Parents Guide to Fifth Grade

Some Developmental Characteristics Displayed by Many Ten-Year-Olds

- Experience an overall feeling of well-being and seem to be at peace with self and the world.
- Have fleeting moments of being angry, depressed, or sad, but usually these times are quickly forgotten.
- Girls are beginning to show physical signs and an awareness of approaching puberty. Boys show few signs and far less concern about physical maturity.
- Appear to be stable with fewer fears and anxieties and have better relations with parents, teachers, and peers than ever before.
- Love family and enjoy family outings and activities.
- Generally like school and are conscientious students.
- Enjoy reading or being read stories of adventure and mystery. Biographies of famous people are a favorite, too.
- Are more interested in learning facts and memorizing than finding explanations.
- Boys’ relationships with friends are fluid and harmonious, while girls’ friendships are more intense with time spent getting mad and making up.
- Love to play! Are partial to outdoor activities such as baseball, bicycling, skating, climbing, and most of all running.
- Forming, planning, and joining a club are high on the list of favorite things.

Source:
Families, Schools, Communities Learning Together - Special Edition: Guide to Developing Grade-Level Brochures for Parents.
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Fall 1999

GRADE FIVE LEARNER EXPECTATIONS

LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading: Foundational Skills
- Reads and understands grade level text with accuracy and fluency (rate, automaticity, expression, phrasing, and purpose).

Reading: Literature
- Summarizes literary texts using details and accurate quotes, both orally and in writing.
- Interprets author’s technique for conveying meaning in literature.
- Integrates knowledge and ideas across multiple literary sources.

Reading: Informational
- Summarizes informational text using key details and accurate quotes, both orally and in writing.
- Interprets author’s technique for conveying meaning in informational texts.
- Integrates knowledge and ideas across multiple informational sources.

Writing
- Write opinion, informative/explanatory, and narrative pieces with effective choice of content, details, organizational format and sequence appropriate to task and audience.
- Develops and strengthens writing by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
- Conducts short research projects while taking notes, categorizing information, and using multiple sources.
- Applies fluent and legible cursive writing skills to written work.
- Uses technology to interact and collaborate with others and uses keyboarding to compose a minimum of two pages.

MATH

Speaking and Listening
- Takes part in conversations about grade level topics and texts.

Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Writes and interprets numerical expressions.
- Analyzes patterns and their relationships.

Number and Operations in Base Ten
- Explains values and patterns in whole numbers and decimals (multiples of 10).
- Reads, writes, and compares decimals to thousandths.
- Uses place value understanding to round decimals.
- Multiplies multi-digit whole numbers.
- Uses strategies to divide multi-digit numbers by 2 digit divisors and explains solutions using equations, arrays, and area models.
- Adds and subtracts decimals using strategies, properties, models, and explanations.
- Multiplies and divides decimals using strategies, properties, models, and explanations.

Number and Operations - Fractions
- Adds and subtracts fractions and mixed numbers with unlike denominators.
- Solves addition and subtraction word problems with unlike fractions using models and benchmarks.
- Solves word problems involving the division of whole numbers with answers in the form of fractions.
- Applies understanding of multiplication and division to solving problems with fractions.
- Interprets multiplication as scaling (resizing) by comparing, predicting and explaining the product.
- Uses models and equations to solve word problems involving multiplication of fractions and mixed numbers.

Measurement and Data
- Solves multi-step problems involving measurement and conversions.
- Interprets a line plot using unit fractions to solve problems.
**SCIENCE/HEALTH**

**Science Inquiry**
- Asks scientific questions.
- Plans and conducts investigations.
- Uses tools to gather data.
- Uses data to construct reasonable explanations.
- Communicates investigations and explanations.

**Physical Science**
- Understands the properties of matter and changes in properties of matter.

**Earth Science**
- Understands the process of change on the surface of the earth.

**Life Science**
- Understands identifiable characteristics of food and the effects of nutrition on health.

**Health**
- Understands concepts and practices behaviors to promote health and prevent diseases.

**BEHAVIORS OF LIFELONG LEARNERS**

**Collaborative Worker**
- Cooperates with others.
- Demonstrates respect and compassion for others.

**Community Contributor**
- Takes responsibility for self and materials.
- Accepts responsibility for actions.
- Demonstrates self-control.
- Participates appropriately in group discussion.

**Quality Producer**
- Initiates and completes tasks on time.
- Strives for accuracy, quality and neatness.

**Complex Thinker**
- Thinks, questions, and solves problems in a variety of ways.
- Demonstrates curiosity in learning.
- Demonstrates a willingness to try new experiences.

**MUSIC**
- Sings a song.
- Performs a song on a melodic instrument.
- Demonstrates rhythmic literacy concepts
- Demonstrates melodic literacy concepts
- Makes safe, respectful, and responsible choices.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**Geography: People, Places and Environment**
- Describes and locates features on maps and globes.
- Describes and gives examples of ways people interact with the environment.
- Identifies connections between the United States and the world.

**History: Time/Continuity and Change**
- Identifies and describes important events and famous people.
- Explains how people, places and events influence our lives.

**Government and Citizenship**
- Describes the purpose of our national government and the responsibility of its citizens.

**Economics**
- Describes how personal decisions (recycling, purchases and monetary contributions) affect the lives around him/her and the environment.
- Identifies national goods and services (imports/exports) as part of the global economy.
- Identifies the importance of money in society in the United States.

**VISUAL ARTS**
- Demonstrates ability to describe and interpret works of art.
- Uses basic art skills and techniques to produce quality works of art.
- Uses problem solving skills to make works of art that express original ideas.