

## Reading fiction and Nonfiction — Grade 5

**In Reading**, you will read a fiction chapter book and 2 nonfiction articles on cellphones. Then you will answer a daily question for both in your reading journal.

**For the fiction chapter book**, read for 1 hour. Pause after 1 chapter and write your daily question. Then continue reading for the hour. Use your

**For nonfiction**, read the 2 articles on Cellphones, Each day you read the article you will focus on a different nonfiction thinking skill. Use either article to answer your daily question.

**Remember to think about your reading as you read**. Don't just read and forget. The nonfiction goals a 5th grader is working on are; writing a summary, analyzing relationships in a nonfiction text, analyzing author's craft, analyzing author's perspective and comparing 2 non fiction texts on the same topic.

**Directions: Record notes and journal entries in your reading journal. Use the packets for information.**

1. Study the daily reading goal. This is what you are thinking about as you read.
2. Read your article and chapter each day. Look for your reading goal in the article.
3. Stop and journal in your reading journal. Answer the daily journal question.

**Schedule: Fiction—Your Chapter Book (1 Hour a day)**

**Monday — Summary**

**Tuesday — Analyzing Parts of a Narrative**

**Wednesday — Analyzing author's Craft Technique**

**Thursday — Analyzing Multiple Themes**

**Friday — Compare and Contrast Themes (How are they the same and different)**

**Schedule: Nonfiction—Cellphone articles. (15-20 minutes a day)**

**Monday — Summary**

**Tuesday — Analyze Relationships in a Nonfiction Text**

**Wednesday — Analyze Author's Craft**

**Thursday — Analyze Author's Perspective**

**Friday — Compare and Contrast 2 texts (How are they the same and different)**

Do you let your kids take their cellphones to class? Does your school district even allow them?

Digital device policies are all over the map in U.S. schools, with parents and teachers divided on whether to curb or outright ban such phone use on school grounds.

Some schools make the kids place phones in a locker. Others require them to be checked in at the front office. But some are OK having students keep them in a backpack or pocket, so long as they're turned off.

At some schools, the decision about whether to let a kid have a phone is up to individual teachers, who may be reluctant to assume the role of enforcer. In fact, some teachers see the phones as an asset and actually incorporate phone use as part of their lessons.

Yet another question surrounds what kids are allowed to do with phones during lunch or between classes. Can they text, call, play games or use other apps then?

In July, California passed a law that gives public and charter schools the authority to prohibit cell-phone use in the classroom, except during emergencies or other special circumstances, such as when a doctor determines that a student needs a phone for health reasons.

The Forest Hills Public Schools, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, revised its policy recently so that students will not be allowed to carry or use cellphones during the school day.

A similar rule is in place at Washington High School in Massillon, Ohio. A principal expressed his happiness on Twitter about his school's policy; "Looking forward to seeing faces, not cellphones/headphones this year!" tweeted David Lautenschleger.

What doesn't seem to be in dispute is that screen-time addiction is a problem for young and old. Kids fixated on smartphone screens may merely be modeling the behavior of mom and dad.

## **The case for allowing phones in class.**

Those who say cellphones should be permitted in schools often cite educational benefits. For example, kids might be making movies or studying photography through various apps, for instance.

"Have a plan, not a ban," Liz Kline, vice president for education at Common Sense Education in the San Francisco Bay Area, told USA TODAY in 2018.

Even those who favor cellphone use in the classroom acknowledge those times, however, when phones ought to be put away or even collected by teachers, no questions asked, namely during test time. The sad truth: Some students use phones to cheat.

Safety concerns are also often given as a reason to let kids have devices at school. When there's an

## **The case to kick phones out of class.**

The rationale against cellphones in schools is that excessive exposure to the devices will have a negative effect on school-aged kids – lowering grades, promoting cyberbullying and even increasing the likelihood of teenage anxiety, depression and suicide.

Kids can be sneaky, too. “When we’re asking these 12- to 13-year-olds to carry the phone and not be on them, we 100% know that’s not happening,” Delaney Ruston, a physician and director of the documentary “Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age,” told USA TODAY in 2018.

Through her “Away For The Day” initiative, Ruston pointed to studies that show that when students don’t have the freedom of accessing their phones during school hours, they’re more engaged socially and academically.

Ruston even dismissed the safety argument. She pointed to an NPR report in which security experts have said that letting a kid have a phone in the classroom during a lockdown makes them less safe, not more so. When students should be quiet, for example, a ringing or vibrating phone might alert an intruder where kids are hiding. Parents trying to reach youngsters in an emergency might jam communications and interfere with first responders. And the kids might miss instructions from the authorities.

First of all, can we agree to stop calling them cell phones and just call them phones? And while we're at it, let's acknowledge that adults and teens alike are attached to these devices in ways that would've been inconceivable just 10 years ago.

The benefits of being connected 24/7 are not without risks, which kids are especially vulnerable to. Here are the top three risks to be aware of, along with tips for encouraging safer cell phone — er, phone — use for the whole family.

## **Distracted driving kills**

According to a 2018 study, 37% of teen drivers text while behind the wheel — and that may be a low estimate. In another survey, nearly half of U.S. high school students admitted to having texted while driving in the previous 30 days. And in a 2016 State Farm insurance company poll, 41% of young drivers reported checking social media while driving and nearly a third reported *posting updates* from the driver's seat.

There's no question that this epidemic of distracted driving has deadly consequences. By the most recent count, 3,477 people are killed annually in distraction-related accidents and nearly 400,000 are injured. According to a recent survey of the research, drivers ages 16 to 19 are the most likely to die in distracted-driving crashes, and driving while holding a cell phone makes teens three to four times more likely to be involved in an accident.

For Android users, the app Surete helps prevent drivers from texting, emailing, or using social media while driving by locking the smartphone and blocking all apps once the vehicle has started. (Surete's system does allow users to make emergency calls, access navigation, and use apps approved by the administrator.)

For iPhone users, Mojo's True Motion Family app is designed to track your family's trips and record how much time everyone drives without distraction. If everyone drives safely, the family earns points that can be redeemed for cash or prizes.

## **Attachment can become addiction**

As more and more is written about the how these miraculous devices are purposely designed to keep us coming back for more, parents have good reason to be concerned. The average teen spends nine hours a day using electronic media, according to a survey by Common Sense Media. That survey also found that half of teenagers felt addicted to their phones, and 78 percent checked them hourly or more. Multiple studies link addictive relationships with mobile devices to mental health problems in teens, including depression, anxiety, and disrupted sleep. Neuroscience tells

## **Radiation has risks**

Whether or not the radiofrequency energy emitted by cell phones causes cancer has been debated since the advent of the first mobile phone. While some studies have found statistically significant links between cancer risk and long-term cell phone use, others studies have found no link. And the effect of these waves on children's developing brains is not yet known. Since it's better to be safe than sorry, encourage everyone in your family to adopt safe habits.

In 2017, the state of California issued guidelines for limiting exposure to radiofrequency energy from cell phones. Safe practices include:

- While sleeping, keep your phone a few feet away from your body;
- When streaming audio or video, keep your device away from your body and head;
- If talking on the phone, use a headset rather than holding the phone close to your head;
- In a fast-moving vehicle or on rapid transit, use airplane mode because your phone puts out more radiofrequency energy to maintain a connection as it switches from one cell tower to the next.