PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE TO GRADE

5

CANON-McMILLAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

EST. 1954

EVERY DAY COUNTS

WELCOME TO FIFTH GRADE

The Canon-McMillan School District believes in providing a well-rounded education that is strong in core academics: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. In addition, students are provided with engaging experiences in the areas of Art, Music, Stem Innovations, Physical Education/Health, and Character Education.

The Fifth Grade Curriculum Guide provides a snapshot of the learning experiences students will engage in during the school year. To view each content area's curriculum, please visit the Curriculum and Instruction page on the District website.

In the core content areas, instruction is teacher-led and includes modeling, guided practice, and frequent opportunities for students to demonstrate their understanding. High-quality print materials; including student workbooks, readers, and journals are an essential component of daily instruction. Research shows that students learn best when they engage with printed materials. Using print materials leads to greater focus, deeper understanding, and stronger retention. In return, students are able to apply what they have learned with confidence and independence.

The mission of the Canon-McMillan School District, in partnership with the community, is to teach, to challenge, to motivate and to support all students to maximize their full individual potential.

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BIG MACS
BIG
POSSIBILITIES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 5

In fifth grade, students continue to build strong reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through the Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) curriculum. Students build knowledge as they read a wide variety of increasingly challenging literary and informational texts while strengthening their reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, and writing skills with structured lessons. Through engaging discussions and close reading, students learn to analyze ideas, support their thinking with evidence, and communicate effectively.

AMPLIFY CKLA GRADE 5

Personal Narratives: Students learn how authors use descriptive language, dialogue, and reflection to tell meaningful stories based on real-life experiences.

Early American Civilizations: Students explore the history, cultures, and achievements of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations.

Poetry: Students read and analyze a variety of poems, discovering how poets use rhythm, rhyme, imagery, and figurative language to express ideas and emotions.

Adventures of Don Quixote: Students read an adaptation of the classic tale Don Quixote and examine themes such as courage, imagination, perseverance, and the difference between fantasy and reality.

The Renaissance: Students investigate the Renaissance, a period of tremendous cultural, artistic, and scientific achievement in Europe.

The Reformation: Students study the religious, political, and social changes that occurred during the Reformation.

A Midsummer Night's Dream: Students read an adaptation of Shakespeare's famous comedy, exploring themes of love, friendship, and mistaken identity.

Native Americans: Students learn about the diverse cultures, traditions, and histories of Native American nations across North America.

Chemical Matter (*if time permits*): Students build scientific background knowledge by exploring the properties of matter and how materials can change.

Learn more about each unit by viewing the Fifth Grade Amplify CKLA Curriculum Map.

GRADE 5 ELA QUICK FACTS

- 120 minutes (3 days) and 80 minutes (2 days) of instruction a week
- Instruction is teacher- led in an explicit, systematic method in reading and writing
- Units are intentionally sequenced to build students' knowledge in history, science, and the arts
- Students apply their knowledge to write multi-paragraph narrative, informative, and argumentative writings

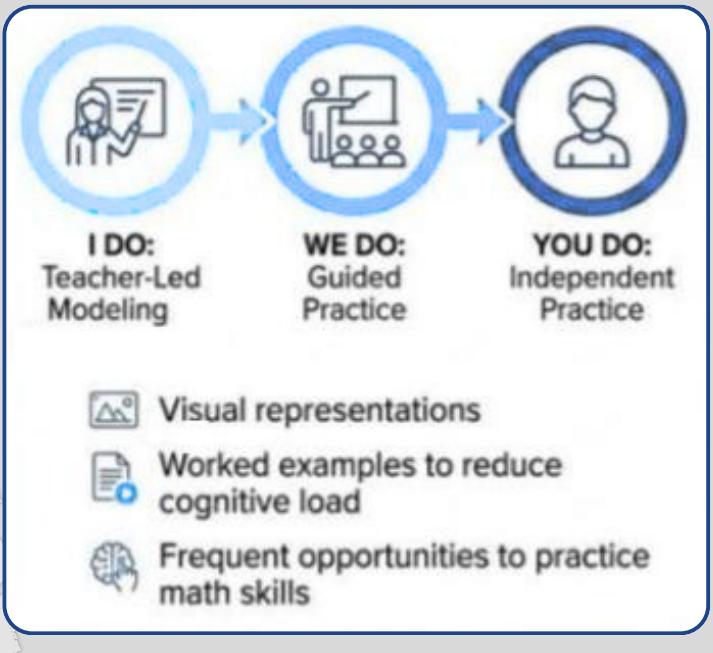


While learning about the Renaissance, students engage in a hands-on simulation by drawing while lying on their backs, experiencing the challenge Michelangelo faced as he painted the Sistine Chapel ceiling.

