

CURRICULUM GOALS FOR GRADE 5 GENERAL STUDIES

The fifth grade represents a critical bridge between the early elementary years and middle school. Students are encouraged to be independent, active learners. The year provides opportunities for integrated reading, writing and speaking activities, more in-depth exploration of content in science and social studies, and the increasing use of technological resources to research topics studied.

Integrated Reading/Language Arts

Students should be able to:

- ✓ Read with fluency, using inflection and phrasing.
- ✓ Read, understand and analyze text for comprehension.
- ✓ Read literally, inferentially and critically to identify and evaluate story elements, genre and themes.
- ✓ Read across the curriculum and apply skills/strategies.
- ✓ Read to understand people, culture and history.
- ✓ Demonstrate comprehension of a story, interview or oral report of an event or incident.
- ✓ Distinguish fact and opinion.
- ✓ Demonstrate comprehension through summarizing or paraphrasing.
- ✓ Expand vocabulary using appropriate strategies, such as word analysis, structural analysis or context clues.
- ✓ Develop listening strategies, such as asking relevant questions, taking notes and making predictions about what is heard.
- ✓ Speak before a group to express thoughts and ideas, convey an opinion, present information or tell a story.
- ✓ Use listening, writing, reading and viewing to assist with speaking.
- ✓ Write for a variety of reasons: personal narratives, story from history, compare/contrast essay, poetry (free verse, cinquain, diamante), news article, research report, persuasive piece and point of view essay.
- ✓ Use a variety of strategies and techniques such as brainstorming, listing, discussion, drawing, role playing, note taking and journal writing for finding and developing ideas about which to write.
- ✓ Revise content, organization and other aspects of writing using self, peer and teacher feedback.
- ✓ Use figurative language, such as simile, metaphor and analogies to expand meaning.
- ✓ Respond to questions in writing using conventions of grammar and punctuation.

Mathematics

The fifth grader should:

- ✓ Understand the place value structure of the base ten system and be able to represent and compare whole numbers and decimals.
- ✓ Develop an understanding of fractions as parts of wholes, parts of a collection and as divisions of whole numbers.
- ✓ Recognize and generate equivalent forms of commonly used fractions, decimals and percents.
- ✓ Understand the effects of multiplying and dividing whole numbers.
- ✓ Identify and use relationships between operations.
- ✓ Develop fluency with basic number combinations for multiplication and division, and use these combinations to perform mental computations.
- ✓ Develop and use strategies to estimate the results of whole number computations and judge reasonability of results.

- ✓ Become familiar with standard units of measurement in customary and metric systems.
- ✓ Represent data using table and graphs, such as line plots, bar graphs and line graphs.
- ✓ Select and apply appropriate strategies for solving problems.
- ✓ Use efficient paper and pencil procedures for division of 3 digit by 2 digit numbers.
- ✓ Develop the ability to evaluate data for mean, median, mode and range.

Science

Students should be able to:

- ✓ Develop strategies and skills for information gathering and problem solving using appropriate tools and technologies.
- ✓ Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between environment and organisms and the inter-relationships of food pyramids, food web and food chains.
- ✓ Describe carbon dioxide, oxygen & nitrogen cycles.
- ✓ Recognize the states of matter and their properties.
- ✓ Understand the table of elements in relation to classifying items as acids, bases, compounds and mixtures.
- ✓ Investigate force of motion and its application in everyday occurrences.
- ✓ Understand importance of the earth's resources and need for preservation and conservation.
- ✓ Identify some of the major systems of the human body and explain how their functions are interrelated.
- ✓ Use a 5 step process in order to set up, execute, and interpret lab experiences.
- ✓ Expand vocabulary related to science study.

