



FIFTH GRADE CURRICULUM

IN FIFTH GRADE GRAMMAR & COMPOSITION our students will:

- write three types of essays: informative, narrative, and persuasive
- learn basic grammatical elements of a sentence by sentence diagramming
- study Latin and Greek roots and their English derivatives (“English from the Roots Up”)
- learn the basics of composition: introduction, lines of argument, and conclusion

IN FIFTH GRADE LITERATURE our students will read and discuss:

- novels such as Tom Sawyer, The Secret Garden, and The Wind in the Willows
- stories from Frederick Douglass, Sherlock Holmes, and Tales from Shakespeare
- Poems such as “O Captain! My Captain!” by Whitman and “The Tyger” by Blake
- Myths and legends such as The Samurai’s Daughter and The Sun Dance

IN FIFTH GRADE HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY our students will:

- memorize and identify the Great Lakes of the World
- study the Renaissance, Reformation, Counter-Reformation, and English history
- study the early growth and expansion of Russia and related geography
- study the history and culture of feudal Japan and related geography
- study the history of antebellum America, the Civil War, and westward expansion

IN FIFTH GRADE MATH our students will:

- add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions
- find the area of triangle and the volume of cuboids
- understand and apply the order of operations to mathematical problems
- analyze data using coordinate graphs and straight line graphs

IN FIFTH GRADE SCIENCE our students will:

- classify living things by kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species
- study the structures and processes of cells in both plants and animals
- examine the asexual reproductive processes of fission, spores, budding, etc.
- study the human endocrine system, including the types of glands and their functions

IN FIFTH GRADE ART our students will:

- study the major works of art from the Italian and Flemish Renaissance
- become familiar with Renaissance architecture such as the Florence cathedral, etc.
- draw, paint, and sketch perspectives using a horizon line and vanishing point

IN FIFTH GRADE MUSIC our students will:

- take rhythm dictations and write their own original rhythm using standard notation
- listen to instrumental and choral music of the Renaissance era
- sing the fifth grade repertoire including God Bless America, Greensleeves, Dona Nobis Pace

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FIFTH GRADE LITERATURE

Novels

Tom Sawyer
Alice in Wonderland
The Secret Garden
The Wind in the Willows
Heidi
The Black Arrow

Poems

“Narcissa” by Gwendolyn Brooks
“Casey at the Bat” by E.L. Thayer
“I, Too” by Langston Hughes
“O Captain! My Captain!” by Whitman
“The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost

Stories, Myths, and Legends

Sherlock Holmes stories
Tales from Shakespeare
The Samurai’s Daughter
The Sun Dance
Coyote Goes to the Land of the Dead

Biographies

Narrative of Frederick Douglass
Who Was Leonardo da Vinci?
Who Was Galileo?
Catherine the Great
Who Was Sitting Bull?