MATHEMATICS

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In fifth grade, enVision+ Mathematics builds on the strong foundation developed in the elementary grades as students build greater fluency and confidence with their understanding of numbers, operations, geometry, measurement, and data analysis. Instruction emphasizes conceptual understanding, productive struggle, and the development of strong mathematical thinking. By the end of the year, students are well prepared for the increased rigor of sixth grade mathematics and have developed the critical thinking and problem-solving skills needed for continued success.



INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH

Using the **"I Do**, **We Do**, **You Do**" approach, teachers provide clear, direct instruction by modeling and explaining new concepts ("I Do"), guide students through supported practice ("We Do"), and then give students opportunities to apply their learning independently ("You Do").

This research-based approach ensures students receive the instruction, practice, and feedback needed to build mastery and become confident, independent learners.

ENVISION GRADE 5 TOPICS

TOPICS 1–6: Students strengthen their multiplication and division skills with whole numbers while building fluency in adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals.

TOPICS 7–9: Students develop a deeper understanding of fractions by adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions by using a variety of strategies to solve problems.

TOPIC 10: Students use numerical expressions, tables, and graphs to identify, represent, and analyze patterns and relationships.

TOPIC 11: Students convert measurements within customary and metric systems and apply these skills to solve real-world measurement problems.

TOPIC 12: Students explore the properties of two- and three-dimensional shapes, classify geometric figures, and use measurement concepts to solve mathematical problems.

GRADE 5 MATH FACTS

- 80 minutes of instruction daily
- Fluencye practice with basic facts and computation
- Hands-on activities with math manipulatives
- Topics are sequenced to support mathematics progressions that connect new content to prior knowledge.

Learn more about each topic by visiting the Fifth Grade enVision+ Resource Page for families.

SCIENCE 5

In fifth grade, Amplify Science engages students in hands-on investigations where they think and work like scientists and engineers to explain real-world phenomena. Through the study of Earth science, physical science, and life science, students develop an understanding of scientific concepts by asking questions, analyzing evidence, creating models, and designing solutions. Throughout the year, students investigate how Earth's systems interact, how matter behaves and changes, and how living things depend on their ecosystems for survival.

AMPLIFY SCIENCE GRADE 5

Patterns of Earth and Sky: Students investigate patterns in the Earth and sky by studying the movement of Earth, the sun, and stars.

Modeling Matter: Students investigate how substances interact when mixed by exploring mixtures, solutions, and the properties of matter. They use models of particles to explain how materials can be separated or combined based on their unique properties.

The Earth System: Students explore Earth's systems by investigating the causes of a city's water shortage. They analyze water availability and design solutions.

Ecosystem Restoration: Students investigate why organisms in a restored rainforest ecosystem are not thriving. They explore how living things depend on matter and energy within ecosystems and develop plans to restore ecosystem health.

Learn more about each unit by viewing the Fifth Grade Amplify Science Unit Maps.

INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH



Amplify Science is aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). It is designed to help students move beyond simply learning scientific facts to investigating real-world phenomena by gathering evidence, developing explanations, and applying their learning to solve new problems.



GRADE 5 SCIENCE FACTS

- 40 minutes of instruction (4 days) weekly
- Hands-on investigations, experiments, and simulations
- Collaborative discussions, reading, and writing opportunities to explain scientific ideas

SOCIAL STUDIES 5

In fifth grade, students explore the history of the United States from the first peoples of North America through westward expansion using the Teacher's Curriculum Institute (TCI) Social Studies Alive! - America's Past program. Using inquiry-based learning, primary sources, maps, and collaborative activities, students examine how geography, culture, economics, and government influenced the development of our nation while building historical thinking and civic responsibility.

AMERICA'S PAST

America's Geographic Setting: Students explore how physical geography, climate, and natural resources influence where people live and how societies develop. They learn to use geographic tools such as globes, maps, compasses, and latitude and longitude, while studying the 50 states, capitals, and regions of the United States.

Colonial Times: Students investigate how geography influenced the growth and development of colonial America. They explore early settlements, regional differences among the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies, and how climate and resources shaped economies and daily life.

