



**Gorham School Department
Curriculum Guide
Grade 5 Learning Expectations**

Our Mission

All Gorham Students are prepared and inspired to take on the complex challenges facing our current and future world.

Our Instructional Philosophy

We believe that all students can learn and that every student is entitled to outstanding instruction throughout their time in our schools. We are passionate about building and sustaining an inclusive and equitable learning environment for all students. We believe that student engagement and achievement improve when the components of our learning system – clear learning targets, aligned instruction and assessment, timely interventions, and grading/reporting that reflect those targets – are fully implemented in all grades and content areas.

The Guiding Principles and Our Code of Conduct

There are daily opportunities to teach and reinforce the Guiding Principles and our Code of Conduct. Students enhance these skills through daily classroom interactions in addition to academic areas of study.

Guiding Principles:

Clear and Effective Communicators
Self Directed and Lifelong Learners
Creative and Practical Problem Solvers
Responsible and Involved Citizens
Integrative and Informed Thinkers

Code of Conduct:

Responsibility
Respect
Honesty
Courage
Compassion

Introduction to Learning Expectations

Grade level standards are taught and assessed throughout each trimester. Learning targets are shared with students prior to instruction. Feedback is provided to students both informally and formally via coversheets, rubrics, checklists, etc. Summative assessments are entered into our grading platform which produces an overall grade for each Graduation Standard covered during the trimester. Our teaching and grading practices are aligned to the [Maine Learning Results](#). This document reflects grade level content and learning outcomes. These skills will prepare students with the foundation needed for success as they move to the next grade level.

Literacy

[K-5 ELA Standards](#)

[K-5 Reading General Criteria](#)

[K-5 Writing General Criteria](#)

Core Curriculum Material:

- Collaborative Classroom Components
 - The reading curriculum follows a continuum of reading development to meet each student at their instructional point of need and take them to their next level of literacy. Through whole-class, small-group, and individualized approaches to teaching both foundational skills and reading comprehension, students develop as proficient, competent readers who love to read, learn from, and talk about books.
 - Units of Study include explicit instruction and practice in the areas of Reading Strategies, Elements of Genre, Independent Reading, Fluency Practice, Word Study, Spelling and Vocabulary. Genre focus areas include:
 - Fiction
 - Narrative nonfiction
 - Expository nonfiction
 - Persuasive nonfiction
 - Drama
 - The writing component intrinsically motivates students through choice and independence. Rich, engaging mentor texts introduce students to a wide range of genres, and integrated social skills development gives students the tools needed to respectfully confer with one another, while developing ideas and sharing writing samples. Through daily independent writing with teacher and peer conferring, children grow into enthusiastic, skilled writers who write for authentic purposes and audiences. In addition, grade level language and grammar lessons are implemented.
 - Units of Study include:
 - The Writing Community
 - The Writing Process
 - Personal Narrative
 - Fiction
 - Expository Nonfiction
 - Fictional Writing
 - Opinion Writing
 - Poetry
 - Revising the Writing Community

Math

K-5 Math Standards

Core Curriculum Material:

- Reveal Math
 - Our math curriculum offers a balanced approach where students develop as problem solvers by incorporating both inquiry-focused and teacher-guided instructional strategies. Lessons support meeting students where they are in their learning, foster social emotional engagement opportunities, promote student reflection, support the development of problem solving skills, fact fluency and instructional routines.
 - Units of Study include:
 - Unit 1 = Math is..
 - Unit 2 = Volume
 - Unit 3 = Place Value and Number Relationships
 - Unit 4 = Add and Subtract Decimals
 - Unit 5 = Multiply Multi-Digit Whole Numbers
 - Unit 6 = Multiply Decimals
 - Unit 7 = Divide Whole Numbers
 - Unit 8 = Divide Decimals
 - Unit 9 = Add and Subtract Fractions
 - Unit 10 = Multiply Fractions
 - Unit 11= Divide Fractions
 - Unit 12 = Measurement and Data
 - Unit 13 = Geometry
 - Unit 14 = Algebraic Thinking

Science

K-5 Science Standards

Core Curriculum Material:

- Mystery Science
 - Our science curriculum offers standards aligned, hands-on lessons that encourage students to think like scientists. Students expand their understanding of the world around them through exploration, discussion and direct instruction.
 - Units of Study include:
 - Ecosystems and the Food Web (Web of Life Unit)
 - Stars & the Solar System (Spaceship Earth Unit)
 - Chemical Reactions & Properties of Matter (Chemical Magic Unit)

Social Studies

K-5 Social Studies Standards

Curriculum Material:

- Unit resources built and shared across the grade level
- Scholastic News
 - Our subscription to Scholastic News allows students to be exposed to non-fiction current events at a grade 5 reading level. Our social studies units of study contain a variety of resources that teachers across our three elementary schools have created as a team.
 - Units of Study include:
 - Constitution and Bill of Rights
 - Westward Expansion
 - The Civil War

Health

Maine Learning Results- Health Education

Curriculum Material:

- Puberty Happens Curriculum: Maine Family Planning
- Supportive Materials in conjunction with Puberty Happens
 - Our nurses provide a 3 hour 5th grade unit. Lessons include:
 - Review Puberty Changes
 - Male and Female Reproductive Systems
 - Menstrual Cycle
 - Path of Sperm
 - Human Reproduction Process -basic biology level

Skills for Life

Grade 5 Skills for Life

Skills for Life standards focus on building lifelong success through the development of skills that encompass taking responsibility for learning and behavior. Skills for Life are assessed separately from content grades. This allows emphasis on habits of work and executive functioning skills separate from academic achievement within content standards.

Outside the Classroom Experiences

Students will engage in weekly creative arts classes consisting of art, music, physical education and library and technology. In addition, grade 5 students across the district will have the opportunity to

attend an off campus learning experience at The Gulf of Maine Research Institute. Permission slips are required.

Assessment

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Content Area</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Classroom Formative and Summative Assessments	English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Skills for Life and Creative Arts	Throughout each trimester	To inform instruction To identify individual areas of strength and growth To monitor growth and achievement of grade level standards
Local and State Level NWEA/MEA Through Test	English Language Arts & Mathematics	Fall, Winter, Spring	To inform instruction To identify individual areas of strength and growth To monitor growth and achievement of grade level standards
State Level MEA Science	Science	Spring	

Reinforcing Learning at Home

- Connecting home and school will further support both academic and social skills development.
 - Attending fall and spring conferences will inform, connect and reinforce learning.
 - At the end of each literacy unit, families will receive a letter with suggestions to help you support your child's growth as a reader and writer.
 - At the beginning of each math unit, families will receive a letter describing what your child will learn, and how to support your child at home.
 - The Maine Department of Education offers the following resource to support your grade 5 student at home: [Family Guide](#) from Student Achievement Partners and Seek Common Ground.

Additional Questions

- If you have additional questions, please reach out to your child's teacher.
- You can find the Gorham School District's Policy Manual linked [here](#).