

2013-2014



# PARENT GUIDE

## *to Elementary Curriculum*

## Fifth Grade

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

MATHEMATICS

SCIENCE

SOCIAL STUDIES

INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

ARTS EDUCATION

HEALTHFUL LIVING



**COMMON CORE**

STATE STANDARDS INITIATIVE

PREPARING AMERICA'S STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE & CAREER

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

The Common Core Standards for English Language Arts are categorized into the following strands: Reading Literature, Reading Information, Reading Foundations, Writing, Speaking & Listening and Language.

In 5th grade, students will read widely and deeply from a range of high-quality, increasingly challenging fiction and nonfiction materials chosen from diverse cultures and time periods. Students will build knowledge about subjects through research projects and respond analytically to literary and informational sources. Fifth graders will write stories or essays that are several paragraphs long. By devoting significant time and effort to producing numerous written pieces over short and extended time frames throughout the year, the student will gain control over many conventions of grammar and punctuation as well as learn ways to make himself or herself understood. Students spend from two to three hours each day engaged in a study of English Language Arts.

Fifth grade students will be able to:

- **Summarize the key details of stories, dramas, poems, and nonfiction materials, including their themes or main ideas.**
- **Identify and judge evidence that supports particular ideas in an author's argument.**
- **Integrate information from several print and digital sources to answer questions and solve problems.**
- **Write opinions that offer reasoned arguments and provide facts and examples that are logically grouped to support the writer's point of view.**
- **Write stories, real or imaginary, that unfold naturally and develop the plot with dialogue, description, and effective pacing of the action.**
- **Come to classroom discussions prepared to engage fully and thoughtfully with others (e.g., contribute accurate, relevant information; elaborate on the remarks of others; synthesize ideas).**
- **Report on a topic or present an opinion in his or**

**her own words, present a logical sequence of ideas, use sufficient facts and details, and express ideas and use formal English when appropriate.**

- **Expand, combine, and edit sentences to improve meaning, interest, and style of writing.**
- **Build knowledge of academic words with an emphasis on those that signal a contrast in ideas or a logical relationship, such as on the other hand, similarly, and therefore.**
- **Produce writing on the computer.**



## MATHEMATICS

The Common Core Standards in Mathematics emphasize eight mathematical practices. These practices are strategies students will utilize grades K – 12 as they think through, solve, and discuss mathematical problems.

Fifth grade students will use the following mathematical practices:

1. **Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.**
2. **Reason abstractly and quantitatively.**
3. **Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.**
4. **Model with mathematics.**
5. **Use appropriate tools strategically.**
6. **Attend to precision.**
7. **Look for and make use of structure.**
8. **Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.**



In fifth grade, the Common Core is organized into five

– C O N T I N U E D –

## MATHEMATICS – continued

domains: Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Number and Operations in Base Ten, Number and Operations in Fractions, Measurement and Data, and Geometry.

Fifth grade students will be able to:

- Write and interpret numerical expressions.
- Analyze patterns and relationships.
- Understand place value.
- Perform operations with multi-digit whole numbers and with decimals to hundredths.
- Use equivalent fractions as a strategy to add and subtract fractions with like and unlike denominators.
- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to multiply and divide fractions.
- Convert like measurement units within a given measurement system.
- Represent and interpret data.
- Understand concepts of volume and relate volume to multiplication and to addition.
- Graph points on the coordinate plane to solve real-world and mathematical problems.
- Classify two-dimensional figures into categories based on their properties.

## SCIENCE



The North Carolina Essential Standards organize Science into the domains of Physical Science, Earth Science, and Life Sciences..

Fifth grade students will be able to:

- Explain how gravity, friction, and change in mass affect motion (Physical Science: Force and Motion).
- Compare the weight of an object before and after an interaction occurs (Physical Science: Matter, Properties, and Change).
- Explain how the sun affects the water cycle (Physical Science: Matter, Properties, and Change).
- Explain how heating and cooling can change the properties, purposes, and applications of some materials (Physical Science: Energy: Conservation and Transfer).
- Collect data and make predictions about weather using data and knowledge of global weather patterns (Earth Science: Earth Systems, Structures, and Processes).
- Compare land and water ecosystems; classify organisms of consumers, producers, or decomposers; and explain connections among organisms in an ecosystem (Life Science: Ecosystems).
- Compare the functions of the major body systems (Life Science: Structure and Functions of Living Organisms).
- Explain the structures of cells (Life Science: Structure and Functions of Living Organisms).
- List characteristics of organisms that may be inherited or non-inherited from their parents (Life Science: Evolution and Genetics).

