



Grade 5

Curriculum Overview

ELA

Students continue learning about parts of speech with a particular emphasis on the proper use of nouns, pronouns, and punctuation when writing sentences and paragraphs. Learning these basic language tools will help with the fifth-grade writing standards as we learn more about how to write clear and detailed biographies or how to write supporting details to persuade someone to choose a point of view on a topic.

ELA Text: Voyages in English by Loyola Press

MATH

Our focus will be on learning how to read, write, and use fractions and decimals to solve problems. IXL is an exciting online learning tool each student will have access to use. This program will help meet individual student needs by allowing students to choose particular skills to work on and each at any desired level of difficulty. This program will also tutor students when they miss a problem and show them how to solve it. In addition to IXL, there will be daily time given for the teacher to work with individuals and small groups to re-teach concepts and help with questions on assignments. The students will enjoy working together in small groups to solve a “problem of the day” which builds cooperation and enthusiasm for math.

Math Text: enVisionmath by Scott Foresman

RELIGION

Students learn about how Christ gives us graces through the Seven Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage, and Holy Orders. Throughout the year, students will also learn more about and participate in the special liturgical seasons and celebrations in the Catholic faith. We will also learn and teach each other about the lives of different Saints and how we can follow their examples of holiness. Each week we will also go deeper in discussing the readings from the previous Sunday’s mass.

Religion Text: We Believe: We Meet Jesus in the Sacraments by Sadlier

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students will begin by learning about the early civilizations in North and South America. The knowledge of these peoples will give a foundation for a deeper understanding later in the year about European exploration and colonization of North America and ultimately leading to the American Revolution. In the spring, students will research the lives and accomplishments of various explorers and colonial leaders and present their information to the class.

Social Studies Text: myWorld interactive; Social Studies: Building Our Country by Pearson

LITERATURE:

Students will learn how to read literature in small groups or “book clubs” based on her/his NWEA reading scores and individual reading conferences with the teacher. Each student in a group will be responsible for presenting a different reading skill to the group each week (e.g. summarizing, predicting, making personal connections, or new vocabulary). The group will decide how many pages to read each week and when to meet with teacher guidance.

Students will also enjoy reading classic literature together and will be responsible for completing several comprehension and vocabulary assignments related to the text. These stories include *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* and *Bridge to Terabithia*. Other stories that will be read together will come from our reading series with a focus on relating to our Social Studies or Science curriculum.

Literature Text: Reading: Fantastic Voyage by Scott Foresman

SPELLING/HANDWRITING:

Each week students will receive a list of 20 spelling words based on various spelling patterns in English (e.g. words with the prefix *non* or *dis*) and an additional five vocabulary words as challenge words to spell. The challenge words will come from what is being learned that week in different subjects. The students will enjoy creating skits to help their classmates understand the meaning of these vocabulary words. Spelling tests will be given on Fridays (or Thursdays for some weeks). There will be some weeks with no spelling list or test due to a short week. The challenge words are optional and can be extra-credit points if spelled correctly.

Cursive handwriting will be taught each week and assignments will be expected to be written in cursive. Note-taking can be done in both cursive and/or manuscript.

Spelling Text: Spelling Connections by Zaner-Bloser

The text for cursive handwriting is by Zaner-Bloser