

5th Grade Curriculum Overview

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Listening

- Listen respectfully to peers and adults
- Listen to various forms of literature
- Listen to different sources of the spoken word (storytellers, oral presentations by classmates, books, tapes, etc.)

Speaking

- Expand verbal vocabulary
- Speak in a respectful manner
- Use appropriate gestures and body language
- Share creative writing and oral reports and respond to audience feedback
- Express appreciation for others' ideas
- Give tactful, constructive criticism
- Develop storytelling skills

Writing

Writing process:

- Brainstorm, pre-write, organize, write, confer, revise, rewrite, share

Genres:

- Fantasy, journalism, narratives, reports, response to literature, creative writing, persuasive writing, poetry, letter writing, personal essays
- Structured worksheets (topic sentence and supporting details, etc.)
- Writing in all subjects (explain math problems or science experiments)

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics:

- Write using paragraphs
- Edit for correct use of capitals and end punctuation
- Use commas in more advanced ways
- Review nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs
- Learn about verb tenses, linking and helping verbs, conjunctions, complex sentences

Spelling and Word study:

- Begin vocabulary from classical roots
- Review advanced ending patterns
- Learn 300 most frequently used words

Handwriting and Typing:

- Use cursive for selected assignments
- Weekly typing practice (in school and at home)
- Develop word processing skills

Reading

Reading Skills:

- Review phonological awareness
- Consolidate syllable rules
- Review advanced prefixes and suffixes
- Learn meanings of words with Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon roots

Reading Comprehension:

- Read and distinguish between various genres of literature
- Compare and contrast books
- Read and follow directions independently
- Identify plot elements and main ideas
- Recognize fact and fiction
- Identify literal and figurative language

Core Literature Studies

Teacher Read-Aloud Books:

Bridge to Terabithia, The Phantom Tollbooth, Matilda Bone, The Cay, selections from The Odyssey, The Man Who Was Poe

Genre Studies:

Biography, historical fiction, fantasy, mystery, poetry

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MATHEMATICS

Numbers and Number Relationships

- Add, subtract, multiply and divide and demonstrate the inverse relationships between them
- Read, write, and compare whole numbers, fractions, and decimals using $<$, $>$, $=$
- Know place value to a million, decimals to hundredths
- Round whole numbers to 10,000, decimals to hundredths
- Use the distributive properties, and the identity properties of zero and one
- Recognize odd, even, prime, and composite numbers
- Use the divisibility rules for 2,3,5,9,10
- Understand the concept of factors and multiples
- Continue work with fractions (add, subtract, multiply, divide, improper fractions, mixed numbers)

Computation and Estimation

- Use appropriate method for computing (mental math, paper and pencil, calculator, computer)
- Use appropriate strategies to learn math facts
- Add and subtract 4-digit whole numbers and decimals with regrouping
- Multiply whole numbers and decimals with regrouping (3-digit by 2-digit)
- Divide 3-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers
- Solve one, two and three step word problems
- Use estimation and rounding when appropriate

Measurement

- Review, use and apply standard and metric measurements (length, weight, volume, temperature)
- Convert units within a system of measurement (in., ft., mm., cm., sec., min., etc.)
- Understand coin values and make change

Geometry

- Identify and understand various terms of geometry (point, line, parallel, perpendicular, arc, sphere, etc.)
- Classify angles
- Identify and classify polygons
- Identify the center, radius, diameter and circumference of a circle
- Understand area and perimeter
- Use a compass

Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability

- Gather, organize, analyze data
- Interpret data using the mean, median, mode and range
- Read, interpret and construct bar and line graphs
- Predict, and perform simple probability experiments
- Use calculators and/or computers to process data

Problem Solving

- Approach problem solving systematically and creatively
- Apply various strategies in the problem solving process
- Develop flexibility, confidence, perseverance, and persistence both independently and in groups
- Use concrete, informal and formal strategies to solve mathematical problems in real-world situations

Patterns, Functions and Algebra

- Recognize and create a wide variety of patterns
- Translate simple English phrases into algebraic expressions
- Use order of operations to solve equations
- Understand the use of variables in equations

