



A PARENT'S GUIDE TO **Fifth Grade**



Sun Prairie Area  
School District



# Child Development

## WE KNOW...

*“Stages of growth and development follow a reasonably predictable pattern. Children and adolescents do not proceed through each stage at the same pace. Children and adolescents progress through the various aspects of development at their own rate. Growth is uneven.”*

Source: *Yardsticks: Child and Adolescent Development Ages 4-14*, by Chip Wood

## Physical Development

- Girls are generally ahead of boys in physical maturity; onset of puberty for some girls
- Increase body strength and hand dexterity
- Large muscle development is advanced
- Have improved coordination and reaction time
- Desperately need outdoor time and physical challenge
- Complaints like stomach aches, headaches, leg pain, etc. usually less than at nine
- Snacks and rest periods helpful for growing bodies

## Social and Emotional Development

- Generally happy; enjoy family, peers, and teachers
- Work well in groups
- Usually truthful; developing a more mature sense of right and wrong
- Sensitive to, and able to, resolve issues of friendship and fairness
- Able to enjoy cooperative and competitive games
- Appreciate being noticed and recognized for their efforts
- Benefit from class problem-solving meetings, taking surveys, helping determine what is fair and right

# Fifth-Grade Experience

Fifth graders will ...

## ART

- Generate and combine ideas to create original art
- Create art with personal meaning
- Demonstrate safe procedures for using and cleaning art tools, equipment, and studio spaces
- Interpret meaning in works of art using visual thinking strategies
- Discuss and write about art using art vocabulary
- Examine how an exhibition, museum, or other venue presents ideas and information
- Engage in art criticism
- Select and apply The Studio Habits of Mind, a set of thinking dispositions utilized throughout the creative process, to create work with greater independence
- Work as an individual artist and collaborate with other artists
- Make connections between society, culture, and history through their interactions with and analysis of art
- Prepare to pursue artistic endeavors beyond elementary school both in and outside of the classroom
- Fifth grade media includes drawing, painting, collage, fiber, printmaking, ceramics, and 3D sculpture

## HEALTH

- Investigate the function of the body systems and identify major organs in each system
- Describe the differences among drugs, medicines, prescription medicines, over-the-counter medicine, and illegal drugs
- List some important regulations on tobacco, smokeless tobacco, marijuana, alcohol
- List the short term and long term effects of drug use on the body
- Demonstrate ways to avoid peer pressure to use drugs and practice ways to positively influence peers to not use drugs
- Describe why people abuse drugs
- Explain how drug abuse can affect family & friends
- Define hormones and their functions
- Demonstrate the knowledge of puberty and understand the physical and emotional changes in males and females
- Explain the structure and function of the human reproductive system
- Understand the role of genetics
- Explain basic first aid: Bleeding, nose bleeds, burns, broken bones, and concussions

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Combines manipulative skills and traveling for execution to a target (e.g., scoring in soccer, hockey and basketball)
- Combines movement concepts with skills in small-sided practice tasks/games environments, gymnastics with self-direction
- Participates with responsible personal behavior in a variety of physical activity contexts, environments and facilities
- Differentiates between skill-related and health-related fitness
- Engages in physical activity with responsible interpersonal behavior (e.g., peer to peer, student to teacher, student to referee)
- Applies movement concepts to strategy in game situations
- Accepts, recognizes and actively involves others with both higher and lower skill abilities into physical activities and group projects
- Analyzes different physical activities for enjoyment and challenge, identifying reasons for a positive or negative response

## MUSIC

- Sing alone and with others in a tuneful and healthy way
- Perform various rhythms and melodies with their body and on various instruments
- Describe music and form opinions using appropriate vocabulary
- Move expressively in response to different styles of music
- Identify different sound characteristics, common instruments and their roles in a variety of ensembles and genres
- Be quiet audience members and reflect on the music afterward
- Demonstrate appropriate performance etiquette
- Read and notate simple rhythms and melodies

# End-of-Year Expectations

Fifth graders will know how to ...