## SOCIAL STUDIES

Fifth grade Social Studies extends the focus from North Carolina to the United States. Students learn about the history, geography, economics, government, and culture of the United States from Pre-colonial through Reconstruction.



### History

- **Analyze the chronology of key events in the United States.**
- **Understand the role of prominent figures in shaping the United States.**

### Geography

- **Understand how human activity has and continues to shape the United States.**

### Economics

- **Understand how a market economy impacts life in the United States.**
- **Understand that personal choices result in benefits or consequences.**

### Civics and Government

- **Understand the development, structure, and function of government in the United States.**
- **Analyze life in a democratic republic through rights and responsibilities of citizens.**

### Culture

- **Understands how increased diversity resulted from migration, settlement patterns and economic development in the United States.**

## INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS



Students in the fifth grade determine appropriate information resources, use appropriate strategies when reading for information and for enjoyment, use technology tools and skills, complete collaborative research and understand safe, ethical and responsible use of information and technology.

Fifth grade students will be able to:

- **Use various types of resources to gather information (including print and online media).**
- **Use relevant sources of information for an assigned task.**
- **Use reliable sources of information.**
- **Differentiate strategies when reading informational text in a variety of formats (e.g., print, online, audio, etc.) to complete assigned tasks.**
- **Differentiate strategies when reading various genres.**
- **Use a variety of technology tools to gather data and information (e.g., web-based resources, e-books, online communication tools, etc.).**
- **Use a variety of technology tools to organize data and information (e.g., word processor, graphic organizer, audio and visual recording, online collaboration tools, etc.).**
- **Use technology tools to present data and information (e.g., multimedia, audio and visual recording, online collaboration tools, etc.).**
- **Implement a research process by collaborating effectively with other students.**
- **Understand the guidelines for responsible use of technology hardware.**
- **Understand ethical behavior (e.g., copyright, not plagiarizing, etiquette) when using resources.**
- **Understand internet safety precautions (e.g., personal information, passwords, etc.).**



## MUSIC

In the music program students develop their creativity, grow in musical knowledge and skills, and develop an appreciation for a variety of musical styles and cultures. The music program reinforces instruction across content areas.



Fifth grade students will be able to:

- Apply the elements of music and musical techniques in order to sing and play music with accuracy and expression (illustrate blending vocal timbres, matching dynamic levels, and responding to the gestures of a conductor while singing in groups).
- Interpret the sound and symbol systems of music (interpret rhythm patterns, including whole, half, dotted half, quarter, dotted quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes and rests in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 6/8 meter signatures).
- Create music using a variety of sound and notational sources (create compositions and arrangements within specified guidelines).
- Respond to music and musical performances (follow a conductor, classify musical instruments, use musical terminology in explaining music).
- Understand global, interdisciplinary, and 21st century musical connections (understand how music has affected, and is reflected in, the culture, traditions, and history of the United States).

## VISUAL ARTS

Visual Arts teaches students the creative process which includes the development of perceptual awareness and the ability to use materials expressively. Through participation in Visual Arts, students celebrate the creativity and diversity inherent in all of us. Students use a wide range of subject matter and media to express their ideas, emotions and knowledge.

Fifth grade students will be able to:

- Use the language of Visual Arts to communicate effectively.
- Apply creative and critical thinking skills to artistic expression.
- Create art using a variety of tools, media, and processes, safely and appropriately.
- Understand the global, historical, societal, and cultural contexts of the Visual Arts.
- Understand the interdisciplinary connections and life applications of the Visual Arts.
- Use critical analysis to generate responses to a variety of prompts.

## HEALTHFUL LIVING



Healthful Living is designed to promote the development of healthy behaviors. Students develop positive attitudes toward regular physical activity and understand the effect of exercise on their health. Students will understand major influences on health, such as nutrition, stress management, relationship building and hygiene.

Fifth grade students will be able to:

- Apply positive stress management strategies.
- Understand wellness, disease prevention, and recognition of symptoms.
- Understand body systems and organs, functions, and their care.
- Understand the importance of consuming a variety of nutrient dense foods and beverages in moderation.
- Understand health risks associated with use of alcohol.
- Apply competent motor skills and movement patterns needed to perform a variety of physical activities.

- ## SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS GIVEN IN FIFTH GRADE