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SCIENCE

Inquiry and Process Skills:

- Reinforce K-4 skills plus:
- Analyze data, verify information, experiment. plan experiments, use equipment to collect data, record data in a variety of ways, discuss and analyze data, control and manipulate variables, invent, validate reliability of results, generalize, make inferences, use knowledge to solve problems, expand knowledge to analogous situations

Content:

Physical Science

Chemistry:

- Structure - atoms, molecules, elements, compounds
- Properties - volatility, magnetic
- Chemical change - heat, iodine, vinegar
- Physical change - dissolving, evaporating

Density:

- Liquids and solids
- Volume (weight and density)
- Temperature
- Viscosity

Heat:

- Conduction
- Boiling and freezing points
- Physical change and volume

Engineering:

- Bridge building

Life Science

Rivers, Streams, Watersheds:

- Definition of watershed
- Features of rivers, streams, watershed
- Understanding of water quality
- Water testing and data analysis
- Land forms and topographic maps

Health

- Digestive system
- Growth and Development
- Unhealthy Substances
- HIV

SOCIAL STUDIES

Geography

Major components of study:

- Map Skills
- U.S. Geography
- Geographic terms
- Imaginary Worlds
- Rivers
- Greece
- Europe in the Middle Ages

Skills:

- Map skills (map-reading and making)
- Memorizing
- Research
- Writing, both creative and expository
- Reading

Ancient Civilization: Greece

Major components of study:

- *The Odyssey*
- Greek geography and mapping
- Ancient Greek culture - architecture, drama, rise of democracy, athletics, philosophy, way of life

Skills:

- Listening, speaking, reading and writing (creative and expository)
- Research, including use of library
- Higher-level thinking skills

Middle Ages: Europe

Major components of study:

- Historical timeline
- European geography
- Culture - pageantry, way of life, castles, knights, warfare, church/clergy, coat of arms
- Religious and social climate of the time
- Poetry, Ballads, Heroes, Legends

Skills:

- Listening, speaking, reading and writing (creative and expository)
- Research, including use of library
- Higher-level thinking skills

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LIBRARY SKILLS

Use of the Dewey Decimal System

- Locate materials using call numbers
- Browse within a call number to find additional materials

Use of the Reference Collection

- Use index in an encyclopedia to locate information
- Use the atlas to locate places
- Know the almanac is a source of statistics and other facts

Recognition and Use of Periodicals

- Know periodicals are a source of current information
- Use periodicals to get information on a given topic

Use of the Biography Collection

- Know the different types of biographical materials and locate information in each

Use of Indexes

- Locate information in an encyclopedia or a book using an index

Research and Reporting Techniques

- Research a topic using more than one source
- Present information in a written report form and/or a visual/oral presentation
- Make a bibliography of author, title, publisher and copyright date

Recognition of Parts of a Book

- Use the jacket flap to find information
- Identify the dedication and the glossary

Selection and Evaluation

- Select materials for pleasure reading
- Discuss reactions to and evaluations of independent reading
- Discuss fantasy and modern fiction with peers
- Be familiar with Dorothy Canfield Fisher books

Literature Appreciation

- Be acquainted with important authors and their works
- Describe how the main character changes from the beginning to the end of the story in modern fiction and fantasy
- Identify the climax of the story and events leading to it
- Describe the setting of a story
- Recognize the epic poem
- Recognize elements of a mystery

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Operations and Productivity

- Use basic IT vocabulary
- Develop keyboarding skills to 15 wpm
- Perform basic file and network management operations
- Design and use databases, spreadsheets, and tables

Research and Problem Solving

- Collect, place, interpret and report on database information
- Use Logo programming
- Use multi-media content from various sources

Communication

- Produce and publish writing in a variety of styles
- Use presentation software

Ethics, Human Issues and Social Responsibility

- Respect the privacy and work of others
- Be aware of safe and comfortable use of equipment
- Understand and respect copyright laws
- Discuss issues related to the use of technology
- Follow Acceptable Use Policy and conventions for using technology at MCS
- Evaluate the accuracy and relevancy of electronic information

