

Fifth Grade Elementary Parents' Guide to Student Success

This guide is based on the Florida State Standards. If your child meets the expectations as outlined in this guide, he/she will be well prepared for success in sixth grade.

MATH:

What Your Child Will be Working on:

- Adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators (e.g., $2\frac{1}{4} - 1\frac{1}{3}$), including solving word problems with unlike denominators
- Multiplying fractions; dividing fractions in simple cases; and solving related word problems (e.g., finding the area of a rectangle with fractional side lengths; determining how many $\frac{1}{3}$ -cup servings are in 2 cups of raisins; determining the size of a share if 9 people share a 50-pound sack of rice equally or if 3 people share $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of chocolate equally)
- Understanding the place-value system to read, write, compare and round decimals
- Multiplying multi-digit numbers quickly and accurately
- Evaluating (solving numerical expressions involving parentheses, brackets, or braces
- Understanding the concept of volume, and solving word problems that involve volume
- Graphing points in the coordinate plane
- Analyzing mathematical patterns and relationships
- Converting among different measurement units including; km, cm, m, kg, g, oz, l, ml, hr, min, sec.

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

- Create a quiet place and determine a regular time for your child to study every day.
- Sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 - 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics.

Activities to do with your child to support learning at home:

- Practice arithmetic with decimals (balancing a checkbook)
- Multiplying with fractions - for example, if you used about $\frac{2}{3}$ of a $\frac{3}{4}$ -cup measure of vegetable stock, then how much stock did you use? How much is left?
- Using the length, width, and depth of garden plot to determine how many bags of soil to buy.

For more information, the full standards are available at:
<http://www.fldoe.org/pdf/mathfs.pdf>

SCIENCE:

What Your Child Will be Working on:

Life Science

- Function of the organs in the human body
- Function of physical structures in plants
- Plant & animal survival when environments change
- Adaptations that allow animals & plants to survive

Physical Science

- Dissolving process – impact of temperature
- Properties of solids, liquids and gases
- Properties that can be used to separate a solid mixture: shape, size, color, magnetic attraction
- Physical and chemical changes related to temperature
- Changes and motion caused by energy: sound, electrical, heat, chemical, mechanical
- Static electricity- basic understanding
- Simple electrical circuits
- Materials that conduct electricity
- Electrical energy transformed into heat, light and motion
- Forces that cause objects to move, balanced forces, effect of mass on an objects movement

Earth Science

- Characteristics of our planets- Our galaxy: The Milky Way
- Objects in our Solar System including our Sun, planets, moons, asteroids and comets
- Water Cycle - Relationship between the water cycle and the oceans
- Weather including air temperature, air pressure, humidity, wind speed and direction, forms of precipitation
- Weather differences among different environments
- Climate zones: temperature and precipitation in different climate zones and how they relate to latitude, elevation and bodies of water

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

- Go on nature walks making observations of your surroundings (plants, animals, soil, rocks)
- Bird watching - using birding guides available on line
- Star gazing – observing stars, star patterns, moon and planets
- Check out science related books from your local library
- View science related websites, webcams and videos

LANGUAGE ARTS:

What Your Child Will be Working on:

In grade five, students will continue to build important reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. They will read more challenging literature, articles, and other sources of information and continue to grow their vocabulary. Students will also be expected to understand and clearly summarize what they have learned from readings and classroom discussions, referring to specific evidence and details from the text. Students will write regularly and continue to develop their ability to gather, organize, interpret, and present information. Activities in these areas will include:

- Determining the theme of a story, play, or poem
- Comparing and contrasting stories that deal with similar themes or topics
- Explaining how authors use reasons and evidence to support their points or ideas
- Drawing on information from multiple books, articles, or online sources to locate an answer or to solve a problem quickly
- Learning the rules of spoken and written English as well as demonstrate fluent and legible cursive writing skills
- Understanding figurative language
- Giving a class presentation on a topic or telling a story logically
- Writing research or opinion papers over extended periods of time

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

- Provide time and space for your child to read and write in any genre of choice.
- Ask your child what he or she learned from reading and discuss how that knowledge can be used in real life.
- Assist your child in using references such as the Internet or a dictionary to look up unfamiliar words.
- Be sure your child has a library card.
- Use technology to help build your child's interest in reading.
- Visit websites of your child's favorite authors.

