



**Middle Country Central School District**

**Parents Guide to Elementary Curriculum**

**Grade 5**

By the end of their fifth grade year, students should acquire the following knowledge and skills. Expectations here reflect current New York State standards in each subject area:

**Language Arts:**

The fifth grade language arts program is fully aligned with the NYS Next Generation ELA Standards and HMH Into Reading Program.

Fifth grade teachers provide ELA instruction through integrated modules, collaborative and individual work, and student-centered learning in order to make children active, independent learners and highly literate members of society. Professional development and literacy blocks support teachers and students.

The fifth grade reading instruction focuses on building fluency and enhancing the students' ability to accurately comprehend and evaluate more complex texts. Students learn to quote text while drawing inferences, determine main ideas and themes in texts, determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words, compare the structure of multiple texts, and integrate information to synthesize ideas. The fifth grade writing instruction enables students to participate collaboratively in the inquiry, research, and writing process that culminates in a fifth grade Capstone project. Students also use resources to produce clear and coherent opinion, informative, and narrative pieces that are appropriate for the intended task, purpose, and audience.

The following are this year's fifth grade modules:

Reading Units

Inventors at Work  
What a Story  
Natural Disasters  
Wild West  
Project Earth  
Art for Everyone  
Above, Below, and Beyond

Writing Units

Expository Essay  
Story  
Persuasive Essay  
Letter  
Editorial  
Personal Narrative  
Research Report

### Reading Units (cont.)

A New Home  
Unexpected, Unexplained  
The Lives of Animals

### Writing Units (cont.)

Lyric Poem  
Imaginative Story  
Letter to the Editor  
Realistic Story  
Narrative Poem

### **Mathematics:**

The goal of the mathematics curriculum is for students to develop number sense and procedural fluency as they progress through elementary school. Students will communicate and reason mathematically. They will become problem solvers by using appropriate tools and strategies through the study of number sense and operations, algebra, geometry, measurement, and data. This course of study is aligned with the New York State Next Generation Learning Standards for mathematics.

### Students will:

#### Number Sense, Operations, and Algebra

- Use parentheses, brackets, or braces in numerical expressions, and evaluate expressions with these symbols; Use the correct order of operations
- Identify relationships between corresponding terms
- Read, write, and compare decimals to thousandths
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals to hundredths
- Compare and order fractions and decimals using  $<$ ,  $>$ ,  $=$
- Divide three digit numbers by one and two digit numbers
- Round numbers to the nearest hundredth up to 10,000
- Estimate sums, differences, products, and quotients of decimals

#### Fractions

- Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators
- Use benchmark fractions and number sense of fractions to estimate mentally and assess the reasonableness of answers
- Interpret a fraction as division of the numerator by the denominator
- Multiply a fraction or whole number by a fraction
- Divide unit fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by unit fractions
- Solve real world problems involving division of unit fractions

#### Geometry

- Classify two-dimensional figures based on properties
- Calculate the perimeter of regular and irregular polygons
- Identify pairs of similar triangles and the ratio of corresponding angles
- Classify triangles and quadrilaterals by properties of their angles and sides
- Know that the sum of the interior angles of a quadrilateral is 360 degrees and that the sum of the interior angles of a triangle is 180 degrees
- Find a missing angle when given two angles of a triangle

- Identify and plot points on a coordinate grid

#### Measurement and Data

- Identify customary equivalent units of length
- Convert among different-sized standard measurement units within a given measurement system and use to solve multi-step, real world problems
- Make a line plot to display a data set of measurements in fractions
- Recognize and measure volume; solve real-world problems
- Convert measurement within a given system
- Determine the tool and technique to measure within an appropriate level of precisions: lengths and angles
- Justify the reasonableness of estimates
- Collect and record data from a variety of sources
- Calculate the mean for a given set of data and use to describe a set of data
- Record experiment results using fractions/ratios

#### **Social Studies:**

The ultimate goal of the social studies curriculum is for students to assume their role as responsible citizens and as active contributors to a society that is increasingly diverse, and interdependent with other nations of the world. The Middle Country social studies program is fully aligned with the standards and practices in the NYS K-12 Social Studies Framework.

In fifth grade, students study the Western Hemisphere including geography, the development of cultures, civilizations, and empires; the interaction between societies; and the comparison of the government and economic systems. Topics span from prehistory into modern times. The social studies curriculum also reinforces social studies specific skills and practices and interdisciplinary connections with ELA, science, and math.

#### Fifth grade units include the following:

- Geography of the Western Hemisphere
- Early peoples of the Americas
- Complex societies and civilizations: Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas
- European exploration and its effects
- Comparative cultures and histories in the Western Hemisphere
- The governments of the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Caribbean and South American nations
- The struggle for equality and rights in the Western Hemisphere
- The economies of the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Caribbean and South American nations
- Cooperation and interdependence in the Western Hemisphere

**Science:**

In accordance with New York State Science Standards, the Middle Country Central School District emphasizes a hands-on and minds-on approach to learning. Students actively engage in the discovery process, utilizing science and engineering practices to explore scientific concepts. Experiences provide students with opportunities to interact with the natural environment in order to construct explanations about their world. This approach allows students to practice problem-solving skills, develop positive science attitudes, learn new science content, and explore how to think like scientists and engineers.

**Fifth grade units include the following:**

- Scientific Inquiry: The Nature of Science
- Properties of Matter
- Earth's Major Systems
- Life Science: Ecology

**Special Areas:**

Music, Art, Health, Physical Education, Library/Character Education and Technology are an important part of your child's educational experience. By participating in special area programs, children are introduced to the fundamentals of each specific discipline, then involved in learning situations which are applications of basic concepts. In all of them, active experiences are provided and children are encouraged to express themselves and to communicate through various subject area media.

**MUSIC:**

Through singing, listening and movement activities, children learn to differentiate between high and low pitches, recognize groups of metric units, respond orally to the rhythmic flow of music, determine melodic direction (up and down), express personal reaction to consonance and dissonance, begin to recognize that music consists of organized sounds and silences, and learn to distinguish between "soft" and "loud".

**ART:**

Emphasis is placed on eye-hand coordination and manipulation tasks. Children are asked to cut, fold, tear, paste, paint, draw, sculpt, and make crafts. Through these activities, students can communicate their concepts vis-à-vis their completed art projects.

**HEALTH:**

The health curriculum focuses on the whole child by analyzing physical, social and emotional well-being. Children learn to make responsible health related decisions.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION:**

The curriculum stresses personal living skills in all grades. They begin to develop a sense of the importance of cardiovascular wellness and music fitness. Movement skills are taught which deal with safety and creativity. The entire area of positive self-esteem is developed through various activities. Social emotional learning is also addressed as part of the curriculum.

**CHARACTER EDUCATION/LIBRARY:**

Through literature, students will delve into the areas of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills. Students will learn how to manage emotions and behaviors, discern how to make responsible and caring decisions, and set personal goals.

**TECHNOLOGY:**

Our technology program is designed to support classroom academic instruction with 1:1 devices. All students are issued their own ChromeBook allowing students access anywhere they have internet access. District subscribed, web-based supplemental products support instruction across all subject areas.

**MISSION:**

The mission of the Middle Country Central School District is to empower and inspire all students to apply the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to be creative problem-solvers, to achieve personal success, and to contribute responsibly in a diverse and dynamic world.