Social Studies

Students in fifth grade should:

- ✓ Learn the relationship between geography and economic activity.
- ✓ Identify the ways in which the study of geography assists in the understanding of exploration, settlement and migration patterns, and lifestyles of people.
- ✓ Demonstrate understanding of the spatial concepts of location, distance, direction, scale, region and movement.
- ✓ Be able to read and interpret various types of maps.
- ✓ Explain, compare and contrast the characteristics and distinguishing features of the geographical regions of the U.S.
- ✓ Acquire an understanding of the reasons for European explorations and the contribution of major explorers and cultures to the development of our country.
- ✓ Understand the history of prejudice and segregation and its impact on our country.
- ✓ Study the settlement of the New England Southern and Middle colonies, including the social, economic and historical significance of each region.
- ✓ Understand the events leading up to the French and Indian War and the War of Independence.
- ✓ Use multiple resources including electronic and text to conduct in-depth study of the U.S., culminating in an opportunity to share information with grade level peers.
- ✓ Study key events and persons that played a part in the history and development of American Jewry.
- ✓ Participate in classroom debate and discussion related to current events.
- ✓ Recognize similarities and differences in daily life in America over time.

Computer Skills

Students should:

- ✓ Demonstrate mastery of 4th grade skills.
- ✓ Develop internet search techniques, including phrasing a search request and using quotations and commas to narrow the search, as appropriate.
- ✓ Determine the difference between commercial internet sites and informational sites.

- ✓ Learn the proper method of citation of internet sources.
- ✓ Copy and paste between multiple programs open and running on the desktop by using the computer's clipboard function.
- ✓ Use the computer to assist in pursuing research for class projects or assignments.

Research\Study Skills

Students in fifth grade should:

- ✓ Select material for recreational reading.
- ✓ Use an online or print encyclopedia as resources for completion of class assignments.
- ✓ Access information from a database.
- ✓ Use various reference resources, such as an almanac and atlas.
- ✓ Understand and use the Dewey Decimal system to locate materials.
- ✓ Access information from bookmarked websites.
- ✓ Summarize and organize information by taking notes, outlining, or making charts.
- ✓ Use active comprehension strategies for expository material.
- ✓ Use a daily planner independently to record and schedule assignments.
- ✓ Be expected to have all necessary curriculum and personal supplies to participate in class activities.
- ✓ Gain experience in applying strategies for test taking, including those appropriate for multiple choice, fill in, essay and matching tests.
- ✓ Use multiple sources to gather info about a topic of study.
- ✓ Learn the proper method of citation of print sources.

Physical Education

Students should participate in:

- ✓ Team sports.
- ✓ Activities that teach and reinforce team sports' skills.
- ✓ Activities that foster physical fitness through the use of "fitness gram".
- ✓ Students will be expected to demonstrate sportsmanship and proper "midot" during physical education class.

Art

Students should create:

- ✓ Projects appropriate for various events or holidays on the Jewish calendar.
- ✓ Various projects using a variety of media, including: clay, yarn, craypas, paint, sticks, pencils, etc.
- ✓ Students will study and "imitate" the techniques of various artists and styles, including: Da Vinci, Picasso, cubism, microcalligraphy, resists and collages.

Life Skills

Students should:

- ✓ Discuss the physical, social, emotional and intellectual dimensions of wellness.
- ✓ Become familiar with the appropriate use of healthcare and personal hygiene products
- ✓ Gain a greater understanding of the body systems and how they work together to maintain wellness.
- ✓ Develop a greater awareness of types of health conditions.
- ✓ Examine how personal assets (self esteem, positive peer relationship) and protective factors support healthy development.
- ✓ Choose and justify appropriate strategies to deal with conflict and bullying.
- ✓ Demonstrate and evaluate the effective use of communication skills.
- ✓ Demonstrate active and reflective listening.
- ✓ Demonstrate effective decision making skills to help make healthy choices.
- ✓ Analyze how the media can influence decision making.
- ✓ Discuss characteristics of a positive role model.
- ✓ Participate in group learning experiences using a collaborative and cooperative model.
- ✓ Describe the use and abuse of tobacco and alcohol.