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ART:

What Your Child Will Be Working On:

- Create drawings using shading, blending and perspective
- Create paintings using color theory to demonstrate unity
- Create sculptures using an armature along with other sculptural techniques
- Create clay forms that refine clay building techniques and surface decoration
- Create prints using varied layers of color for a unified composition
- Create artworks using mixed media and/or fiber techniques
- Create artworks with digital media and processes
- Describe, discuss, analyze and interpret artworks using accurate vocabulary
- Interpret how art reflects and documents cultural trends and historical events
- Plan, analyze, and revise personal artworks
- Use innovative ideas and creative solutions to solve artistic problems and communicate ideas
- Plan and organize design elements and principles to create artwork that communicates an idea
- Identify connections between visual art and other content areas

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

- Set up an "art area" with a table and art supplies such as pencils, computer or drawing paper, construction paper, scissors, glue, tape, colored pencils, washable markers and paints, brushes, and air-dry clay
- Borrow art books from the school or local library
- Go online with your child to learn about and make art using interactive art websites (*Link to several sites: <http://www.symbaloo.com/mix/digitalartmaking>)*
- Visit an art museum, art center or local gallery (*More info: <http://www.artstampabay.com/>)*

MUSIC:

What Your Child Will Be Working On:

- Identify aurally selected instruments of the orchestra, band and other ensembles
- Listen critically and develop suggestions to improve performances of self and others
- Compare and/or contrast works within genres, styles and cultures
- Sing simple songs in major and minor modes
- Sing a major scale with proper singing technique using solfege, while maintaining a tonal center
- Play 2/4 measure rhythmic/melodic ostinati within an ensemble, maintaining part
- Sing and play simple major and minor melodies and accompaniments by ear
- Perform in an ensemble using appropriate expression and technique, and following the cues of the conductor
- Read rhythmic/melodic phrases using basic rhythmic note values and Do, Re, Mi, So, La, Ti, Do
- Improvise rhythmic and melodic phrases to create simple variations on familiar melodies
- Notate 4-8 measure rhythmic/melodic phrases using basic rhythmic note values, their corresponding rests, and Do, Re, Mi, So, La, Ti, Do in 2/4 and 4/4.
- Compose an 8 measure melody using traditional notation in 2/4 and 4/4
- Read the score of a simple song and apply music symbols and terms
- Examine critical thinking processes in music and describe how they relate to other subjects
- Create music using a variety of sound sources to express text, idea, or feeling

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

- Listen to music with your child and discuss their likes and dislikes
- Expose your child to live musical concerts
- Encourage and provide private vocal or instrumental instruction as a supplement to school musical ensembles
- Support school and community vocal and instrumental ensembles
- Initiate and participate in family singing!

CIVICS:

What Your Child Will Be Working On:

The goal of Social Studies Civics instruction is to prepare students to be knowledgeable, informed, and active citizens in their community. In grade five; students use their understanding of social concepts and skills to study the development of the United States up to 1850. Students will be engaged in conversations and learning opportunities to help them make sense of why our government was created as well as the different ideologies and views of government. **Activities in these areas may include:**

- Explaining how and why they United States government was created
- Defining a Constitution, and discussing its purpose
- Explain the definition and origin of rights
- Identify the Declaration of Independence's grievances and Articles of Confederation's weaknesses
- Describe how concerns about individual rights led to the inclusion of the Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution
- Compare Federalist and Anti-federalist views of government
- Differentiate political ideas of Patriots, Loyalists, and "undecided" during the American Revolution
- Analyze how the Constitution has expanded voting rights from our nation's early history to today
- Evaluate the importance of civic responsibilities in American Democracy
- Identify ways good citizens go beyond basic civic and political responsibilities to improve government and society
- Describe the organizational structure and powers of the federal government
- Explain how popular sovereignty, rule of law, separation of powers, checks and balances, federalism, and individual rights limit the powers of the federal government as expressed in the Constitution and Bill of Rights
- Give examples of powers granted to the federal government and those reserved for the states
- Describe the amendment process as defined in Article V of the Constitution and give examples
- Identify the fundamental rights of all citizens as enumerated in the Bill of Rights
- Examine the foundations of the United States legal system by recognizing the role of the courts in interpreting law and settling conflicts.

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

- Read a variety of books related to the structure and formation of government
- Watch and discuss "hot topics" and compare current political leaders and their views to those of the founding fathers
- Create a Constitution for your household that outlines the rights and responsibilities of the members of your house
- Read about the Bill of Rights and discuss the importance of our individual rights as U.S. citizens
- Discuss the importance of voting and the struggles faced overtime by individuals who fought for the right to vote

