

5th Grade Curriculum

Language Arts

FIRST SEMESTER

The fifth grade students will complete an in-depth study of grammar. The first semester will begin with a unit on nouns. The students will identify and use common, proper, singular and plural nouns. The use of possessive nouns, nouns as direct objects and nouns as indirect objects will be studied and subsequently incorporated into weekly writing activities. The students will also identify and use pronouns. Pronouns will be examined in the singular and plural forms. Students will become familiar with personal pronouns in addition to pronouns used as direct and indirect objects. After learning the various uses of pronouns, students are expected to demonstrate their uses in writing.

Descriptive adjectives are important components of good stories. We begin our study of adjectives identifying and using descriptive and proper adjectives. Our study will also include adjectives that tell how many and adjectives that compare. The next part of speech we will examine is verbs. We will learn about the important roles of action and being verbs, verb phrases, and irregular verbs. Students will become familiar with present, past, and future tense verbs as well. An examination of linking verbs and the role they play will complete this semester of grammar.

Throughout the first semester, students will be expected to demonstrate the uses of different parts of speech and rules of grammar. The students demonstrate knowledge by completing daily editing exercises and through weekly writing experiences throughout the curriculum.

SECOND SEMESTER

Our second semester of study begins with adverbs. We will learn about adverbs of time, place, and manner. We will concentrate on adverbs that compare and adverb clauses. Students will be challenged to use adverbs with other parts of speech that have been mastered. A study of prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections will follow.

The students will complete a thorough study of sentence structure. They will be challenged to identify and use simple subjects and simple predicates. Students will learn the proper order of parts of speech in a sentence. The skills involved in writing a good sentence will include compound subjects, compound predicates, compound subject complements and direct objects. We will continue to incorporate the use of proper capitalization and punctuation in writing across the curriculum.

We will complete our semester with the study of diagramming sentences. Students will learn how to diagram sentences by identifying and labeling the following parts of speech: subjects, predicates, direct and indirect objects, modifiers prepositional phrases and subject complements. Students will be taught how to diagram compound sentences as well.

This complete study of grammar facilitates the writing processes used throughout the fifth grade year. Students will be engaged in creating writing on an on-going basis. Student will participate in writing personal narratives, how-to articles, business letters, book reports and research reports.

Religion

FIRST SEMESTER

Our Religion curriculum is one that permeates throughout our daily activities. We strive to incorporate the Gospel values in all areas of study. The first semester of Religion will focus on how Jesus Christ blesses our lives and on the sacraments of initiation.

We begin the year by learning about the different ways Christ reveals God to us. Students explore the meaning of God and gain a deeper understanding of Jesus as both human and divine. We discover the good news of God's love. Students will examine the meaning of God's reign in their own lives. Jesus Christ blesses our lives. We learn how to be welcoming and forgiving just as He was.

The students will deepen their understanding of how the Church today carries on the mission of Jesus. All students will strengthen their understanding of and commitment to the sacraments of our church. The fifth grade students participate weekly in the sacrament of the Eucharist. They also regularly attend the sacrament of Reconciliation with the school and parish communities. An in-depth study of the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation lead us to a greater understanding of God's greatest gifts to us.

We complete our first semester with a study of the seasons of the liturgical year. Students will explore how the Church celebrates Mary and the saints. As we come to an understanding of God's presence with us throughout the year.

SECOND SEMESTER

We begin the second semester by learning about the importance of forgiveness in our lives. We examine Jesus' mission of forgiveness and celebrate the presence of His forgiveness in our lives. Next we examine Jesus' mission of healing. The students will come to a deeper understanding Jesus' love and concern for the sick and dying and the responsibility we are have to carry on His mission. Students will learn of the importance of respecting and caring for their bodies.

Our next are of study will be the sacrament of matrimony. Students will come to an understanding of the sacrament of Matrimony as a sacrament of service. We will continue our study sacraments of service by exploring the sacrament of Holy Orders. Students gain a deep understanding and appreciation for this important vocation. We will focus on the many ways we can serve the church by working for the reign of God.

The fifth grade students complete a thorough examination of the four marks of the Church: The Church Is One, The Church Shows It Is Holy, The Church Shows It Is Catholic, and the Church Shows It Is Apostolic. Students will learn what it means to live by the marks of the Church.

We will also examine the virtues of faith, hope, and love and how they help us live as children of God. We complete our year of religious studies by discussing how sacramentals help us to remember God's presence in our lives. We conclude the year by honoring Mary our Immaculate Mother.

