Ideas for integrating Technology with Social Studies- Elementary Level

Maps
National Geographic kids has lots of kid friendly information- http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/world/
Culturegrams is a great place for information about countries around the world.
http://online.culturegrams.com/world/world_country.php?cid=9&cn=Algeria&ctid=1
Great maps to use with students- several are very good for conversations about current events.
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/
360cities is a GREAT site for looking at the world in a panoramic view! http://www.360cities.net/

Using Primary Sources
The Library of Congress has some great American primary sources which include images, documents, and audio files. http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/
If your students have iPads and the iBooks app, check out these sets of resources on specific topics in American History. http://www.loc.gov/teachers/student-discovery-sets/
This is a tool for teachers that helps to explain how to use Primary Sources in the classroom.
http://www.loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/

Electronic Field Trips and Virtual Tours
This is from Williamsburg and is a great resource for teaching about Colonial Times.
http://www.history.org/history/teaching/eft/2014-15schedule.cfm More multimedia information can be found at this link too- http://www.history.org/media/index.cfm
Try Scholastic's Global Trek. Here students can travel to foreign countries. They are given a list of destinations and can learn more about each one as they visit during their trek.
http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/globaltrek/
SC SCIWAY- Here you can find images and information about each county in SC. The photos are wonderful! http://www.sciway.net/
NYTimes- The Daily 360. More panoramic videos of current events.
http://www.nytimes.com/video/the-daily-360
History Animated- very cool version of some of the world conflicts.
http://historyanimated.com/verynewhistorywaranimated/

Newspapers
NYTimes Learning Section- http://www.nytimes.com/section/learning
If you are looking for a way to add some reading into your curriculum, try Newsela. If you create an account you can also assign students a quiz, and many of the articles are also based on lexile levels so students can read the same article at different reading levels. https://newsela.com/
Here is a web site where students can create their own newspaper headline.
https://www.fodey.com/generators/newspaper/snippet.asp

Using Google Earth Tools

Google Earth- https://www.google.com/earth/ Turn layers on and off in Google Earth to explore how they change what you see. Examples to try include Borders and Labels, Ocean, Weather. Use the ruler to include a little bit of math and calculate the perimeter, and area of landforms or countries or distances between sites on the globe.

US Presidents- http://www.google.com/earth/explore/showcase/uspresidents.html

Other Google Earth Resources

http://online.wvu.edu/Faculty/Resources/ToolKit/GoogleEarth/

https://www.google.com/help/maps/education/resources.html#tab=introductory

Google Maps- https://www.google.com/maps/about/play/ Be sure to click the menu in the upper left corner to see more resources

More Technology Ideas

Greenscreen

Use Greenscreen technology to have your students travel to faraway places and discuss those places- Greenscreen ideas and directions can be found at https://www.winthrop.edu/itc/default.aspx?id=45878

Here are some ideas for using the Greenscreen in your classroom:

- Flipped classroom opportunities: view an example here
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqQKwJvFGYI
- Have your students be a travel guide
- Recreate a famous scene from history. Ex: the landing of the Mayflower on Plymouth Rock
- Synthesize what they've learned with creative tasks – like Epic Rap Battles of History

Virtual Reality

Use Virtual Reality to explore places that you might not have another chance to see. Ideas and directions can be found at https://www.winthrop.edu/itc/default.aspx?id=43180

Here are some ideas for using VR in your classroom:

- Supplement a lecture you already have about a location and use Google Expeditions instead
- Broaden topics and engagement by having visual aids for places and locations you would not normally be able to go
- Compare and contrast locations from all over the world within a single class period. Ex: What similarities differences do you see between Paris, Quebec, and Manitoba?
- Compare and contrast the people from different areas in the world

Ozobots

Use Ozobots to create maps or travel to other places. Use them as an assessment tool.

https://www.winthrop.edu/itc/default.aspx?id=45884

Here are some ideas for using Ozobots in the classroom

- Reinforce a student's understanding of directions, right, left, straight

- Create maps
- Navigate through maps – for instance, direct the ozobot along the path of the titanic
- Use as an assessment sheet – guide the ozobots to the correct answers
- Have the ozobot directed towards events in history in a specific order

Google Expeditions
Go on a Google Expedition- https://www.google.com/edu/expeditions/ New expeditions are being added on a regular basis-
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1uwWvAzAiQDueKXkxvqF6rS84oae2AU7eD8bhxzJ9SdY/edit#gid=0

Teachers to follow who integrate technology into their classroom
Russell Tarr is a history teacher and has a lot of great ideas for using technology in the classroom-
http://www.classtools.net/blog/#
Richard Byrne is an ed. tech guru. Follow him for daily ideas on how to use technology in your classroom. Everything is always free! http://www.freetech4teachers.com/
Mindshift is also a great site to follow for all things education. Here is an article specifically with ideas for integrating technology in the SS classroom- https://ww2.kqed.org/mindshift/2015/05/21/favorite-tech-tools-for-social-studies-classes/
Check out Mr Nussbaum's site. He has some fantastic resources that are very kid friendly.
http://mrnussbaum.com/

Miscellaneous Resources
SAS Curriculum Pathways is a site where you can find all kinds of interactive lessons for students.
https://www.sascurriculumpathways.com/portal/ Browse their resources for more ideas. This is free but to access the materials you will need to create an account.
The Smithsonian History Explorer website is fantastic. Here you can find lessons, interactives, and more.
https://historyexplorer.si.edu/
Edsitement is another site that has a lot of Social Studies resources- https://edsitement.neh.gov/
ReadWriteThink is another website that might help you bring some literacy into your SS classroom.
http://www.readwritethink.org/
Common Sense Media has a lot of websites and apps that they review. You can search by grade level and subject area. They also have several other resources for teachers including digital citizenship lessons and ideas. https://www.commonsensemedia.org/educators
Social Studies Central is a great place to find resources to use in your classroom-
http://www.socialstudiescentral.com/instructional-resources/
Simulations that relate to SS. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cdO_6ueaucMpWHY-XLXRVxTEfCjZMI6H1DhsQ4m0vk0/edit
Resources for creating timelines- http://www.techlearning.com/default.aspx?tabid=100&entryid=7071
Creating videos with questions to insert- https://edpuzzle.com/
Copyright friendly resources- http://www.ncwiseowl.org/zones/resources/friendlyresources.htm
Ben's Guide to the US Government- https://bensguide.gpo.gov/