

Parents' Guide to Student Success in *English Language Arts* 5th Grade

Why Are Academic Standards Important?

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. Standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. They also will help your child develop critical thinking skills that will prepare him or her for college and career.

Here are Some Things Your Child Will Be Working on in 5th Grade

- Reading and comprehending literary and informational text.
- Writing narrative, informational, and opinion text.
- Using appropriate grammar and conventions when writing.



Keeping the Conversation Focused:

When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything. Instead, keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In 5th Grade, these include:

- Comprehension.
- Writing.
- Grammar.

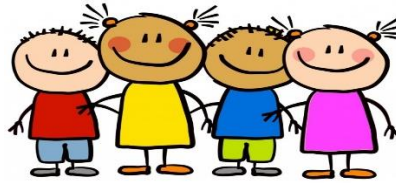
Help Your Child Learn at Home

Try to create a quiet place for your child to study, and carve out time every day when your child can concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics. Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

- Read with your child weekly
- Ask your child questions about what he/she has read
- Practice spelling commonly misspelled words
- Utilize a word of the week to enhance vocabulary

5th Grade

Nine Week Checkpoints for Parents and Students



Helpful Websites

www.readworks.org
www.newsela.com
www.commonlit.org

www.freereading.net
www.Myon.com
www.i-ready.com

First Nine Weeks

Students should know and be able to:

- Read literary text, including *Bud Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis (fiction).
- Quote accurately from the text.
- Answer explicit and inferential questions using evidence from the text.
- Write a summary.
- Identify characters, settings, events, and themes.
- Compare and contrast characters, settings, events, and themes.
- Use strategies to determine word meaning.
- Recognize chapters, scenes, and stanzas.
- Determine point of view (1st person, 2nd person, 3rd person).
- Write a narrative text.
- Use conjunctions, prepositions, and interjections.
- Use correct verb tenses.

Second Nine Weeks

Students should know and be able to:

- Read informational text (nonfiction).
- Quote accurately from the text.
- Answer explicit and inferential questions using evidence from the text.
- Identify multiple main ideas and details to support those main ideas.
- Write a summary.
- Identify relationships between individuals, events, ideas, and concepts.
- Use strategies to determine word meaning.
- Determine text structure (chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution).
- Compare and contrast events, ideas, concepts, or information.
- Determine author's point of view.
- Write an informational text.
- Use commas.
- Use underlining, quotation marks, or italics to indicate titles.

Third Nine Weeks

Students should know and be able to:

- Read narrative text, including *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen (fiction).
- Use strategies from first nine weeks.
- Write an opinion text.
- Expand, combine, and reduce sentences.
- Compare and contrast varieties of English.
- Use strategies to determine word meaning.
- Use Greek and Latin affixes and roots.
- Use reference materials.

Fourth Nine Weeks

Students should know and be able to:

- Read informational text (nonfiction).
- Use strategies from second nine weeks.
- Write narrative, informational, and persuasive texts.
- Interpret figurative language, idioms, adages, and proverbs.
- Understand synonyms, antonyms, and homographs.

