

Welcome to 5th GRADE!

Twin Cities International Schools sets expectations, or standards, for what students need to know in all grade levels and content areas. This guide is designed to help you understand the 5th grade standards so you can support your student's learning during the school year. If you have questions about this information or your student needs help, please visit the teacher website links provided at the bottom of each content page or the student support teacher resources at the end of the newsletter.

When talking to your student about school, you can ask:

- Can you tell me about something you **read** today?
- How could you use the **math** you learned today?
- What **scientific ideas** did you talk about today?
- What did you learn about your **role in society** today?
- How did someone help you learn today?



If your student is also learning English, you can ask:

- How does your teacher help you understand and participate in class?
- What are some tools you can use to help you identify unknown words?



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND LITERACY

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Read various texts including books, poems, letters, and news articles.
- Speak and listen in formal and informal ways by participating in presentations and daily conversations.
- Communicate opinions, information, and experiences in writing for various readers.
- Use knowledge of English grammar and vocabulary in both speech and writing.



MATHEMATICS

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Use math to represent and solve real-world problems.
- Engage in mathematical reasoning to determine if an answer is true or false.
- Utilize tools, like rulers and calculators, to show mathematical relationships.
- Identify patterns and number structures to solve problems.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Ask scientific questions about the natural world and technological advances.
- Learn through observations and hands-on experiments.
- Solve problems using the scientific method and incorporating various tools.
- Communicate findings to others to in both written and spoken form.

HISTORY AND SOCIAL STUDIES

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Learn about their local community, state, country, and world.
- Discover how people and events from the past relate to the present.
- Work to understand how people view the world and events differently.
- Locate various sources of information when researching a topic.

The next four pages focus more specifically on the Minnesota learning standards for **5th GRADE**.

FIFTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This year in Fifth Grade English we will be reading and writing our way through history and through your imagination! Using Wit and Wisdom, we will begin the year studying *Thunder Rolling in the Mountains* to develop an understanding of what it means to belong to a culture. We will learn about the United States' westward expansion and how it disrupted the rich cultural heritage and ways of life of Native Americans.



By the end of 5th grade, students can:



- Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic.
- Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details.
- Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text.
- Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which point(s).
- Explain how a series of chapters, scenes, or stanzas fits together to provide the overall structure of a particular story, drama, or poem.
- Describe how a narrator's or speaker's point of view influences how events are described.
- Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text based on specific information in the text.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.
- Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- With support from peers and adults, use a writing process to develop and strengthen writing by planning, drafting, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR STUDENT:

- What is your passage/story mostly about?
- What is similar/different between the characters/scenes in the text?
- How do you objectively present your opinion?

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHER:

- Topics your student enjoys researching.
- How your student participates in class discussions.
- Online resources that can help your student learn.

For more information or to connect with your student's ELA teacher, please visit:



Ms. Vic's ELA Website

FIFTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Fifth grade Math curriculum addresses topics ranging from operations with whole numbers to adding and subtracting decimals and fractions. Topics like equivalency, estimation, comparing and ordering numbers, and describing patterns of change will be recurring themes. Students will also work with statistics, data, and 3D geometric shapes. Each unit uses and emphasizes many real-world problems.



By the end of 5th grade, students can:



- Solve and estimate solutions to real-world problems involving adding, subtracting, and multiplying multi-digit numbers.
- Divide multi-digit numbers with and without remainders and solve real-world division problems.
- Recognize, read, write, represent, and compare fractions and decimals.
- Convert between fractions and decimals and use them in both real-world and mathematical situations.
- Add and subtract fractions, mixed numbers, and decimals to solve real-world and mathematical problems.
- Recognize and represent patterns of change by using patterns, tables, graphs, and rules to solve real-world and mathematical problems.
- Understand and interpret equations and inequalities involving variables and whole numbers, and use them to represent and solve real-world and mathematical problems.
- Describe, classify, and draw representations of three-dimensional figures.
- Determine the area of triangles and quadrilaterals.
- Determine the surface area and volume of rectangular prisms in various contexts.
- Display and interpret data to determine mean, median and range.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR STUDENT:



- About how much do six boxes of cereal cost?
- How much of each ingredient will we need if we cut this recipe in half?

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHER:



- Ways you can practice solving problems with fractions, decimals, and volume at home.
- Which strategies for dividing larger numbers work best for your student.

For more information or to connect with your student's Math teacher, please visit:



Mr. Scott's Math Website

FIFTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

5th Grade Science Curriculum includes general understanding of Life Science, Physical Science and Earth Science.

- Unit 1 - Introduction to scientific tools, safety, and the Scientific Method.
- Unit 2 - Properties of Matter: solids, liquids, and gases.
- Unit 3 - Life Science - The study of plants and animals, ecosystems, and human impact on the environment.
- Unit 4 - Focuses on the sun, planets, and stars!
- Unit 5 - Physical Science - Laws of force and motion and simple machines.
- Finally, Unit 6 - Engineering design and function. Transfer of energy by sound, light, heat, and electrical current.



By the end of 5th grade, students can:



- Create a scientific question, or hypothesis, and plan an experiment to test it.
- Collect information using scientific tools to make observations, record the data, and draw conclusions.
- Analyze an experiment to determine its validity.
- Describe how cells and their organelles functions help them survive and explain what would happen to the cell if one of its parts were changed.
- Evaluate what would happen to a natural system if one of its parts were changed, including its relationships among its living and nonliving parts.
- Create and analyze different kinds of maps of a community and of Minnesota.
- Evaluate how changes in force and motion affect a simple machine.
- Identify the properties used to classify rocks/minerals and describe how to find each of these properties.
- Describe how slow processes (such as water erosion) and rapid processes (landslides, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions) form features of the Earth's surface.
- Describe how mineral and energy resources are obtained and processed to make them more useful.
- Describe how plant and animal structures function to survive in their natural environment.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR STUDENT:



- What can happen to a drop of rainwater after it falls on the ground?
- Why can you sometimes see the moon during the day?
- What could we invent to make our chores at home easier?

