



Student Expectations of Incoming Fifth Graders

The following skills expectations for incoming 5th graders should be considered as minimum expectations. It is recommended that all students continue to reinforce academic skills during the summer before entering 5th grade, especially in the areas of reading, basic math facts, and writing skills.

Religion

Students should be ready to:

- Study and comprehend the meaning behind all of the Church Sacraments.
- Recognize the attributes of God.
- Learn that the Holy Spirit is our Advocate.
- Recognize that we are called to serve the whole Church and others.
- Learn how to make moral decisions.

Language Arts

Students should be ready to:

- Learn about and be able to recognize the parts of a story. (Characters, Setting, Plot)
- Continue emphasis on vocabulary development.
- Develop the ability to apply reading skills to the content areas.
- Implement effective study techniques for the purpose of comprehension and retention.
- Expand spelling necessary for written communication.
- Demonstrate the ability to use a variety of resource materials.
- Use the writing process to construct a multi-paragraph theme including an introduction, body and conclusion.
- Carry out independent research including note-taking, outline, rough draft, and an edited, final copy.
- Continued emphasis on legible, cursive writing.
- Learn to use and apply spelling strategies (rules, patterns, and generalizations) when attempting correct spelling.
- Practice writing narrative, descriptive, and explanatory paragraphs using complete sentences and correct punctuation.
- Recognize, distinguish, and use the four types of sentences: Declarative, Exclamatory, Interrogative, and Imperative.
- Develop a fundamental knowledge of the parts of speech including nouns, pronouns, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, and verbs.
- Demonstrate fluency and appropriate expression during oral presentations.
- Demonstrate good listening skills and follow directions.
- Demonstrate letter writing skills.
- Engage in a variety of literature works including plays, fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.

Math

Students should be ready to:

- Demonstrate the multiplication and division of larger numbers.
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions and decimals.
- Demonstrate a grasp of geometric concepts of line, two-or-three dimensional shapes, and the mathematical procedures that accompany them such as perimeter, area, and volume as well as use of a protractor.
- Apply a variety of problem solving strategies.
- Interpret, select, and construct a graph from given data.

- Recognize the correct order of operations and the use of variables in an equation.

Science

Students should be ready to:

- Describe what scientists do.
- Explain how technology helps scientists solve problems.
- Classify and compare plant and animal structures, functions, and adaptations.
- Describe the parts and functions of the circulatory, nervous, and respiratory system.
- Interpret the interactions in an ecosystem.
- Distinguish the importance of weathering, conservation, water quality, and resources.
- Compare natural and energy resources.
- Describe matter and properties.
- Relate the properties of electricity and its sources as well as forces in motion.

Social Studies

Students should be ready to:

- Understand the diversity of our country to further a better understanding of our people and our way of living.
- Become familiar with the settlement of our country by different cultures and nationalities.
- Study the periods of conflicts and troubles which confronted our country from colonial times to the present.
- Gain an understanding of historical documents, including the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitutions.
- Examine national growth and power focusing on expansionism and progress in transportation and communication.
- Gain an understanding of using and interpreting maps.
- Recognize the contributions indigenous people of the Western Hemisphere made to our culture.
- Recognize current events as contributing factors to the growth and development of our nation.

Homework

Students in fifth grade should expect a daily required 45 – 60 minutes of homework. Some students may require more time based on work habits.

Support your child's learning by:

- Ensuring that your child comes to school rested, well fed, and ready to learn.
- Taking an interest in what your child is learning and recognizing your child's achievement and progress.
- Teaching your child appropriate and responsible behavior.
- Understanding the school rules.
- Working in cooperation with school and your child's teachers.
- Reviewing homework assignments and school work with your child daily.

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