

Getting Ready for 5th Grade

Want to prepare for the next school year?

Keep the learning going over the summer. Below are suggestions of skills families might explore together during the school break.



Physical Health and Wellness

With parent/caregiver support...

- Uses self-reflection to decide if their own emotions were handled in an appropriate way
- Begins to recognize and respond appropriately to the emotions of others (calm conversation, empathy, problem solving)
- Uses "I-messages" when communicating with others about their feelings
- Responds nondefensively to criticism or accusation through role-play
- Demonstrates strategies for resisting negative peer pressure
- Has skills to move through space with confidence and is working on throwing, catching, dribbling with hands and feet, volleying, striking, jumping rope
- Uses movements in games and activities; changes speed, height, direction, and type of movement (skips, slides, etc.)
- Participates in safe and vigorous physical activity daily and understands that moving quickly increases heart rate and breathing
- Follows directions alone and in a group and respects self and others during physical activity
- Understands concepts that improve health (e.g., handwashing)
- Explores influence of family, friends, and media on health behaviors
- Sets goals and uses decision-making skills to improve health



English Language Arts

With parent/caregiver support...

- Determines the meaning of unknown or multiple-meaning words and phrases in 4th grade texts using different strategies (context, roots, print/digital reference materials)
- Understands figurative language (metaphors, similes, etc.), recognizes common idioms, understands antonyms and synonyms
- Refers to details and examples in a text when explaining meaning
- Uses information from two texts on the same topic to write or speak about that topic
- Compares and contrasts texts from different cultures (stories, myths, etc.) by looking at themes or topics (ex. good and evil) and patterns of events
- Reads and understands 4th grade informational, content specific (literature, social studies, science, etc.) texts
- Draws evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research
- Develops a writing routine (journal, diary, log, etc.) for a variety of topics, purposes, and audiences



For activity ideas to practice these skills, go to gpb.org/learn.



Fine Arts

With parent/caregiver support...

- Creates multiple short, contrasting rhythm patterns to teach to family members and perform together
- Using emojis, finds music of various styles and genres that appropriately match the ideas, feelings, or moods of five different emoji symbols
- Sings songs with a friend or family member
- Creates and performs a short song with lyrics about a topic of interest
- Researches another culture's musical traditions and compares them to their own
- Creates a value scale using various art supplies found at home (e.g., crayons, markers, or colored pencil) to demonstrate an understanding of tints and shades
- Discusses how work(s) of art found at home or in your community is connected to current or historical events within a culture
- Recognizes the unique contributions of Georgia artists by looking at public murals or sculptures in the community or local museum
- Creates a sculpture of an animal from found objects in nature (e.g., twigs, stones, leaves, moss, branches, bark)



Nutrition

With parent/caregiver support...

- Understands where foods are stored and why (refrigerator, pantry, freezer)
- Identifies family food and cultural traditions
- Creates healthy habits like flavoring water with fruit
- Sets a goal to try a new recipe or meal each week



Social Studies

With parent/caregiver support...

- Describes how environments shape community decisions over time
- Explains the causes, events, and results of the American Revolution and Declaration of Independence
(notable groups, events, individuals include: French and Indian War; 1765 Stamp Act; Boston Tea Party; King George III; George Washington; Benjamin Franklin; Thomas Jefferson; Benedict Arnold; Patrick Henry; John Adams; Paul Revere; Black regiments; the Battles of Lexington and Concord, Saratoga, and Yorktown)
- Analyzes challenges faced by the framers of the Constitution; Evaluates issues debated by leaders at the Constitutional Convention
- Explains westward expansion in America
(notable events include: War of 1812; affect on American Indians; Louisiana Purchase; Lewis and Clark; the Alamo; Oregon Trail; California Gold Rush)
- Examines the main ideas of the abolitionist and suffrage movements
(notable individuals include: Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Tubman)
- Explains the causes, major events, and consequences of the Civil War
(notable literature and events include: Uncle Tom's Cabin; John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry; Fort Sumter; Gettysburg; the Atlanta Campaign; Sherman's March to the Sea, Appomattox Court House; Abraham Lincoln; Robert E. Lee; Ulysses S. Grant, Jefferson Davis; Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson; William T. Sherman)
- Analyzes the effects of Reconstruction on American life
(notable events include: 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments; Bureau of Refugees; Freedmen; Abandoned Lands (Freedmen's Bureau); sharecropping; freed African Americans or Blacks were prevented from exercising their newly won rights; Jim Crow laws)
- Explains the importance of freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
- Describes the structure of government and the Bill of Rights
- Uses the basic economic concepts of trade, opportunity cost, specialization, voluntary exchange, productivity, and price incentives to illustrate historical events
- Identifies the elements of a personal budget and explains why spending and saving decisions are important



Mathematics

With parent/caregiver support...

- Uses the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems
- Gains familiarity with factors and multiples
- Generates and analyzes patterns
- Generalizes place value understanding for multi-digit whole numbers
- Uses place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic
- Extends understanding of fraction equivalence and ordering
- Builds fractions from unit fractions by applying and extending previous understandings of operations on whole numbers
- Understands decimal notation for fractions and compares decimal fractions
- Solves problems involving measurement and conversion of measurements from a larger unit to a smaller unit
- Represents and interprets data
- Geometric measurement: understands concepts of angle and measure angles
- Draws and identifies lines and angles and classifies shapes by properties of their lines and angles



For activity ideas to practice these skills, go to gpb.org/learn.



Science

With parent/caregiver support...

- Explores information about the stars and planets, describes how stars and planets are different, describes how some stars appear larger than others, observes models of the solar system, and determines the strengths and limitations of the models
- Explores changes in the length of night and day throughout the year, observes changes in the moon and develops a model to show the pattern of the moon's phases, and describes how the tilt of the earth affects seasonal changes throughout the year
- Describes how weather instruments help gather data and predict the weather, uses data from weather maps and observations of clouds to predict tomorrow's weather and other weather events, and describes how weather and climate are different
- Explores how light interacts with materials. Groups materials based on how light passes through the materials, explores and describes how light is reflected off mirrors, and explores and describes how light can be refracted off of everyday materials
- Explores how everyday objects make different sounds, predicts how changing the strength or speed of vibrations will change the sound, and designs a device to communicate over distances using sound or light
- Explores how balanced forces act on an object, explores how unbalanced forces act on an object, explores how gravity affects the motion of an object, explains how simple machines are used, and explores how forces are changed when simple machines are used
- Develops models to show how plants/animals fit into food chains within an ecosystem, develops a model to show the flow of energy in an ecosystem, uses a model to show how a food chain model would change if a plant/animal increased or decreased in number



These skills were identified by the Georgia Department of Education's division of curriculum and instruction based on the [Georgia Standards of Excellence \(GSE\)](#). This list is not required, and students won't be expected to know all of the information – part of a teacher's job is meeting all students where they are at the beginning of the school year.