

Fifth Grade Syllabus

ELA/Social Studies

Course Description/Goals:

This course develops students' foundational literacy skills through instruction aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for English Language Arts and Reading. Students will engage in daily reading, writing, listening, and speaking experiences that promote language development and comprehension. Focus areas include building phonics and decoding skills, expanding vocabulary, reading fluency, understanding literary and informational texts, and writing for various purposes. Students will learn to use the writing process, apply grammar and conventions, and develop oral and written communication skills. Instruction is differentiated to support all learners and to foster a lifelong love of reading and writing.

Course TEKS/Objectives:

ELA - The English language arts and reading Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) embody the interconnected nature of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking through the seven integrated strands of developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author's purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The strands focus on academic oracy (proficiency in oral expression and comprehension), authentic reading, and reflective writing to ensure a literate Texas. The strands are integrated and progressive with students continuing to develop knowledge and skills with increased complexity and nuance in order to think critically and adapt to the ever-evolving nature of language and literacy.

Social Studies - In Grade 5, students survey the history of the United States from 1565 to the present. Historical content includes the colonial period, the American Revolution, the establishment of the U.S. Constitution and American identity, westward expansion, the Civil War and Reconstruction, immigration and industrialization, and the 20th and 21st centuries. Students study a variety of regions in the United States that result from physical features and human activity and identify how people adapt to and modify the environment. Students explain the characteristics and benefits of the free enterprise system and describe economic activities in the United States. Students identify the roots of representative government in this nation as well as the important ideas in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Students study the fundamental rights guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. Students examine the importance of effective leadership in a constitutional republic and identify important leaders in the national government. Students recite and explain the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag. Students describe the cultural impact of various racial, ethnic, and religious groups in the nation and identify the accomplishments of notable individuals in the fields of science and technology. Students explain symbols, traditions, and landmarks that represent American beliefs and principles. Students use critical-thinking skills to sequence, categorize, and summarize information and to draw inferences and conclusions.

Course Outline:

Click on this [link](#) to access the **ELA/SS** Year at a Glance for a quarterly content overview for Reading, Phonics, Writing, Grammar, and Social Studies.

Math

Course Description/Goals:

For students to become fluent in mathematics, students must develop a robust sense of number. The National Research Council's report, "Adding It Up," defines procedural fluency as "skill in carrying out procedures flexibly, accurately, efficiently, and appropriately." As students develop procedural fluency, they must also realize that true problem solving may take time, effort, and perseverance. Students in Grade 5 are expected to perform their work without the use of calculators. The primary focal areas in Grade 5 are solving problems involving all four operations with positive rational numbers, determining and generating formulas and solutions to expressions, and extending measurement to area and volume. These focal areas are supported throughout the mathematical strands of number and operations, algebraic reasoning, geometry and measurement, and data analysis. In Grades 3-5, the number set is limited to positive rational numbers. In number and operations, students will apply place value and identify part-to-whole relationships and equivalence. In algebraic reasoning, students will represent and solve problems with expressions and equations, build foundations of functions through patterning, identify prime and composite numbers, and use the order of operations. In geometry and measurement, students will classify two-dimensional figures, connect geometric attributes to the measures of three-dimensional figures, use units of measure, and represent location using a coordinate plane. In data analysis, students will represent and interpret data.

Course TEKS/Objectives:

The 5th Grade TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) are organized into reporting categories, each focusing on a specific strand of mathematics. These categories include: Numerical Representations and Relationships, Computations and Algebraic Relationships, Geometry and Measurement, and Data Analysis and Personal Financial Literacy. Each category contains specific standards (TEKS) that students are expected to master:

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/ch111a.pdf>

The process standards are integrated at every grade level and course. When possible, students will apply mathematics to problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. Students will use a problem-solving model that incorporates analyzing given information, formulating a plan or strategy, determining a solution, justifying the solution, and evaluating the problem-solving process and the reasonableness of the solution. Students will select appropriate tools such as real objects, manipulatives, algorithms, paper and pencil, and technology and techniques such as mental math, estimation, number sense, and generalization and abstraction to solve problems. Students will effectively communicate mathematical ideas, reasoning, and their implications using multiple representations such as symbols, diagrams, graphs, computer programs, and language. Students will use mathematical relationships to generate solutions and make connections and predictions. Students will analyze mathematical relationships to connect and communicate mathematical ideas. Students will display, explain, or justify mathematical ideas and arguments using precise mathematical language in written or oral communication.

Course Outline:

Click on this [link](#) to access the **Math** Year at a Glance for a quarterly content overview.

Science

Course Description/Goals:

Science, as defined by the National Academy of Sciences, is the "use of evidence to construct testable explanations and predictions of natural phenomena, as well as the knowledge generated through this process." This vast body of changing and increasing knowledge is described by physical, mathematical, and conceptual models. Fifth grade science prepares students for middle school by bringing together what they have learned in previous grades and encouraging them to apply it in new ways. Students will study physical properties of matter, mixtures and solutions, and different forms of energy. They will explore the water cycle, weather, space, and how Earth's systems interact. In life science, students will investigate ecosystems, learned behaviors, and life cycles. Using the recurring themes and concepts, students will connect the big ideas in science. They will plan and conduct descriptive and experimental investigations, make predictions, test hypotheses, and explain results using evidence and models, just like real scientists and engineers.

Course TEKS/Objectives:

In Kindergarten through Grade 5 Science, content is organized into recurring strands. The concepts within each grade level build on prior knowledge, prepare students for the next grade level, and establish a foundation in science. In fifth grade, students focus on concepts like matter and its properties, force and motion, Earth and space, living things and their environments, and how science works. Each category contains specific standards (TEKS) that students are expected to master:

<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/laws-and-rules/texas-administrative-code/19-tac-chapter-112>

Fifth grade science prepares students for middle school by helping them apply what they have learned in new ways and connect bigger ideas in science. The TEKS describe how recurring strands tie together physical, Earth, and life science concepts. Students will measure and compare physical properties of matter, investigate mixtures and solutions, and learn how energy is transferred, transformed, and conserved. They will model the water cycle, collect weather data, study patterns in the solar system, and examine how Earth's systems—like the water cycle—interact and change over time. In life science, students will explore ecosystems, inherited and learned behaviors, and how organisms adapt and interact within their habitats. They will plan and conduct detailed investigations, develop hypotheses, test ideas with fair tests, and communicate results using charts, graphs, and models, while connecting scientific discoveries to their everyday lives.

Course Outline:

Click on this [link](#) to access the **Science** Year at a Glance for a quarterly content overview.