

FIFTH GRADE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The grade five program includes the classes below. Elective courses that can be added are detailed in our [course catalog](#).

CORE CLASSES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

To build foundational language and literacy skills, learners enjoy reading, comprehending and responding to a diverse collection of informational text, stories, dramas and poetry. Fifth grade learners write narrative, explanatory/informative and opinion pieces that encourage creativity and engage the learner with authentic assignments, such as writing a short story and researching to create a science journal article.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The learner journeys through the geography of the United States, studies the Americas and the early United States, and discovers how our country has modernized. During this course, learners will have the opportunity to work on their physical and political map skills, learn Native American origin stories and explore the history of the Constitution.

SCIENCE

Learners explore properties of matter, food chains in ecosystems, Earth's atmosphere and landforms, and motion in the sky. The course examines three science careers: a scientist, a conservationist and an astrobiologist. Experiments include exploring solubility, investigating hydroponics, graphing data and testing gravity.

MATH

Fifth grade math focuses on place value, adding and subtracting decimals and fractions, multiplying and dividing decimals and fractions, measurement and working with coordinate planes.

SPECIALS

ART

In fifth grade art, learners explore and create art inspired by famous artists, including Warhol, Durer, Haring, Van Gogh, Hopper and Ringgold. Learners explore pop art and expressionism, and learn how art communicates what the artist thinks and feels. Learners use art to communicate messages to the audience by creating paintings, sculptures, drawings and weavings that include multiple elements of art.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Learners develop the motor skills for healthy physical development and growth. This course provides learners with the knowledge and skills to live a healthy life. Topics include skills for sport and games, assessing physical fitness, creating an exercise program, nutrition, disease prevention and safety.

MUSIC

The fifth grade music course focuses on the elements of music: timbre, rhythm, melody, expression, form and texture. Each of the units engages learners in listening, reading, composing, arranging, performing, analyzing and describing music. Learners experience various musical genres, composers and performances from around the world.

SUCCESS SKILLS FOR LEARNERS

Learners build academic, social and emotional skills through a variety of learner-focused videos, stories, discussions, games and activities. Each unit introduces essential life skills, such as managing emotions, building empathy, self-exploration or problem-solving. Each unit also includes early explorations for college and career readiness.

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