

# A Parent's Guide To GRADE 5 CURRICULUM



**Reading + Writing + Mathematics + Science + Social Studies**

## Introduction

Research shows that children are more likely to succeed in learning when families actively support them. When you and other family members read with your children, help them with homework, talk with their teachers, and participate in school or other learning activities, you give your children a tremendous advantage. Other than helping your children grow up healthy and happy, the most important thing that you can do for them is help them develop their reading skills. It is no exaggeration to say that how well children learn to read directly affects not only how successful they are in school but how well they will do throughout their lives. When children learn to read, they have the key that opens the door to all of the knowledge of the world.

As a parent, you are your child's first and most important teacher. Our goal in this guide is to give you greater visibility into the *Forward* instructional program. We believe that the gains your child experiences in this program will establish the building blocks for his or her love of learning in the months and years to come.

## Grade 5 Integrated Curriculum

The **Elementary Integrated Curriculum** blends reading, writing, and mathematics instruction with lessons in science and social studies in a way that spurs creativity and critical thinking skills. Students will receive robust instruction across all subjects in the early grades. The curriculum is built around developing students' critical and creative thinking skills as well as essential academic success skills, which lead to college and career readiness.

In the *Grade 5 Integrated Curriculum*, critical and creative thinking skills as well as academic success skills are identified and paced into four parts that are each nine weeks in duration. These skills are explicitly taught using concepts and topics identified by part in each content area and provide a focus for integration across content areas. This document provides an outline of these skills and the curriculum concepts and topics that are the focus of instruction for Grade 5 students.

## K–5 Instructional Program Goals

### Reading

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to becoming literate, thoughtful communicators, who are capable of controlling language effectively, in the following ways:

- ✓ Strategically reading literary and informational instructional-leveled texts with fluency, purpose, and comprehension
- ✓ Using skills and strategies widely as tools for learning and reflection
- ✓ Understanding and appreciating language and literature as catalysts for deep thought and emotion

### Writing

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to becoming literate, thoughtful communicators, who are capable of controlling language effectively, in the following ways:

- ✓ Composing narrative, informative/explanatory, and opinion texts as tools for learning and reflection
- ✓ Conducting research and writing projects for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences
- ✓ Evaluating relevant information from print and digital sources and using a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing

### Mathematics

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to achieving mathematical proficiency in the following ways:

- ✓ Developing both conceptual understanding and procedural fluency
- ✓ Thinking and reasoning mathematically
- ✓ Using mathematics to solve problems in authentic contexts

### Science

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to becoming literate in science, and technology in the following ways:

- ✓ Thinking critically, solving problems, and communicating effectively
- ✓ Tackling increasingly challenging issues
- ✓ Seeking understanding to support solutions

### Social Studies

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to developing a balanced and integrated understanding of systems of culture, economics, geography, and politics and the history of their development in the following ways:

- ✓ Applying concepts and knowledge of the past to problem solving real-world issues of the present
- ✓ Critically examining human interactions and evaluating their role as an effective citizen
- ✓ Communicating social studies concepts clearly in multiple formats and putting theory into practice as a citizen

CRITICAL THINKING SKILL	ACADEMIC SUCCESS SKILL
<b>FLEXIBILITY</b>	<b>COLLABORATION</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Demonstrate adaptability by changing ideas, questions, resources, or strategies when presented with evidence.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Solicit and respect multiple and diverse perspectives to broaden and deepen understanding.</li> <li>✓ Identify and analyze options for sharing responsibility to reach a group goal.</li> <li>✓ Support group decisions with criteria.</li> </ul>

Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
<p>Comprehension of literary text (adventure stories; tall tales; folktales): themes in literature; comparison of characters, settings, or events; point of view; foreshadowing; contribution of visual and multimedia elements; text structure; comparison of stories</p> <p>Comprehension of informational/explanatory text: use of quotes; relationships among individuals, events, ideas or concepts; accurately interpret text to support opinions; main idea and key details; comparison of texts; author’s point of view; different viewpoints on the same topic</p> <p>Vocabulary: homographs; signal words; figurative language; context clues; academic and content-specific vocabulary</p>	<p>Writing workshops: narrative (adventure story); informative; opinion</p> <p>Ideas &amp; development: recognize characteristics of narrative genre; establish setting, characters, and plot; introduce conflict; dialogue; pacing of events; descriptive details; point of view; group related facts; comparison text structure; conclusions; organization; develop thesis; drafting; revision; editing; publish</p> <p>Word choice: verb tense; dialect; transitional words; domain-specific words; interjections; formal and informal English</p> <p>Conventions: punctuation; reference tools; sentence fluency; multimedia components; audio and visual displays</p>	<p>Multiplication fluency (multi-digit whole numbers): standard algorithm</p> <p>Volume (right rectangular prisms)</p> <p>Numerical expressions with parentheses, brackets, braces</p> <p>Place-value relationships among places in the base-ten system</p> <p>Decimals (thousandths)</p> <p>Comparison of decimals (to thousandths)</p> <p>Rounding decimals</p> <p>Addition and subtraction of decimals (tenths or hundredths as addends)</p> <p>Division (2- or 3-digit ÷ 2-digit multiple of 10 without zeros in quotient)</p>	<p>Scientific inquiry process</p> <p>Safety practices for science investigations</p> <p>Understand the design process</p> <p>Describe the motion of an object using direction and distance traveled as well as elapsed time and speed</p> <p>Describe how forces affect an object’s motion</p> <p>Newton’s First Law of Motion</p> <p>Investigate forms of energy</p> <p>Explain how energy changes during the motion of an object</p>	<p>Arrival and migration of early peoples in the Americas</p> <p>Settlement of cultures</p> <p>Maya and Aztec cultures</p> <p>Native American cultures in North America</p> <p>Understand how people change the environment in which they live</p> <p>Viking explorers in North America</p> <p>Technologies that advanced exploration</p> <p>African slave trade</p> <p>Christopher Columbus’s journey to the Americas</p> <p>Early Spanish exploration in North America</p> <p>Relationships between European explorers and Native Americans</p> <p>New Spain colony</p> <p>The Columbian Exchange</p>

CRITICAL THINKING SKILL	ACADEMIC SUCCESS SKILL
<b>SYNTHESIS</b>	<b>METACOGNITION</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrate ideas, information, and theories to invent or devise a solution.</li> <li>Formulate generalizations by examining parts and putting them together.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-monitor strategies to assess progress and apply new thinking.</li> <li>Seek clarification and adapt strategies to attain learning task/outcome.</li> </ul>

Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
<p>Comprehension of literary text (traditional stories/myths; mysteries): theme; point of view; text structure; review key ideas and draw conclusions; comparison of characters, settings, or events; contribution of visual and multimedia elements; tone; sequence of events; compare stories in the same genre; compare literature to multimedia versions of the same story</p> <p>Comprehension of informational/explanatory text: comparison of texts; use of quotes when inferring; main ideas and supporting details; summarizing information; relationships among individuals, events, ideas; evidence and reasons to support authors' points; reasons and evidence to support points in a text</p> <p>Vocabulary: affixes and roots; reference sources; idioms; figurative language; synonyms; simile and metaphor; context clues</p>	<p>Writing workshops: narrative (traditional stories/myths; mystery story); informative/explanatory text; opinion</p> <p>Ideas &amp; development: organization; narrow topic; develop plot; sequence of events; develop research questions; develop thesis; analyze facts to form an opinion; support opinion with facts; conclusions; prewriting; drafting; revision; editing; peer feedback</p> <p>Word choice: formal and informal English; conjunctions; concrete words and phrases; verb tense; transitional words</p> <p>Conventions: citing sources; punctuation; voice; formal and informal language registers; parts of speech; capitalization; spelling; digital tools; publishing</p>	<p>Division (up to 4-digit ÷ 2-digit multiple of ten)</p> <p>Relationships among dividends, divisors, and quotients</p> <p>Addition and subtraction of fractions (unlike denominators)</p> <p>Multiplication of a whole number and a fraction (partitive, whole-number products)</p> <p>Multiplication as resizing</p> <p>Multiplication of a fraction by a fraction (numerator of one factor is a multiple of the denominator of the other factor)</p> <p>Multiplication fluency: standard algorithm (multi-digit whole numbers)</p>	<p>Scientific inquiry process</p> <p>Electricity and electric circuits</p> <p>Materials that are conductors and insulators</p> <p>Properties of magnetism</p> <p>Understand and apply the engineering design process</p> <p>Design an electromagnet</p> <p>Wave energy as a force</p>	<p>Spanish colonies and missions in North America</p> <p>English colonies in North America</p> <p>Pilgrims' immigration to North America</p> <p>The Mayflower Compact</p> <p>Impact of settlers on Native Americans</p> <p>Daily life on the Plymouth Plantation</p> <p>French settlements and colonies in North America</p> <p>Slave trade and the Middle Passage</p> <p>The French and Indian War</p>

