrices	1. compare similarities and differences	
Enduring Understanding(s)		EUs: Individuals, Groups, Institutions	

	Character Trait Webs		
1. Create cards showing the character traits listed in the standard. Write one trait on each card.			
2. Organize students into small groups. Have each group draw one card as their assigned character trait. Keep one card as the trait that the whole class will work together to address.			
3. Tell students that each group will create a web that describes the trait and gives examples of ways they can exhibit it. Use the model trait to create a sample web, with the character trait at the center. Use the spokes of the web to list words related to the trait, examples of how to exhibit it, and illustrations of how the trait can be shown in the classroom/school.		web, with the character trait at the center. Use the spokes of the web to list words related to the trait, examples of how to exhibit	
4. As a small group, students should discuss the meaning of their trait, people and characters who exhibit it, and any connections they may h from what they have learned so far during the year. Then, they can work together to create a web for their group's assigned trait.		have learned so far during the year. Then, they can work together to create a web for their group's assigned trait.	
5.	•	; students could repeat these webs using illustrations/phrases about figures from history about whom they have learned during examples on the spokes of the web.	
GSE Standards and Elements		SSKCG2: Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens, such as honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, and self-control.	
Literacy	y Standards		
Social Studies Matrices		EU: Individuals, Groups, Institutions	
Enduring Understanding(s)			

Dr. King's Childhood				
1.	Begin by introducing a basic outline of Dr. King's life to students. One way to do this is by using children's books. Possibilities include:			
		artin: A Sister Remembers, by Christine King Farris		
	-	ords: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by Doreen Rappaport		
		King, Jr. and the March on Washington, by Frances Ruffin		
	-	eral chronology of Dr. King's life, making sure to include elements that are relatable to your students (living in Georgia, having a		
		p with extended family, going to school, going to church, etc.).		
2.		tour of Dr. King's childhood home in Atlanta, with captions from an interview with Christine King Farris, his older sister:		
		c.com/news/national/martin-luther-king-childhood-home/IS59gcHWjEqBQgelyPF0mI/. (you may need to copy and paste this link		
		er to locate the tour.) Note the kitchen, bedroom, food, toys, etc., to allow students to make connections between his early life		
-	and theirs.			
3.		raw/paint/sketch to create images from Dr. King's childhood and youth. Encourage students to pick different events or depictions;		
	-	sary to have students share what they will draw before beginning, and then guide some students towards new ideas. Using the		
		ages, create a timeline showing the events of his early life. Students can create a large timeline on a clothesline, simply place them		
in order on the floor or board, or attach them to the wall.				
4.		"walk" you through Dr. King's life. Ideally, they can physically walk alongside the timeline, explaining each part of his life as they		
		possible, at least have students indicate each image as they narrate how it is part of his life. The goal is for students to connect the		
	•	de as evidence for the statements they are making.		
	andards and	SSKH1e: Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day		
Elemen	its			
Literacy Standards		EU: Culture		
Social S	Studies Matrices			
Endurir	ng	Information Processing Skill:		
	tanding(s)	1. compare similarities and differences		

