

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING

In fifth grade language arts, your child will learn:

LISTENING/SPEAKING. Students:

- analyze a speaker’s message for content, persuasive technique, and tone;
- distinguish between a speaker’s opinion and verifiable fact;
- listen to proficient models of oral reading of classic and contemporary works; and
- identify how language, such as labels and sayings, reflects regions and cultures.

READING. Students:

- read and comprehend a variety of fifth-grade level texts;
- draw inferences from text and support these conclusions and generalizations with evidence from the text;
- offer observations, make connections, react, speculate, interpret, and raise questions in response to text;
- generate relevant research using multiple sources of information;
- demonstrate characteristics of fluent and effective reading;
- use a thesaurus, synonym finder, dictionary, and software to clarify meanings and usage; and
- support responses to readings by referring to relevant aspects of the text and their own experiences.

WRITING. Students:

- compose original texts applying the conventions of capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and correct spelling;
- compose, organize, and revise letters, essays, records, and research papers;
- use suspense, dialogue, and figurative language in original compositions;
- write to persuade, argue, and request; and
- engage in the writing process and refine selected drafts to publish for general and specific audiences.

VIEWING/REPRESENTING. Students:

- describe, interpret, and use visual media to compare ideas and points of view;
- analyze, critique, and contrast the messages found in visual media; and
- produce class newspapers, multimedia reports, and/or short films.

NOTE: Students of limited English proficiency (LEP) enrolled in Spanish Language Arts and/or in English as a Second Language will be expected to learn these same knowledge and skills for this grade level; however, students in Spanish Language Arts will learn these skills through their native language, and students in English as a Second Language will apply these skills at their proficiency level in English.

SOCIAL STUDIES

In fifth grade social studies, your child will learn:

HISTORY. Students:

- explain causes and effects of European colonization;
- summarize how conflict between the American colonies and Great Britain led to American independence;
- describe events that led to the creation of the U.S. Constitution;
- identify important social changes of the 19th century, including the Industrial Revolution, westward expansion, and the Civil War; and
- describe important issues, events, and individuals of the 20th century.

GEOGRAPHY. Students:

- use geographic tools to collect, analyze, and interpret data;
- describe political, economic, and physical regions in the United States;
- explain the location and patterns of settlement and the geographic factors that influence where people live in the United States; and
- describe how people in the United States adapt to and modify their environment.

ECONOMICS. Students:

- explain basic economic patterns of early societies in the United States;
- identify economic motivations for exploration and colonization;
- describe the characteristics and benefits of the free enterprise system in the United States; and
- explain patterns of work and economic activities in Texas.

GOVERNMENT. Students:

- identify examples of representative government in the American colonies;
- identify important ideas in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution; and
- describe the framework of government created by the U.S. Constitution.

CITIZENSHIP. Students:

- explain important customs, symbols, and celebrations that represent American beliefs;
- explain the importance of individual participation in the democratic process;
- identify leaders of the national government; and
- summarize fundamental rights of American citizens.

CULTURE. Students:

- explain the relationship between the arts and the times during which they were created; and
- identify the contributions of people of various racial, ethnic, and religious groups to the United States.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY. Students:

- describe the impact of science and technology on life in the United States.

SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS. Students:

- apply critical-thinking skills, communicate effectively, and use problem-solving and decision-making processes.

MATHEMATICS

In fifth grade mathematics, your child will learn:

NUMBERS, OPERATIONS, AND QUANTITATIVE REASONING. Students:

- read, write, compare, and order whole numbers through billions;
- read, write, compare, and order decimals through thousandths;
- generate equivalent fractions;
- compare fractions in a variety of ways;
- relate decimals to fractions using models to the thousandths;
- add, subtract, multiply, and divide whole numbers;
- add and subtract decimals;
- identify prime and common factors;
- model adding and subtracting fractions like denominators;
- round whole numbers and decimals to tenths; and
- estimate to solve problems.

PATTERNS, RELATIONSHIPS, AND ALGEBRAIC THINKING. Students:

- determine all possible combinations;
- use patterns to make generalizations;
- identify prime and composite numbers; and
- select and use diagrams and number sentences.

GEOMETRY AND SPATIAL REASONING. Students:

- identify critical attributes of geometric figures or solids;
- use critical attributes to define shapes and solids;
- sketch translations, rotations, and reflections;
- describe transformations that relate congruent figures; and
- graph ordered pairs of whole numbers.

MEASUREMENT. Students:

- measure volume using concrete models;
- estimate volume in cubic units; and
- measure length, perimeter, weight, capacity, time, temperature, and area to solve problems and describe equivalent measures.

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS. Students:

- construct line graphs;
- describe characteristics of a set of data;
- graph data using the appropriate representation;
- use fractions to describe results of an experiment; and
- use results to make predictions.

PROBLEM SOLVING. Students:

- identify the mathematics in everyday situations;
- use a problem-solving model that incorporates understanding the problem, making and carrying out the plan, and evaluating the solution for reasonableness;
- select or develop an appropriate problem-solving strategy;
- explain and record observations;
- relate informal language to mathematical language and symbols;
- make generalizations from patterns; and
- justify why an answer is reasonable and explain the solution process.

SCIENCE

In fifth grade science, your child will learn:

FIELD AND LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS. Students:

- demonstrate safe, environmentally appropriate, and ethical practices; and
- learn to use and conserve, dispose and recycle resources.

SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY. Students:

- plan and implement investigations, ask well-defined questions, formulate hypotheses, select and use equipment, collect, analyze and interpret information, observe and measure, and communicate valid conclusions; and
- construct graphs, maps, charts to organize and evaluate information.

CRITICAL THINKING, PROBLEM SOLVING, AND DECISION-MAKING SKILLS. Students:

- analyze scientific explanations as to strengths and weaknesses;
- draw inferences on promotional materials;
- represent the natural world using models;
- evaluate research on scientific thought, society, and the environment; and
- connect concepts with history of science and contributions of scientists.

TOOLS AND MODELS. Students:

- use scientific methods and tools, including sound recorders, computers, hand lenses, thermometers, compasses, balances, magnets, meter sticks, collecting nets, and safety goggles to collect information; and
- show that repeated investigations may increase reliability of results.

SYSTEMS, CYCLES, AND CHANGE. Students:

- describe cycles, structures, interactions, and processes found in systems and life cycles; and
- identify events and describe changes that occur on a regular basis and the significance of water, carbon, and nitrogen cycles.

MATTER AND ENERGY. Students:

- investigate physical states of matter;
- describe light, sound, heat, and electricity as forms of energy;
- demonstrate how some mixtures and solutions maintain physical properties of their ingredients; and
- differentiate forms of energy including light, heat, electrical, and solar.

ADAPTATION. Students:

- explore and predict adaptations;
- describe an organism's niche within an ecosystem;
- examine traits that are inherited by offspring from their parents; and
- study examples of learned characteristics.

PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS. Students:

- see that growth, erosion, and dissolving are examples of past events that have affected present events.

PROCESSES OF THE NATURAL WORLD—EARTH MATERIALS AND OBJECTS IN THE SKY. Students:

- interpret how landforms develop;
- describe processes responsible for coal, gas, and minerals;
- compare physical characteristics of the Earth and Moon; and
- identify gravity as a force that keeps planets and the Moon in orbit.