



Grade Level Summary: 5th Grade

Art

Students learn various techniques, skills, and artistic applications by studying historic content and culture through the eyes and hands of an artist. Studies overlap and integrate with other grade-level subjects and classes. Examples include studying the evolution of the American flag, a robust introduction to various American artistic movements and artists, learning about American currency, drawing portraits of American Presidents, and focusing on understanding one-point perspective. While exercising drawing and painting techniques, students learn to evaluate their personal work and develop an understanding of the art elements and principles.

History

Through social studies, students learn from the past and develop the skills necessary for college, career, and civic life. Fifth grade uses the Impact California Social Studies curriculum and additional supplemental resources for history class. Daily instruction is built on text-based decisions, collaborative presentations, debates, questioning, and games. Students investigate and analyze primary and secondary sources and examine texts from a variety of perspectives covering United States history from the European Exploration in the 1400's to forming a new government in the 1700's.

Language Arts

Fifth grade uses the Simple Solutions curriculum in Reading Comprehension and English for language arts in addition to novel studies. Emphasis is placed on vocabulary, academic language, syntax, and text structure. Students receive instruction in close reading comprehension strategies, phonemic awareness, written language, and expression across multiple genres, along with grammar concepts. Students learn about the characteristics and structure of narrative, expository, and argumentative pieces of writing. They will also have the opportunity to practice paragraph writing through weekly journal prompts throughout the year. Differentiated instruction is embedded in supplemental materials, digital learning, and assessments. A variety of online learning platforms are used to differentiate instruction and provide additional assessment.

Library

In fifth grade, students engage in library activities that provide opportunities for them to learn to access, evaluate, use, and integrate information literacy skills into all areas of learning. Additionally, students learn to organize, synthesize, create, and communicate information. They demonstrate ethical, legal, and safe use of information and show respect for personal intellectual property.

Mathematics

Fifth-grade math is designed to help students develop and strengthen sufficient computational, procedural, and problem-solving skills to provide a solid foundation. Fifth grade uses the enVision Math curriculum and other supplemental resources to teach students math concepts. Students study all operations of decimals and fractions, place value, geometry, measurement, and data. Throughout the year, emphasis is placed on differentiation, enrichment, and review. Additional online programs are used to practice and differentiate as well as assess student fluency.

Music

Students continue the exploration of their voices, audiation (inner hearing), and more complex rhythm patterns through notation, rhythmic speech, listening maps, body percussion, and percussion instruments. They continue to learn to read sheet music, write musical notation, sing in tune, and hold simple harmony parts. They understand musical terminology, sing more complex music, and continue to use Orff instruments to accompany themselves while singing. They also learn patriotic songs and songs of our military branches to coordinate with their veteran studies. Lastly, they continue to sing with expression and perform in front of an audience.

Physical Education

Classes focus on health-related topics, including body composition, cardiovascular fitness, muscular endurance, strength, and flexibility. Additionally, skill-related fitness concepts such as agility, balance, coordination, power, reaction time, and speed are incorporated into daily activities. Units consist of team sport activities, such as soccer, team handball, basketball, floor hockey, pickleball, and badminton. Students have daily physical fitness activities, and one day a week, the concentration is on cardiovascular fitness through middle-distance endurance as well as circuit training targeting skill-related concepts.

Science

The goal of fifth-grade science is to engage young minds in science, technology, engineering, and math so that they will build confidence, explore interests, and set themselves up for success. The science curriculum taps into the students' natural curiosity and enthusiasm to empower them to become problem solvers, while transitioning them from our problem-based lower school curriculum to the more traditional middle school curriculum that prepares students for high school science. In fifth grade, students study matter, energy, Earth's systems, and patterns in space. Emphasis is put on enrichment, virtual and live experimentation, discussion, and inquiry.

Social Emotional Learning

The Social Emotional Learning program is designed to increase children's self-awareness and to improve problem solving. Using project-based learning, instruction will focus on helping children with emotional literacy, improving self-esteem, social awareness (empathy), and fostering responsible decision-making. Through reflection, application, and collaboration, students will become more mindful and have the tools they need to overcome obstacles in and outside of school.

Spanish

In Spanish, students learn to speak, read, and write in the present tense with a variety of high-frequency vocabulary, including cognates, family, school, numbers, and time. Students learn a variety of -ar verbs, subject pronouns, and -ar verb conjugation. Fifth graders also read an entry-level Spanish novel, and students complete group and individual projects as part of many of the lessons as well. Students get the chance to practice listening, speaking, reading, and writing at an appropriate level.

Technology

Students will learn a multitude of features within various applications and programs. Some of the programs include: Google Docs, Google Sheets, Google Slides, Google Vids, Soundtrap (audio-editing), and SketchUp (CAD). Many of the year's projects will implore students to use these tools mindfully, skillfully, and effectively. Students will also be expected to complete 30 minutes of typing homework every week. Their time will be logged and then signed on their typing sheet. The sheet is due every Wednesday at the beginning of Technology.