

# FIFTH GRADE CORE COURSES

CHRISTINA REINER  
5TH GRADE  
READING

In fifth grade, comprehension strategies become more intrinsic to students as they question, wonder, make inferences, and add new information to their background knowledge. Book Discussion Groups such as Literature Circles provide opportunities to build a sense of community while exploring a variety of reading genres. Student independence becomes increasingly important as students lead discussions, demonstrate their knowledge, and apply their understanding of comprehension strategies.

Students will be reading historical fiction novels that align with both science and social studies curriculum, a biography of his or her choice along with nonfiction articles and other fiction text. Students will have opportunities to work individually as well as in groups to discern the author's perspective and the particular facts and details that support it. We will read thoughtfully and purposefully, constantly checking for understanding of the author's intent and meaning so that the interpretation will be sound.

MEGAN WALLISCH  
5TH GRADE  
ENGLISH

The fifth grade English course engages students in a blend of grammar concepts and writing skills. Students practice grammar concepts within literature that is covered in reading class to see it being used in relevant text. Narrative, argumentative, compare/contrast, and informational types of writing are explored. Students also learn to think deeper to analyze pieces of text through text dependent analysis writing.

CHRISTOPHER  
WELSH GRADE 5  
MATHEMATICS

In grade 5 mathematics, our goals include (1) developing fluency with addition and subtraction of fractions, and developing understanding of the multiplication of fractions and of division of fractions in limited cases (unit fractions divided by whole numbers and whole numbers divided by unit fractions); (2) extending multiplication to three-digit multipliers; extending division to two-digit divisors; integrating decimal fractions into the place value system to the thousandths and developing understanding of operations with decimals to hundredths, and developing fluency with whole number and decimal operations; and (3) developing understanding of volume.

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RICHARD P.  
HOFFMAN  
5TH GRADE  
SOCIAL STUDIES

5th Grade Social Studies is designed to increase the student's knowledge and understanding of early American history. As citizens of the United States, this is essential as it is only by understanding our past can we truly understand the present and prepare for the future. We will start the year off with a study of the earliest Americans and where they came from and how they got here. Early Civilizations will be studied. The many Native American cultures that inhabited what is now the United States of America will be studied as well. We will then get into European Exploration and the resulting colonization of North America. The spring of the school year will focus on the colonies declaring and fighting for (and winning) independence from Great Britain.

DANIELLE BOWMAN  
FIFTH GRADE  
SCIENCE

This course is a general Science class with an emphasis on earth science, life science and environmental science. The six major units of study include the following: Getting Ready for Science, Meteorology, Plants, Ecosystems, Natural Resources and Changes to Earth's Surface. To help reinforce science concepts and vocabulary, students will use hands-on learning and real life application.