The activities in this program meet the following educational standards for grades 3-5:

**ACTIVITY 1: JOIN THE PACK**

**Common Core Language Arts Standards**

**Third Grade**
ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3: Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

**Fourth Grade**
ELA-Literacy.RL.4.3: Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

**Fifth Grade**
ELA-Literacy.RL.5.2: Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.

ELA-Literacy.RL.5.3: Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact)

**National Social Studies Standards (Early/Middle Grades)**

I. Culture
• Compare similarities and differences in the ways groups, societies, and cultures meet human needs and concerns.

• Explain why individuals and groups respond differently to their physical and social environments and/or changes to them on the basis of shared assumptions, values, and beliefs.

• Give examples and describe the importance of cultural unity and diversity within and across groups.

IV. Individual Development and Identity
• Explore factors that contribute to one's personal identity such as interests, capabilities, and perceptions.

X. Civic Ideals and Practices
• Examine strategies designed to strengthen the "common good," which consider a range of options for citizen action.
ACTIVITY 2: DOG LANGUAGE DECODED

Common Core Language Arts Standards

Third Grade
ELA-Literacy.L.3: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

ELA-Literacy.L.3.4a: Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

ELA-Literacy.L.3.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

Fourth Grade
ELA-Literacy.L.4: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

ELA-Literacy.W.4.3d: Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely.

ELA-Literacy.L.4.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

Fifth Grade
ELA-Literacy.L.5: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

ELA-Literacy.L.5.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

ACTIVITY 3: PRESERVING THE PAST

National Social Studies Standards (Early/Middle Grades)

I. Culture
• Explain and give examples of how language, literature, the arts, architecture, other artifacts, traditions, beliefs, values, and behaviors contribute to the development and transmission of culture.

II. Time, Continuity, and Change
• Compare and contrast different stories or accounts about past events, people, places, or situations, identifying how they contribute to our understanding of the past.

• Identify and use various sources for reconstructing the past, such as documents, letters, diaries, maps, textbooks, photos, and others.
National History Standards

**Topic 1: Living and Working Together in Families and Communities, Now and Long Ago**

**Standard 1A**
• For various cultures represented in the classroom, compare and contrast family life now with family life over time and between various cultures and consider such things as communication, technology, homes, transportation, recreation, school and cultural traditions. [Distinguish between past and present]

• From data gathered through family artifacts, photos, and interviews with older relatives and/or other people who play a significant part in a student’s life, draw possible conclusions about roles, jobs, schooling experiences, and other aspects of life in the recent past. [Draw upon historical and visual data]

**Standard 1B**
• Explain the ways that families long ago expressed and transmitted their beliefs and values through oral traditions, literature, songs, art, religion, community celebrations, mementos, food, and language. [Obtain historical data]