

Social Studies

Our Social Studies curriculum uses Geography, Economics, History, and Civics as lenses in students' exploration of the American story. Our students learn about the founding of our nation from the Colonial Period to the incorporation of Hawaii as our 50th state. Key events from the Revolutionary War to Westward Expansion are examined in a manner that allows our students to appreciate the sacrifice and values that are at the core of what it means to be an American. Our year culminates in our interactive States Fair in which students engage in extensive research about a particular state and are then asked to craft a project showcasing their research.

Mathematics

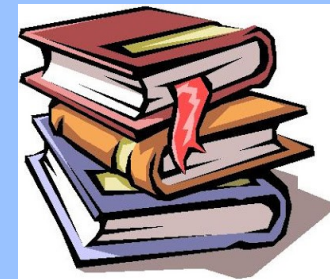
Math goals in fifth grade focus on application and fluency of multi digit multiplication and division of whole numbers and expanding student understanding of place values of fractions and decimals to the thousandth place. Students learn how to apply their understanding of place value to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of fractions and decimals and demonstrate understanding of decimals and fractions within patterns and on graphs. Students in fifth grade are expected to solve multi-step problems and reason abstractly using models and algebraic representation. The core program in fifth grade is **Go Math**, which requires students to delve into these concepts in depth. Students represent key concepts using a variety of models and acquire a repertoire of strategies to gain mastery of skills.

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Fifth Grade
General Studies
Curriculum





Literacy

In literacy, explicit instruction in when and how to apply various strategies for comprehension and vocabulary growth continue in the fifth grade classroom using the anchor reading program, **Reading Street**, guided leveled books and several classroom novels and read alouds.

These supplementary texts include: Sign of the Beaver, The Phantom Tollbooth, Hannah's Suitcase and A Family Apart, amongst several others.

Students use textual evidence to explain the meaning of material read in class or at home; are able to identify and compare characters, settings or events in stories read and determine the meaning of unfamiliar words, including figurative language.

Students in fifth grade also read a variety of informational texts and are able to identify main ideas, supporting details and the basic structure of the text. Students conduct research using a variety of print and digital sources in order to learn more about a particular topic, such as their state study. Their

State Report Presentation, a culminating activity for our fifth graders incorporates many of the reading, writing and oral language skills that are integral to the fifth grade literacy curriculum.

Overview

The fifth grade represents the transition year between elementary school and middle school. Students enter fifth grade having acquired the habits of learning and studying that facilitate more autonomy in their day to day experience at school. With continued guidance and support from their teachers, they learn how to manage their time when given long term assignments. They work with peers in various learning arrangements, whether during whole class instruction, paired learning opportunities or cooperative learning groups in productive and collaborative ways, guided by their teachers.



Science

Students in fifth grade study two science units in depth: Energy Forces and Mixtures and Solutions.

These topics establish the conceptual foundation for Physics and Life Science which will be explored in Middle School.

Through both classroom and lab based experiences, students learn how to use the scientific method to gain a better understanding of the basic composition of matter and learn the fundamental principles of chemistry. They investigate different forms of matter and their properties and delve into the role of energy in the movement of matter. Students conduct investigations that explore the properties, behaviors and changes in substances and their states. When learning about Mixtures and Solutions, students learn about solutions and concentrations, precipitates and saturations and water as a solvent. Whenever possible, students engage in project based learning in science that nurtures their innate curiosity and encourages the pursuit of knowledge.