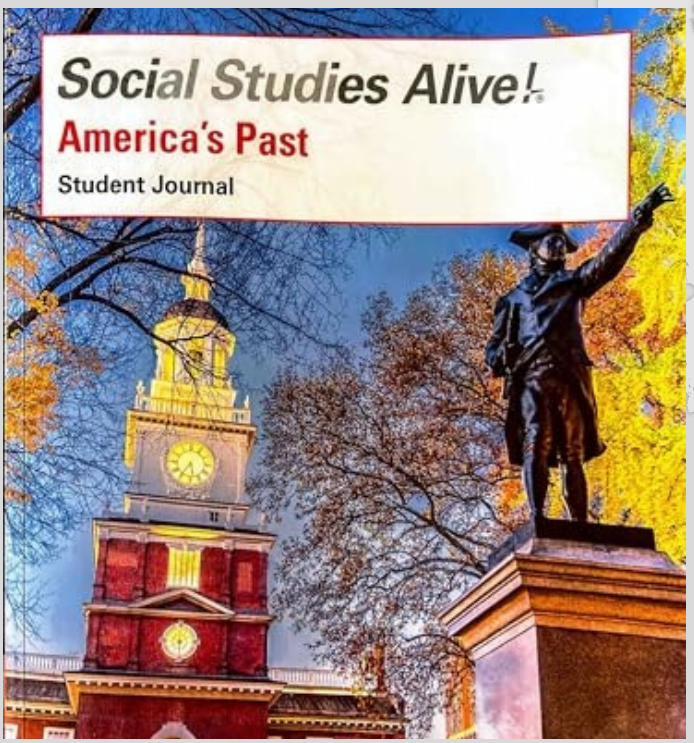
Civics and Economics in America: Students explore how geography shaped colonial America, including early settlements, regional economies, and daily life.

Manifest Destiny to Today: Students explore how technology has transformed the United States from the 1800s to today. They examine how innovations in transportation, communication, industry, and warfare shaped expansion, economic growth, the Civil War, the space race, and the future of American society.

Learn more about each unit by visiting the Fifth Grade Social Studies Curriculum Map.

GRADE 5 SOCIAL STUDIES FACTS

- 80 minutes of instruction weekly
- Hands-on collaborative learning activities
- Visual learning with maps, timelines, charts, photographs



"...social studies classrooms are "laboratories of democracy," where young students develop social skills, grapple with complex ideas, and build a foundation for developing into civically knowledgeable and informed people in a democracy (NCSS, 2024)."

RELATED ARTS

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Related arts classes are an important part of every student's intermediate school experience. Throughout the school year, students participate in Art, Music, Physical Education/Health, and STEM Innovations, where they develop skills and interests that complement their core classroom learning. Students also participate in Character Education lessons taught by the school counselor. These classes encourage creativity, curiosity, collaboration, healthy decision-making, and personal responsibility while giving students opportunities to discover new talents, build confidence, and develop lifelong interests. The intermediate related arts program continues to support the growth of the whole child by helping students become well-rounded learners.



ART

Students build upon skills and concepts introduced at the elementary level. Students gain a deeper understanding of color and the color wheel, incorporating color schemes, value, and color mixing strategies in their artwork. Students discuss artwork and artists working with nature based art forms and visual culture. Art history components at this level will include art and artists of the 1900s, the Renaissance, and ancient weaving techniques from various cultures. Lastly, students will demonstrate an understanding and proper use of the elements of art to enhance their own art making.

MUSIC

- Review and expand upon previous learning
- Apply music reading skills to ukuleles, keyboards and barred instruments
- Study the history of music
- Engage in individual and group projects
- Explore diverse genres
- Composition alone and in groups
- Option to participate in chorus and band

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

- Students develop fundamental movement skills and apply them across a variety of team sports and game units
- Learn basic rules, objectives, and strategies of each sport and activity introduced throughout the year
- Practice throwing, catching, kicking and striking skills in dynamic game settings
- Build spatial awareness, agility, and reaction time through a variety of movement-based activities and games
- Explore the five components of health related fitness and understand how each contributes to overall wellness
- Develop teamwork and communication skills by working cooperatively
- Demonstrate responsible personal and social behavior by following rules, showing respect, and practicing good sportsmanship
- Connect physical activity to healthy lifestyle choices

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STEM INNOVATIONS

- **Everyday Digital Tools:** Students learn how to use Google Workspace programs: Gmail, Docs, Drive, and Slides, to organize their files, write emails, and create presentations.
- **Introductory Coding:** Using a visual coding program called Scratch, students learn to write basic algorithms to create simple animations and understand how a computer follows step-by-step instructions.
- **Teamwork and Problem-Solving:** Students practice "pair programming" with classmates and develop a growth mindset to overcome coding challenges.
- **Connecting Hardware and Software:** Students program mini-computers called Micro:bits; learning how sensors gather information and how to make simple animations and games.
- **Building Robots:** Working in pairs, students follow instructions to build UKIT AI Beginner robots that are designed to mimic the movements of animals found in the natural world and everyday machines.
- **Understanding Basic AI:** The curriculum introduces the core concepts of artificial intelligence, helping students understand how machines can take in data and make autonomous decisions.



CHARACTER EDUCATION

- Students develop the social skills needed to build positive relationships, collaborate effectively, and become confident leaders.
- Through engaging lessons and activities, students learn how to communicate respectfully, resolve conflicts, and contribute positively to their classroom and school community.
- Students focus on skills such as teamwork, empathy, responsibility, problem-solving, goal setting, and decision-making.
- They practice recognizing their strengths, appreciating different perspectives, and using effective communication strategies to work successfully with others

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BIG MACS BIG POSSIBILITIES