



# Ellington Public Schools Curriculum Guide

## Grade 5

The Ellington Public Schools elementary curriculum is designed to enhance children's intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development, while supporting students in acquiring the skills needed to become collaborative and independent learners.

This document provides you with an overview of the skills, topics, and concepts that form the core curriculum at this grade level. The curriculum is aligned with the Common Core State Standards and other state and national standards in each content area.

Each child is viewed as a unique person with an individual pattern and pace of growth. Different approaches to learning and skill levels are expected, accepted, and used to design curriculum and instruction.



### **MATHEMATICS**

The mathematics program maintains a balance in the development of math concepts, basic skills and problem solving strategies. Students apply their knowledge of basic skills and concepts while working on meaningful and challenging tasks. In fifth grade, students will improve and develop their understanding and ability to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions, especially when solving word problems. The Bridges in Mathematics program is used as a resource for instruction.



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## **KEY FIFTH GRADE MATH SKILLS**

- Develop fluency with addition and subtraction of fractions;
- Develop an understanding of multiplication of fractions and of division of fractions in limited cases;
- Extend division to two-digit divisors;
- Develop an understanding of operations with decimals to hundredths;
- Develop an understanding of volume.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

Our language arts curriculum is aligned with the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and continues to spiral the skills students need in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. We approach the teaching of literacy through a balanced approach that supports students through reading workshop, writing workshop, word study, and small-group instruction.

## **READING**

In fifth grade students will read from a wide range of texts with increasing fluency and understanding as they move up the levels of text complexity. Students will practice reading closely from grade-level mentor texts, especially nonfiction texts, as they are supported through explicit reading instruction and then taught to transfer these close reading practices to their independent reading. As readers, they will be expected to quote accurately from the texts they have read when answering questions.

## **WRITING**

Our fifth grade writing curriculum builds upon the writing skills students developed in fourth grade and continues to provide students multiple opportunities to work on and improve their writing skills in narrative, argumentative, and informational writing. Fifth graders will learn to write stories and essays that are several paragraphs long and to use the conventions of grammar, usage, and punctuation within their writing.



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## **KEY FIFTH GRADE LITERACY SKILLS**

- Identify and judge evidence that supports the ideas in an author's argument;
- Integrate information from several text sources to answer questions;
- Write an argument with reasonable opinions and provide logically facts to support;
- Participate in class discussions elaborating on the ideas of others;
- Revise sentences to improve meaning and style of writing.

## **SCIENCE**

In fifth grade, students work toward formulating explanations to questions about the natural world such as, "When matter changes, does its weight change?", "Why do dead things disappear over time?", "How do lengths and directions of shadows or relative lengths of day and night change?", and "Why does the appearance of some stars change in different seasons?". Through various activities, explorations, and interactions, students will begin to build their understanding of complex phenomena in the world around them.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

With a focus on developing content-area literacy and inquiry skills, our fifth grade students learn about early American history from Exploration through the Revolutionary War. Units of study include Explorers, Colonial America, the Causes of the Revolutionary War, and the American Revolution. Lessons support students researching, analyzing and evaluating primary and secondary sources, writing and presenting, and using geography skills as part of the inquiry cycle in social studies.

## **MUSIC**

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### **Beginning Band**

This program introduces students to learning how to play a band instrument. It teaches proper instrumental care and technique. Weekly lessons and home practice are essential to the student's success in this program.

## **ART**

The art program develops an appreciation of art, introduces design elements, and gives opportunities to create art in a variety of media. Content is based on art appreciation, art history, art criticism, and art creation.

### **Physical Education**

The physical education program engages students in carefully planned and sequenced movement experiences, activities, and sports that enable them to learn about themselves and their world.

## **HEALTH**

The health education program provide students with opportunities to acquire the attitudes, knowledge and skills necessary for making health-promoting decisions. Students review that personal wellness has six dimensions; physical, emotional, social, mental, spiritual and environmental. Human growth and development lessons related to puberty are included and parent information presentations are scheduled prior to instruction.

### **K-6 Digital Tools Log-in & User Support**

[Click here for our family resource for logging into EPS Digital Tools and getting started using various tools](#)