	READING	WRITING
LITERACY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retell stories and ask and answer questions</li> <li>• Quote accurately from a text to support ideas</li> <li>• Determine the theme</li> <li>• Compare and contrast characters, settings, or events in a story</li> <li>• Identify two or more main ideas of nonfiction texts and find evidence to support each idea</li> <li>• Explain how ideas, events, or concepts are connected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write an opinion piece that states the opinion, provides reasons in an organized structure with linking words, and provides a concluding statement or section</li> <li>• Write information pieces around a topic that includes facts, definitions, and details to convey ideas and information around the topic. Includes linking words and a concluding statement or section</li> <li>• Write narrative pieces based on real or imagined experiences using descriptive details, clear sequence, dialogue, transition words, and provide a sense of closure</li> <li>• Use the writing process to strengthen writing by editing and revising</li> </ul>
MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand place value</li> <li>• Add, subtract, multiply, and divide multi-digit numbers</li> <li>• Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals</li> <li>• Use equivalent fractions to add and subtract fractions</li> <li>• Determine the volume of rectangular prisms</li> <li>• Convert measurements using a measurement system (metric or imperial)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represent and interpret data</li> <li>• Write and interpret numerical impressions</li> <li>• Analyze patterns and relationships</li> <li>• Graph points on a coordinate plane</li> <li>• Solve real world math problems</li> <li>• Sort two dimensional shapes into groups based on their properties</li> </ul>
SCIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand that matter is made of particles that are too small to be seen</li> <li>• Measure and graph changes when heating, cooling, or mixing substances. Understand that no matter what is changed, the amount of matter stays the same</li> <li>• Observe objects and determine what they are based on their properties</li> <li>• Mix two or more substances to determine if they make a new substance</li> <li>• Understand that gravity is a force that comes from the Earth and pulls objects down</li> <li>• Use models to demonstrate how plants and animals get the energy they need to grow</li> <li>• Understand how plants, animals, and decomposers interact in an environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct investigations, make observations, and record data</li> <li>• Understand the distances between Earth, the sun, and planets in our solar system</li> <li>• Look for patterns in the length and direction of shadows during the day and stars in the night sky</li> <li>• Develop a model using an example to describe ways the geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and/or atmosphere interact</li> <li>• Describe and graph the amounts and percentages of water and fresh water in various reservoirs to provide evidence about the distribution of water on Earth</li> <li>• Obtain and combine information about ways individual communities use science ideas to protect the Earth's resources and environment</li> </ul>
SOCIAL STUDIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the importance of being a well-informed, active participant citizen in a democratic society (Civics)</li> <li>• Articulate that groups of people have different beliefs and live their daily lives in different ways (Culture)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand how goods and services are distributed and how we decide what to produce (Economics)</li> <li>• Learners understand the relationships between people, places, and environments and understand how global connections have created both opportunities and challenges (Geography)</li> <li>• Understand how historical events, science, and technology influence our world (History)</li> </ul>

# Family Learning Activities

Practice these strategies at home in your family's native language as well as in English.

## LITERACY

- Encourage your child to read 20 or more minutes each day.
- Read with your child and talk about the characters, including what they are like (traits), how they change and what they learn.
- Determine the theme of a story by asking your child what the character learns about life.
- When reading nonfiction, ask your child what the main ideas of the text are.
- Compare characters and themes between different stories.
- Ask your child about what they read.
- Help your child be responsible for any homework, reading logs, or projects.
- Practice writing through stories, letters, or poems.



## MATH

- Play math games.
- Practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts.
- Challenge your child to solve problems in everyday situations at home and in the community.
- Talk about how you use math in real world places, such as at the store or managing money.

## SCIENCE

- Encourage your child to be curious by asking questions about how things work and investigating them.
- Ask questions and discuss things you notice about the world around you.



## SOCIAL STUDIES

- Discuss events and their impact on the community.
- Discuss voting.
- Discuss where products you buy are made and how much they cost.
- Talk about how/where you get information.
- Use maps to help get you places.
- Help them understand the difference between a need and a want.

WE **welcome** OUR FAMILIES.

WE **honor** WHAT YOU BRING TO OUR LEARNING COMMUNITY.

WE WANT TO **partner** WITH YOU IN WAYS THAT HELP YOUR CHILD.

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