

APS Middle School Special Subject Course Descriptions

Grade 5

ART

Grade 5 Visual Art

In fifth grade students will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of art styles and techniques. They will practice visual journaling and bookmaking by creating and working in a sketchbook. A heavy emphasis is placed on student choice in subject matter and finding individual voice in creating art. Students will have creative autonomy over artworks that challenge them to hone techniques with a variety of 2D and 3D materials. Their learning in ELA and history class will also be complemented by our study of historical and contemporary artists and movements and written artist statements. Students will leave fifth grade with an understanding of the basics of technical artmaking and the confidence to express their individuality through their creations.

MUSIC

Grade 5 General Music

Students will be able to independently use their learning to perform a variety of literature appropriate for the grade level on designated instruments, including, but not limited to, piano, recorder, ukulele, etc. Students will compose original melodies within specific parameters and perform I-IV-V chords. Additionally, students will analyze, interpret, and perform a variety of rhythmic passages including whole, half, quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes and/or rests.

Grade 5 Band

Beginner Band is the first level of the band program. In this class, students will have the opportunity to choose and learn a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument and continue with that chosen instrument in a group setting. The specific aim of the band program is to give the students the skills to read and perform music effectively at the beginner level. Students perform at (2) performances in the Winter and Spring.

Grade 5 Chorus

Fifth-Grade Chorus is a performing ensemble course that develops students' ensemble skills, vocal technique, and music literacy abilities. Fifth-grade choral students sing a variety of repertoire—mainly unison, partner songs, and rounds—that encompasses diverse cultures, styles, and time periods in preparation for several mandatory performances throughout the year. All repertoire will match students' current vocal development and will aid students in learning how to healthfully use their vocal instruments. No prior experience is required to join the fifth-grade chorus.

STEAM

Grade 5 STEAM

STEAM is where it all comes together. Students will use the engineering design process (EDP) and the 4C's (Collaboration, Communication, Creativity & Critical Thinking), combined with computational thinking to solve real world/everyday problems. Course opportunities include explorations of coding, an introduction to the EDP through build challenges, discovering electricity, and exhibit design and modeling.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & WELLNESS

Grade 5 Physical Education

The 5th grade student experience in Physical Education will consist of various types of movement activities and games. Emphasis will be for students to become competent movers in a variety of team, dual, and individual sports. The students will be able to apply basic strategies within these modified games and sports. The students will also be encouraged and expected to display positive sportsmanship within a competitive environment.