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHER:



- How you can help reinforce classroom instruction at home.
- Places in the community that can help your student learn about science.

For more information or to connect with your student's Science teacher, please visit:



Mr. Jimmy's Science Website

FIFTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This year in fifth grade social studies we will be studying geography, maps, Native American history, early exploration, the slave trade, early American colonization, and the American Revolution. By studying the past, students are able to understand and analyze the world around them, and question why the world exists as it does. Social Studies is a fun class where we attempt to solve mysteries of the past, learn from the actions of our ancestors, and create a plan to make a better future for ourselves and others. Students will practice life skills such as identifying problems, investigating cause and effect, and justifying decisions and actions. Students will be encouraged to explore their personal history, as well as the history of America and its creation.



By the end of 5th grade, students can:



- Explain and interpret the connections between three or more events in an era by making a timeline or flowchart.
- Create and use various kinds of maps to identify the physical and human characteristics of places.
- Describe complex urban societies that existed in Mesoamerica and North America before 1500.
- Describe motivations for European exploration and settlement in Africa and the Americas from the fifteenth to early seventeenth centuries.
- Describe early interactions between Europeans and Indigenous peoples of the Americas and Africa.
- Explain the role of Europeans and West Africans in the development of the Atlantic slave trade.
- Explain how theories on government (Patriots vs. Loyalists) created tensions between the Colonial governments and the British.
- Explain why the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation led to the development of a new constitution.
- Describe how governmental power is limited through the principles of federalism, the separation of powers, and checks and balances.
- Explain specific protections that the Bill of Rights provides to individuals and the importance of the ten amendments.
- Simulate a historic event to show the importance of civic engagement.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR STUDENT:

- Why do researchers use multiple sources of information when writing about history?
- Why is the Bill of Rights an important part of the U.S. Constitution?

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHER:

- People and places in the community related to course content.
- Books or other resources (e.g. virtual field trips) where students can learn more about the current learning targets.

For more information or to connect with your student's Social Studies teacher, please visit:



Ms. Erin's Social Studies Website

Electives at TCIS!



TCIS believes in the importance of offering electives for its students. All students in grades 5-8 will have the opportunity to participate in Arabic, Media/Technology, Art, and Physical Education during the school year. Please read over a sample of the coursework covered below and contact your student's teacher if you have any questions.

ARABIC

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:



- Enrich their cultural heritage by learning how to read, write and speak Arabic both at school and at home.
- Learn "Anasheed" and participate in conversations in Arabic to learn vocabulary for different contexts that can be used in daily life situations.
- Participate in Arabic classes that are taught twice a week.

For more information or to connect with your student's Arabic teacher, please visit:



Ms. Suhair's Arabic Website

MEDIA/TECHNOLOGY

Students will build on their technology skills each year by being able to:



- Understand the importance of internet safety and the significance of creating a positive digital footprint.
- Define what coding is and create their own codes.
- Understand that there are steps and sequences in coding and relate that to their everyday life.
- Create their own robots and design them to move around, pull objects, and much more!

For more information or to connect with your student's Media/Technology teacher, please visit:



Ms. Korrie's Media/Technology Website

ART

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:



- Integrate knowledge and personal experiences while responding to, creating, and presenting artistic work.
- Understand that artistic works influence and are influenced by personal, societal, cultural, and historical contexts, including the contributions of Minnesota American Indian tribes and communities.
- Create, develop, present, and evaluate original artistic ideas and artwork.

For more information or to connect with your student's Art teacher, please visit:



Ms. Sarah's Art Website

PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:



- Demonstrate competency in a variety of motor skills and movement patterns (e.g. sit and reach, sit-ups, push-ups, shuttle run, mile run, and pacer test).
- Apply knowledge of concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics related to movement performance.
- Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness.

For more information or to connect with your student's P.E. and Health teacher, please visit:



Mr. Chris and Coach Jen's P.E. Website

Student Support Resources

TCIS has a variety of resources available to all learners to ensure that every student is able to reach their full academic potential. If your student is in need of support, please contact their content classroom teacher or one of the support teachers listed below.



Response to Intervention (RTI)

Response to Intervention (RTI) teachers are available in each grade level to support students in all content areas (English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Media Literacy). Please contact your student's grade level RTI teacher for more information or to set up a help session.

❖ 5th Grade RTI Teacher



Ms. Ali's RTI Website

❖ 6th Grade RTI Teacher



Ms. Nancy's RTI Website

❖ 7th Grade RTI Teacher



Ms. Katie's RTI Website

❖ 8th Grade RTI Teacher



Mr. Abdiquani's RTI Website

English Language Instruction

English Language (EL) teachers are also available in each grade level to support eligible students in achieving the English language proficiency needed to succeed academically and to realize personal, social, and career goals. EL teachers work in collaboration with both general education and specialist teachers to design a comprehensive instructional program for each student. To learn more, please contact the EL teacher assigned to your student's grade level.

❖ 5th and 6th Grade EL Teacher



Ms. Ifrah's EL Website

❖ 7th and 8th Grade EL Teacher



Mr. Jonathan's EL Website



Educational Assistants

Educational Assistants (EAs) are available in all grade levels to assist students with coursework, answer questions, and connect with families. Please contact the 5th grade EAs listed below via email.

❖ Ms. Amun



❖ Email: amuna@iecmail.net



❖ Mr. Jama



❖ Email: jamah@iecmail.net