Common Core State Standards

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Grade 5

A resource to help you support your child's learning

In grade five, students will continue to build important reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. They will read more challenging literature, articles, and other sources of information and continue to grow their vocabulary. They will also integrate information from different sources and respond through written interpretation and analysis.

Some of the work students will be doing in these areas includes:

- Determining the theme of a story, play, or poem
- Comparing and contrasting stories that deal with similar themes or topics
- Explaining how authors use reasons and evidence to support their points or ideas
- Drawing on information from multiple books, articles, or online sources to locate an answer or to solve a problem quickly
- Learning the rules of spoken and written English

- Learning and using new words
- Understanding figurative language
- Participating in class discussions by listening, asking questions, sharing ideas, and building on the ideas of others
- Giving a class presentation on a topic or telling a story
- Writing research or opinion papers

In grade five, students will read a wide range of literature, including stories, plays, and poems. Here are examples of how your child will develop important reading skills across grade levels:

Reading Literature

Grade Four Reading	Grade Five Reading	Grade Six Reading
• Determine the theme of a story, play, or poem from details in the text and summarize the text.	• Understand how characters respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic, and students summarize the text.	• Understand how the idea of a text is conveyed through particular details and provide a summary without personal opinions or judgments.
• Compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are told, including the difference between first- and third-person accounts.	• Describe how a narrator or speaker's point of view influences how events are described.	• Explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.

Reading for Information

Grade Four Reading	Grade Five Reading	Grade Six Reading
• Refer to details and examples when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences.	• Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences.	• Cite evidence to support what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn.
• Interpret information presented in charts, graphs, or other visual sources and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text.	• Draw on information from print or digital sources, locate an answer quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.	• Integrate information presented in different media or formats as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic.

Writing tasks in grade five may include stories, essays, reports, and persuasive papers. Here are examples of how your child will develop important writing skills across grade levels:

Grade Four Writing	Grade Five Writing	Grade Six Writing
• Introduce a topic clearly and develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information.	• Introduce a topic clearly, providing a general observation and focus.	• Introduce a topic and develop the topic with relevant quotations, or other information.
• Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.	• Group related information logically and use formatting (such as headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful.	• Organize ideas, concepts, and information using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect.
• Group related information in paragraphs and sections and use formatting, illustrations, and multimedia when useful.	• Link ideas within and across categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses (such as *in contrast* or *especially*).	• Include formatting, graphics, and multimedia when useful.
• Link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases.	• Use precise language and subject-specific vocabulary.	• Use appropriate transitions.
• Use precise language and subject-specific vocabulary.		• Establish a writing style.

Helping your child learn outside of school

1. Provide time and space for your child to read independently.

2. Ask your child what he or she learned from reading. Have your child read the most interesting sections aloud, and discuss how that knowledge can be used in real life.

3. Assist your child in using the Internet or a dictionary to look up unfamiliar words.

4. Keep track how much your child reads. Find materials your child is interested in to develop a passion for reading.

5. Get your child a library card. Many libraries have book clubs and family activities that make reading fun.

6. Use websites to read books or articles online. Libraries also have computers students can use.

Partnering with your child's teacher

Ask your child's teacher questions like:

• Is my child at the level where he/she should be?

• What is giving my child the most trouble? Where is my child excelling?

• How can I help my child improve?

For more information on the Common Core State Standards for English go to http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy or http://www.commoncoreworks.org.