

FIFTH GRADE CURRICULUM

By the end of 5th grade, our goal is for students to think critically, work independently, and confidently apply their knowledge across subjects.

READING AND LITERATURE

- Read grade-level literature and informational texts with fluency, accuracy, and expression.
- Identify main ideas, supporting details, themes, character traits, and important story elements.
- Make inferences, draw conclusions, compare information, and support answers with evidence from the text.
- Determine the meaning of unfamiliar words using context clues, word parts, and reference tools.
- Summarize, analyze, and explain what they have read.
- Develop stronger vocabulary, comprehension, and independent reading skills.

Goal: Read increasingly complex material independently and demonstrate strong comprehension and critical-thinking skills.

LANGUAGE AND WRITING

- Write organized multi-paragraph compositions with clear ideas and supporting details.
- Use correct grammar, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and sentence structure.
- Identify and correctly use major parts of speech.
- Understand and use phrases, clauses, subjects, predicates, and different sentence structures.
- Write narratives, descriptions, reports, essays, and other organized compositions.
- Research, organize, and communicate information in writing.
- Revise, edit, and improve written work.
- Develop clear, mature, and effective writing habits.

Goal: Communicate ideas clearly and effectively through organized, grammatically correct writing.

MATH

- Work confidently with whole numbers, place value, decimals, and fractions.
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide whole numbers, fractions, and decimals.
- Develop strong multiplication and division fact fluency.
- Solve multi-step and real-world word problems.
- Work with ratios, percentages, measurement, geometry, and basic data concepts.
- Use estimation, mental math, and mathematical reasoning.
- Apply multiple strategies to solve problems and explain their mathematical thinking.
- Check work for accuracy and identify and correct errors.

Goal: Develop strong computational skills and confidently apply mathematical reasoning to increasingly complex problems.

HISTORY

- World & American History: Important civilizations, people, events, and ideas that have shaped history.
- Geography: Continents, countries, landforms, bodies of water, regions, maps, and how geography influences people and civilizations.
- Government & Citizenship: Forms of government, individual rights and responsibilities, and the development of nations.
- Historical Thinking: Understanding cause and effect, sequencing events, comparing civilizations, and connecting historical events to their lasting impact.

Goal: Build a broader understanding of world history, geography, government, and the people and events that have shaped our world.

Science

- Life Science: Cells, plants, animals, ecosystems, classification, and the characteristics of living things.
- Earth & Space: Earth's structure, rocks and minerals, weather, climate, natural resources, the solar system, and space.
- Physical Science: Matter, energy, forces, motion, electricity, magnetism, and other foundational physical science concepts.
- Scientific Skills: Observation, classification, investigation, experimentation, interpreting information, and drawing conclusions from evidence.

Goal: Develop a deeper understanding of scientific concepts while strengthening investigation, reasoning, and critical-thinking skills and recognizing God's design in creation.

BIBLE

- Important people, events, and truths from the Old and New Testaments.
- Key biblical doctrines and principles.
- Bible verses through regular memorization.
- Lessons of faith, obedience, wisdom, integrity, forgiveness, and responsibility.
- How Scripture applies to decisions, relationships, and everyday life.
- How biblical truth connects with learning in other subject areas.
- How to recognize and apply a biblical worldview when studying the world around them.

Goal: Grow in biblical knowledge and develop the ability to apply God's Word to everyday choices, learning, and relationships.

Class, Homework, and Grading Expectations



CLASSWORK & PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to arrive prepared, participate appropriately, complete assigned work, and demonstrate consistent effort. Students should take responsibility for their learning and contribute positively to the classroom environment.



HOMEWORK

Homework is a GCS standard and will be assigned every night. Homework is intended to reinforce instruction, provide opportunities for additional practice, and develop students' independence, responsibility, and time-management skills.



GRADING

GCS requires at least one test or quiz each week in every subject.

- **Tests: 35%**
- **Quizzes: 25%**
- **Classwork: 20%**
- **Homework: 10%**
- **Participation: 10%**

Our goal: To prepare students with the knowledge, skills, independence, and character needed to succeed in middle school and beyond.