What every FIFTH GRADE student should know and be able to do!

A Message To The Reader

This resource provides an overview of the Mesa Public Schools’ expectations for fifth grade students in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies in order to be prepared for sixth grade.

The expectations listed are summarized from the Mesa Public Schools’ curriculum, which is aligned with Arizona’s College and Career Ready Standards. These performance standards have increased in rigor from past years and reflect the goals of the educational community to ensure all students receive an education essential to success in our local and global communities. For an additional source of information, go to the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA), http://www.pta.org/5th_Grade_June30.pdf

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

The goal of MPS is for every child to be successful and independent as he/she reads, writes, speaks, listens, and uses language. Recognizing the importance of reading practice, it is necessary to read to your child, read with your child, and encourage your child to read independently every day. It is equally important to support your child as he/she expresses ideas in writing.

Students should know and be able to …

Phonics and Word Recognition
- read multisyllabic words accurately

Fluency
- read grade-level text with purpose, understanding, accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression
- use context clues and self-correction strategies for understanding when reading text

Literature (fiction)
- draw inferences using evidence from the text
- use details from the text to determine a theme of a story, including how characters respond to challenges
- summarize the text
- compare/contrast stories using details in the text
- determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text
- determine the structure of stories, poems, and dramas
- describe how a narrator’s or speaker’s point of view influences how events are described
- analyze how visual/multimedia elements contribute to the text
- compare/contrast stories in the same genre

Informational Text (nonfiction)
- draw inferences using evidence from the text
- determine how main ideas are supported by key details
- summarize the text
- use evidence to explain the relationships between individuals, events, or concepts
- determine the meaning of academic words and phrases
- compare and contrast the structure in two or more texts
- analyze multiple accounts of the same event or topic, including the point of view
- locate information from multiple print or digital sources
- explain and identify an author’s reasons and evidence to support particular points
- integrate information from several texts on the same topic

Writing
- write opinion pieces supporting a point of view with clearly explained reasons and information

Writing continued
- write informative/explanatory pieces to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly
- write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences with descriptive details, and clear event sequences
- produce clear and coherent writing
- develop and strengthen writing by planning, revising, and editing
- use technology to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others
- conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge of a topic
- gather information from print and digital sources, summarize or paraphrase the information, and provide a list of sources
- draw evidence from literary and information texts to support analysis, reflection and research
- write routinely over extended and shorter time frames

Speaking and Listening
- come to discussions prepared and follow conversational rules
- ask and answer questions that contribute to the discussion and elaborate on the remarks of others
- review the key ideas expressed and draw conclusions based on information gained from the discussions

Conventions
- explain the function of different parts of speech
- form and use appropriate verb tenses
- use appropriate capitalization and punctuation
- spell grade-appropriate words correctly, using print and digital references as needed
- expand, combine, and reduce sentences to improve meaning

Vocabulary
- use context clues to determine meaning of a word or phrase
- determine the meaning of words using knowledge of affixes/roots
- use reference materials including digital resources
- recognize and explain the meaning of common idioms, adages, and proverbs
- build knowledge of academic words

MATH

The goal of MPS is for every child to be successful in developing the concepts and understanding of mathematics and to recognize the connections between mathematics and everyday life. Students should know and be able to …

Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- write and apply mathematical expressions using order of operations
- use number patterns and identify relationships in patterns

Number and Operations in Base Ten
- understand the value of multi-digit numbers in relation to place value
- read, write, compare, and round decimals to the thousandths
- multiply multi-digit whole numbers fluently

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MATH - Number and Operations in Base Ten
• solve problems involving division of numbers with up to four digits divided by two digits
• solve problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals to the hundredths place

Number and Operations - Fractions
• add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators, including word problems
• rewrite fractions in lowest terms or as a mixed number
• multiply a fraction or a whole number by a fraction
• find the area of a rectangle with fractional side lengths
• solve real world problems involving multiplication of fractions, mixed numbers, and division of unit fractions
• use the relationship between multiplication and division

Measurement and Data
• convert between standard measurement units; use these conversions in solving real world problems

Measurement and Data continued
• create line plots that include fractions and use operations on fractions to solve problems
• use math manipulatives to calculate volume
• solve real world problems relating to volume
• use operations on fractions to solve problems involving information from line plots

Geometry
• plot and interpret positive numbers on a coordinate plane using real world and mathematical problems
• understand attributes of 2-dimensional figures
• classify 2-dimensional figures based on properties

Mathematical Practices
• apply the eight Standards for Mathematical Practice such as problem solving, modeling, and logical reasoning to solve math problems

SCIENCE

Students should know and be able to …

Inquiry Process
• formulate testable questions and predications
• locate and use background research
• plan and conduct simple investigations based on student developed questions
• measure, record, and analyze data
• develop new questions and predictions
• communicate results of investigations

History and Nature of Science
• describe history of science as a human endeavor including diversity of people and science-related careers
• explain the cycle of how new scientific knowledge generates new scientific inquiry
• describe how scientific knowledge is subject to modification and/or change
• compare collaborative approaches that scientists use

Personal and Social Perspectives
• explain the impacts of natural hazards on habitats
• propose a solution, resource, or product that addresses a need
• describe the relationship between science and technology
• design and construct a technological solution to a common problem or need

Social Studies

Students should know and be able to …

American History (*These skills are repeated in World History.)
• interpret historical data and construct timelines*
• describe difference between and locate information using primary/secondary sources*
• discuss connections between current and historical events/issues studied*
• describe how archaeological research helps us understand the past*
• describe causes/effects of exploration and colonization, and how they shaped the U.S.
• describe events and historical figures in the American Revolution and Revolutionary War
• describe events of 19th Century presidencies
• describe factors leading to the Civil War and key figures in the reform movement prior to the war

World History
• describe effects of European exploration, trade, and colonization on other parts of the world
• explain rationale and characteristics of rebellion and the impact it has on society
• compare causes and outcomes of the American Revolution to others around the world

Civics/Government
• identify democratic principles associated with the Articles of Confederation, Mayflower Compact, Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, and Bill of Rights, and how each works
• recognize contributions of key figures in the creation of the American government
• describe how the checks/balance system works
• describe the importance of citizens being involved in the democratic process
• describe characteristics of a monarchy and republic

Geography
• describe how geographic features influenced events in the past
• describe and locate major natural and human features that define places
• describe ways European colonists and American Indians viewed and used the environment

Economics
• use economic concepts to examine historical events
• describe major institutions in the U.S. economy
• describe interaction of U.S. consumers/businesses
• describe costs/benefits of economic choices
• explain how personal finance options are used to purchase goods and services

Life Science
• identify functions and parts of the skeletal and nervous systems
• identify types of muscles
• distinguish between voluntary and involuntary response

Physical Science
• identify matter and describe changes in matter
• distinguish between mixtures and compounds
• describe the forces of gravity and friction
• examine forces and motion with simple machines
• demonstrate effects of variables on an object’s motion
• explain the concepts of flight

Earth and Space Science
• describe phases of the moon
• describe Earth’s rotation
• describe the role of gravity between celestial objects
• identify the planets and their characteristics
• describe changes in position and motion of objects in the sky
• explain motion of the Sun and stars
• describe efforts to explore space

For more information or to view the complete curricula contact your teacher or Curriculum Services Center, 549 North Stapley Drive, Mesa, Arizona 85203-7297
www.mpsaz.org (480) 472-0340

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