SOCIAL SKILLS

Civic and Social Responsibility

- Make informed decisions
- Be of service to community

Communication

- Contribute to discussions
- Give and take feedback

Personal Development

- Exhibit organizational skills
- Label and communicate feelings

5th Grade Curriculum Overview

FRENCH

Rationale: To continue the development of communication skills in French and to enhance students' understanding and appreciation of the cultures of the Francophone world

Goal: To build oral/aural proficiency and to develop basic reading and writing skills

Listening/Speaking:

- Use and respond to greetings and introductions
- Engage in short conversations
- Express likes and dislikes, make requests
- Memorize poems and songs
- Memorize, present and adapt dialogues
- Follow simple directions

Reading/Writing:

- Read familiar vocabulary (from songs, poems, dialogues, and games)
- Spell accurately a limited number of words

Content areas: Expansion of topics begun in 4th grade and introduction to the following topics:

- sports and activities
- nationalities
- food
- Odyssey vocabulary
- 3 & 4 digit numbers
- transportation
- occupations
- the school (rooms/areas, classroom objects)

Language Understanding: grammar, pronunciation, and spelling patterns

- possessive adjectives, action verbs, opposites, descriptive adjectives, common adverb, commands, common prepositions, plural nouns, subject pronouns, interrogative expressions

Culture:

- Etiquette, family life, architecture, art, holidays, poetry, music, cuisine, transportation
- French names of continents, oceans, countries,
- French names of Canadian provinces

5th Grade Curriculum Overview

ART

In fifth grade, students are developing an awareness of the world around them. They are increasing their skills, and they are given the opportunity to experiment with more advanced processes, tools and materials. Among the many art projects are: Japanese writing journals, “Impressionist” water colors, ceramic self-portraits, personal coats of arms, Polish paper cutting, star books, contour drawings, stencils and action designs, Matisse inspired cutpaper action figures, wire sculptures, Valentine boxes, ancient Greek pottery, LEEEP habitat artbooks (rivers), and ArtStart.

MUSIC

The music program at the Marion Cross School is designed to help students develop the skills needed to realize a rewarding and joyful lifetime musical experience and to realize their own and other’s innate ability and need to create.

In fifth grade the students continue work learning the language and notation of music and have a concentrated exposure to composition using music technology. They compose pieces and have a performance of their works. In the spring there is some form of collaboration with the Odyssey unit through creating original music. Listening to musical styles of many cultures is a component of this year. The students have the opportunity to begin learning an instrument from the band or orchestra, have lessons in school and join an ensemble when they are ready. They are also able to sing in the 5/6 chorus if they wish. As a culmination of the year they learn Morris Dancing and perform at Mayfest.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The goal of the fifth and sixth grade physical education program is to help students enhance their physical skills and awareness, refine skills learned in grades 3 and 4, and practice good sportsmanship and team play. Students learn about and begin to take personal charge of the following: personal fitness and wellness (fitness tests, fitness activities and warm-ups), sportsmanship and social interaction (New Games, cooperative learning situations, problem solving skills, recognizing own strengths and strengths of others, accepting differences), locomotor skills (dance, gymnastics), non-locomotor skills (high and long jumping, balance activities), striking skills (volleyball, pickleball, paddle tennis, badminton, whiffleball), movement concepts (general and personal space, speed, force and flow of movement, offense and defense), and manipulatives of circus arts activities (juggling scarves, balls and clubs; spinning diabolos and plates). In addition they are introduced to and play modified games of lacrosse, whiffleball, volleyball, basketball, ultimate frisbee, and soccer. Track and field events are taught and practiced, and we continue to occasionally play some large group games.

GUIDANCE

The guidance program is designed to help students learn about themselves and others as well as to help them learn about getting along with others. The guidance counselor uses the Life Skills health/guidance curriculum to teach fifth graders about self-esteem, decision making, positive and negative stress, verbal/nonverbal communication, advertising, peer pressure, assertiveness, tobacco/drug/alcohol use, and HIV, and puberty. They use class discussions, role-playing, and writing to express themselves.