CRITICAL THINKING SKILL	ACADEMIC SUCCESS SKILL
<b>ELABORATION</b>	<b>INTELLECTUAL RISK TAKING</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Combine or add to thoughts, ideas, processes, or products.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adapt and make adjustments to meet challenges when seeking solutions.</li> <li>Demonstrate willingness to accept uncertainty by sharing ideas, asking questions, or attempting novel tasks.</li> <li>Challenge self to advance skill level.</li> <li>Use feedback—both positive and negative—as an opportunity to learn and improve.</li> </ul>

Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
<p>Comprehension of literary text (poetry; fantasy; folktales; graphic novel): point of view; theme; structure; contribution of visual and multimedia elements; comparison of characters, settings, or events</p> <p>Comprehension of informational/explanatory text: main ideas and details; multiple accounts of the same event; compare texts; integrate information from multiple texts on the same topic; use of quotes; draw conclusions based on discussion</p> <p>Vocabulary: figurative language; high-frequency words; simile; metaphor; academic and content-specific vocabulary; context clues; synonyms and antonyms; affixes and roots</p>	<p>Writing workshops: narrative (realistic fiction); informative text; opinion</p> <p>Ideas &amp; development: organization; narrow topic; develop plot; introduce characters; dialogue; conclusion text features; determine point of view; gather information from digital sources; paraphrase information; group related information; text structure; logically order reasons supported by facts and details; drafting; revision; editing; presentation</p> <p>Word choice: conjunctions; verbs; transition words; linking words</p> <p>Conventions: sentence fluency; peer feedback; punctuation; language registers; multimedia presentation (create book trailer); verb tense; digital tools</p>	<p>Multiplication of a fraction by a fraction (both factors <math>&lt; 1</math>, including mixed numbers):</p> <p>Multiplication of a whole number and a fraction (partitive, fraction products)</p> <p>Multiplication as resizing</p> <p>Area: rectangles with fractional side lengths</p> <p>Division of a unit fraction by a nonzero whole number or a whole number by a unit fraction</p> <p>Fractions as division of numerator by denominator</p> <p>Measurement data: line plots (halves, fourths, eighths of a unit)</p>	<p>Properties of light; reflection and refraction</p> <p>Observable patterns in shadows</p> <p>Movement of the sun, the moon, or other celestial bodies</p> <p>Observe and describe the night sky</p> <p>Impact of technology on society</p> <p>Movement of Earth</p> <p>Properties of rocks, minerals, and soil</p> <p>Erosion and deposition</p> <p>Volcanoes and earthquakes</p>	<p>The Revolutionary War</p> <p>Use primary sources</p> <p>The First Continental Congress and the Second Continental Congress</p> <p>Key ideas of the Declaration of Independence</p> <p>The United States under the Articles of Confederation</p> <p>The Northwest Ordinance of 1787</p> <p>The Constitutional Convention</p> <p>Key concepts in the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights</p> <p>Structure of the federal government</p> <p>Influences of Federalists and Antifederalists</p> <p>Distinction between a republic and a democracy</p> <p>Responsibilities and rights of citizens</p>

CRITICAL THINKING SKILL	ACADEMIC SUCCESS SKILL
<b>EVALUATION</b>	<b>EFFORT, MOTIVATION, AND PERSISTENCE</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✔ Justify a choice or solution based on criteria using evidence and reason.</li> <li>✔ Question facts and claims.</li> <li>✔ Determine the credibility of information and claims.</li> <li>✔ Determine how to use conflicting information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✔ Identify the components of goal-setting.</li> <li>✔ Develop and demonstrate a sequenced program of action to achieve a goal or solve a problem.</li> </ul>

Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
Grade 5, Part 4 Concepts & topics to come	Grade 5, Part 4 Concepts & topics to come	Grade 5, Part 4 Concepts & topics to come	Grade 5, Part 4 Concepts & topics to come	Grade 5, Part 4 Concepts & topics to come