Reading

FIRST SEMESTER

We will work to become fluent readers by reading classic and contemporary text throughout the year, from several different genres. To do this effectively, we will utilize the reading series to learn and practice necessary skills. These include: understanding vocabulary in context, making inferences, comparing and contrasting, sequencing, cause and effect, using graphic organizers, narrative elements, mood and tone, fact vs. opinion and the author's purpose and perspective. We will read a novel of one type of genre, learn vocabulary from the text, and practice thinking critically about what we are reading. We read aloud in class to improve fluency and pronunciation of words. Comprehension of material is reviewed and tested regularly through study guides, quizzes and tests.

SECOND SEMESTER

We will explore another genre of novel and utilize the reading and critical thinking skills that we have been building on. We will also continue to build our vocabulary skills by learning unfamiliar words from our novel and decoding long words. Again, comprehension of material is monitored closely. We also work on improving our writing skills by responding to various prompts coming from the novel. We will practice summarizing and finding the main idea of a text.

We will explore, analyze, and compose different types of poetry. We will learn how to read and critically examine poetry from a variety of authors. We will find out about how to use figurative language to improve our writing. Then, we will learn how to write Haiku, Lunas, Alliteration, Acrostics, and your traditional Quatrain. Then we will edit, revise, and publish our poems in an anthology, highlighting what we consider our best work.

Social Studies

FIRST SEMESTER

The students will engage in a comprehensive study of early United States History, beginning with ancient Americans, and moving through the Reconstruction period. Throughout the year, we will utilize our chart and graph skills, as well as interpret and create timelines and diagrams. We will begin with discussing the five themes of geography, how to use a globe, and how to read different types of maps. We move on to study the different regions of the United States, learning the location of the 50 States on the map. The students are also assigned a state to research and write on. We learn research skills such as note-taking, outlining, and citing sources, as well as practicing the writing process. We then learn about Columbus' voyage to the New World and then understand the causes and effects of European colonization in the United States.

SECOND SEMESTER

We will study the progression of the thirteen colonies, including reasons various groups immigrated to the colonies and the economy as the population in the colonies grew. We then move to the conflict between the colonies and Great Britain, events leading to The American Revolution, and the importance of The Declaration of Independence. We then explore how our nation was created, including the Articles of the Confederation, the events leading up and including the U.S. Constitution and the government that was established as a result. The students will examine and discuss the War of 1812, as well as the Industrial Revolution. Finally, the year will conclude as we examine causes of the Civil War and learn about the Reconstruction period that followed.

Math

FIRST SEMESTER

The students will learn place value through the billions and how to round whole numbers and decimals to the thousandths. They will review inverse operations, as well as addition and subtraction of whole numbers. The students will learn multiplication properties. They will multiply by one and two digit numbers.

The students will continue to multiply by two and three digit numbers. They will solve problems using the order of operations. They will learn the divisibility rules and begin to divide by one and two digits. The students will conduct surveys, read bar graphs and solve word problems.

SECOND SEMESTER

The students will identify geometric figures. They will classify angles, and use a protractor to measure them. The students will identify prime and composite numbers as well as find the greatest common factor and least common multiple. This quarter they will relate fractions to decimals, write equivalent fractions and write them in their simplest form. They will also begin to add and subtract fractions. The fifth grade will continue with fractions. They will learn mixed numbers and adding and subtracting with common and different denominators. The students will compare and convert fractions to decimals. The fifth grade will convert units of length and weight. They will find the perimeter and area of polygons.

Science

FIRST SEMESTER

During the first quarter, fifth grade will learn how living things are classified. They will understand how tissues, organs, and organ systems work together. They will learn how plants and animal cells reproduce. The students will learn how traits are passed from parent to offspring by drawing Punnett Squares. They will conduct a survey/experiment to view the various traits of fifth graders. The students will become familiar with various adaptations and how they assist organisms to survive. During the second quarter, the students will study ecosystems. They will discover the importance of consumers and producers in an ecosystem. The students will learn what food chains reveal and how food webs describe energy flow. They will classify matter and learn about atoms and its parts. They will practice using a periodic table to identify elements and how they are grouped. They will also explore compounds, mixtures and solutions.

SECOND SEMESTER

During the third quarter, the students will study forms of energy. They will explore the various layers of the Earth. They will discover what caused the continents to move and how they fit together. The students will learn about renewable resources and how to protect them. During the fourth quarter, the students will continue to discover how recycling and ways to prevent air pollution will help the environment. They will describe the structure of bones and joints and how body systems work together. They will learn the parts and functions of the brain. The fifth grade will identify ways that their bodies change.