Changing Unfair Rules
This discussion allows students to learn about the rules, laws, and customs that Dr. King and others worked to change during the modern Civil Rights Movement. In addition, it encourages students to think about how they can continue this work by challenging unjust situations that they encounter in their own lives.
Depending on the students' maturity and the teacher's comfort, there are a variety of ways the class can discuss the difference between rules that children don't like vs. rules/laws that were/are genuinely unjust. For example, many students would prefer to run down the hallway or wander the school without permission instead of completing their assignments. The rules that forbid these things help keep students and others in the school community safe, even though students don't "like" them. In contrast, laws or customs that forbid people from participating in certain activities based on skin color are unjust.
Several children's books exist that can serve as a springboard for this sort of conversation. Teachers will want to pre-read these before selecting them for the classroom – make sure that your students are mature enough to understand the topics discussed and to address the feelings that the books might bring up. Help students identify the specific rules, laws, or customs that are unjust in the story. * <i>Freedom Summer</i> , by Deborah Wiles, tells the story of a community that chooses to fill in its swimming pool rather than comply with integration orders. (Note for teachers: This story is an amalgam of similar events throughout the South. Teachers may wish to read more about this so they can better discuss it with students. The story of the closing of Macon's Baconsfield Park can be found here: <u>http://faculty.mercer.edu/davis_da/fys102/baconsfield.html</u> . Although this is far beyond the kindergarten level, it is good historical background for you as the teacher.) * <i>Goin' Someplace Special</i> by Patricia McKissack * <i>A Sweet Smell of Roses</i> by Angela Johnson
*The School is Not White! by Doreen Rappaport, features a family in Mississippi that chooses to integrate their local school, and the impact it had on their family. One of the children in the family currently teaches in Georgia.
Share examples of the specific rules King worked to change.
 *Segregated seating on buses, through the Montgomery Bus Boycott. <i>Teacher background here</i>: <u>https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/encyclopedia/montgomery-bus-boycott</u>. Image of Dr. King addressing a mass meeting during the boycott: <u>http://www.amistadresource.org/civil rights era/montgomery bus boycott.html</u>. Children's books about the boycott: <i>Rosa</i>, by Nikki Giovanni and Bryan Collier; <i>Rosa's Bus: The Ride to Civil Rights</i>, by Jo S. Kittinger. *Segregation of public accommodations, including restaurants and stores. Teacher background here: <u>https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/encyclopedia/birmingham-campaign</u>. Children's book about the Children's March: <i>Let the Children March</i>, by Monica Clark-Robinson. *Guaranteeing equal pay regardless of race, through the Memphis Sanitation Strike. Teacher background here: <u>https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/encyclopedia/memphis-sanitation-workers-strike</u>.
Telegram asking Dr. King to join the work in Memphis: <u>http://thekingcenter.org/archive/document/telegram-memphis-sanitation-workers-mlk</u> . Photo of Dr. King marching in Memphis: <u>https://apnews.com/b36b3ece962a422b9d72e3e2944fc621</u> . Children's book (forthcoming) about the strike: <i>Memphis, Martin, and the Mountaintop: The Memphis Sanitation Strike of 1968</i> , by Alice Faye Duncan.

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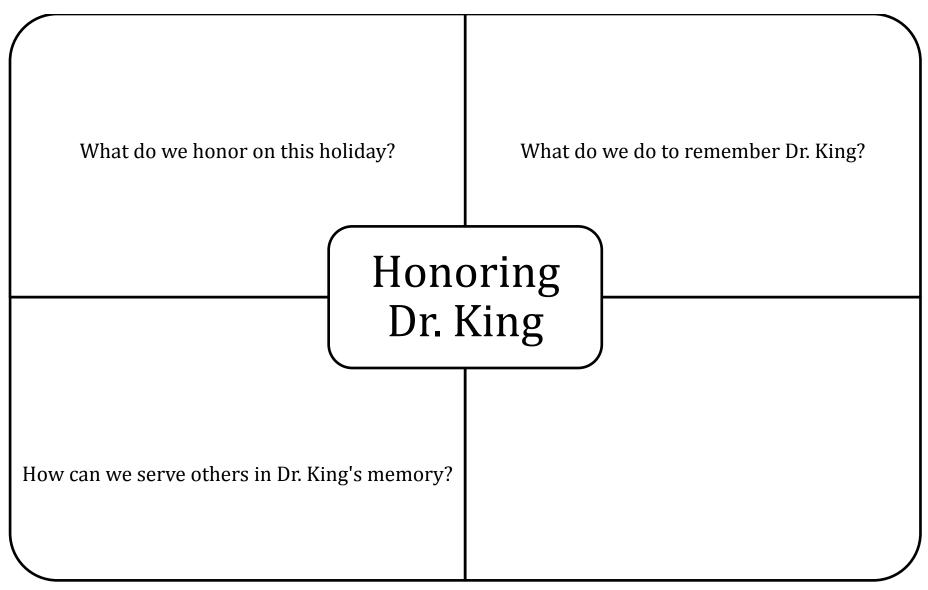
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5. The amount of discussion will depend upon students' readiness and their connection to the issues at hand, but it may be wise to introduce separate examples on different days, so students understand Dr. King's work as taking place over the course of years, and that the march towar civil rights was slow and complicated. After giving several examples of the unjust laws, rules, and customs that Dr. King fought to change, and showing the ways he worked to make those changes, debrief with students. Why did Dr. King and others decide to disobey unfair laws in order change them? Help them identify the importance of this work and how it affects our lives today. If appropriate, have students give examples of unfair rules or laws that they encounter, and how they can work to change them – again, distinguishing between that which is unfair and things they simply don't like.	
GSE Standards and Elements	 SSKH1e – Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated. e. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day SSKCG1 – Demonstrate an understanding of good citizenship.
	a. Explain how rules are made and why.
Literacy Standards	
Social Studies Matrices	EU: Culture; Individuals, Groups, Institutions
Enduring Understanding(s)	

		MLK Day
1.	annually, and re	entify the date of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on the classroom calendar. Point out that the date on which it is celebrated changes view holidays that have movable dates (Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day) and those with fixed dates (Christmas, Independence Day). Ents that the holiday is scheduled to coincide generally with Dr. King's birthday on January 15 th .
2.	background can chronology here	ss the origin of the holiday. Why does it exist? Why did people want the entire country to celebrate Dr. King? Some helpful be found here: http://content.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1872501,00.html . The King Center has an extensive by showing the years it took to move the holiday from separate state observances to a national holiday: <u>kingcenter.org/making-king-holiday</u> . Note that the debate over the holiday was contentious at times, and some opposition to it
	-	st. Kindergarteners do not necessarily need exposure to this at their age, but it is helpful for teachers to understand that there surrounding the holiday.
3.		
4.	The blank quadr	organizer found later in this document to record students' thoughts about celebrating the holiday and why it is important today. ant can be a place for students to share their own thoughts and reflections, or teachers can add an additional prompt as needed. organizer, students may write, label, or draw, as appropriate.
GSE Standards and Elements		SSKH1e – Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated. e. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Literacy	y Standards	
Social S	tudies Matrices	EU: Culture
Enduring Understanding(s)		

		Making Choices		
1.	 As a class, identify situations during students' school day when they must make choices. Possibilities might include: *selecting one choice or another in the lunch line (apple or banana; between main courses; or eating school lunch vs. bringing one from home) – this will vary depending on how your school's lunch menu functions, and whether students in your class bring lunches or not. *deciding which books to check out in the media center. *figuring out which equipment to use at recess, or whether to play with friends or alone. 			
2. 3.	 List these situations and some of the possible choices, as generated by students. Then, identify the benefits and consequences of these ch For some situations, the consequences are benign – a banana and an apple are largely indistinguishable except for taste. For other situation there are potentially difficult consequences. 			
4.				
GSE Standards and Elements		SSKE4 – Explain that people must make choices because they cannot have everything they want.		
Social S Enduri	y Standards Studies Matrices ng tanding(s)	EU: Scarcity		

		Having It All	
1.	•	the previous activity, this discussion asks students to consider the consequences of not making choices. Note that many times, nees will not be personal – if students were to "have everything they want," others in the community would suffer.	
2.	Use a quick narr a well-stocked ca	ative visualization – or physical image – to describe a situation in which students should make a choice. Simple examples could be andy store, the school library, or the school gym full of particularly fun equipment. Describe the numerous choices available to numor as appropriate. Be sure to pick a situation that will resonate with most students.	
3.	in the candy stor	student draw what they would buy, borrow, or use in the situation if there were no limits on their choices. What would they buy re if they had unlimited funds? How many books, videos, etc., would they borrow from the library? Which equipment would they sk them to make detailed drawings showing their selections.	
4.			
5.			
GSE Standards and Elements		SSKE4 – Explain that people must make choices because they cannot have everything they want.	
Literacy Standards Social Studies Matrices Enduring Understanding(s)		EU: Culture; Individuals, Groups, Institutions	



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Culminating Unit Performance Task					
Sharing Our School Culture					
-	ern King Day celebrations, students have the opportunity to serve their school community by working together to help other r to make good choices and follow school rules/procedures.				
As a class, discuss t procedures that the	he basic premise of the task: students will create signs and posters to serve as visual reminders of the various school rules and ey have learned thus far in the school year. They will think about the best way to remind their fellow students to make good sect the other people learning and working in the building.				
skills. Students can	Each student can create his or her own design for a sign or poster. Some students may need assistance in writing/spelling, depending on their literacy skills. Students can determine the best way to show the procedure they are reinforcing. Depending on available technology, students could even use cameras to photograph students following procedures and rules in the specific locations where they are needed.				
	e created their posters and signs, they should present their work to the class. These short presentations should include a correct ule or procedure depicted, why following the rule or procedure is a good choice, how these choices affect others, and perhaps a ppropriate.				
5. Teachers may want a whole.	t to assign specific locations to students, or check in with students to ensure that a variety of locations are covered by the class as				
 Once all students h school building in t illustrations for special 					
GSE Standards and Elements	 SSKCG1 – Demonstrate an understanding of good citizenship. a. Explain how rules are made and why. b. Explain why rules should be followed. SSKCG2: Describe examples of positive character traits exhibited by good citizens, such as honesty, patriotism, courtesy, respect, pride, and self-control. 				
	SSKE4 – Explain that people must make choices because they cannot have everything they want.				
Literacy Standards	Information Processing Skills:				
Social Studies Matrices Enduring	 compare similarities and differences identify issues and/or problems and alternative solutions EUs: Culture; Individuals, Groups, Institutions 				
Understanding(s)					

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