



AISL Grade Five Syllabus

Literacy

Fifth grade students will continue to build an understanding and appreciation of literature, themselves, and the cultures of the US and the world through careful reading of literary works such as historical fiction, poetry, modern realistic fiction, biographies, plays, short stories, and novels. They will also read materials in core subject areas to acquire information, understand major ideas, answer questions, and solve problems. Fifth grade students will improve their ability to use spoken language in knowledgeable reflective, creative, and critical ways. They will use communication skills to exchange, interpret, and evaluate information and formulate and express a point of view. Students will use Standard English in speaking and writing. Fifth grade students will apply the proper use of conventions in writing (spelling, punctuation & capitalization, grammar & paragraphing), as they complete error-free final drafts.

Social Studies/African Studies

Fifth grade students will develop an understanding of the characteristics of responsible citizens. Students will study the history, culture, and geography of the United States and develop an understanding of its many people and their backgrounds. They will have a strong sense of the past and understand the rapidly changing world in which they live. The study begins with the migration of people to the North and South American continents and continues to the Reconstruction of America. Emphasis is placed on the effects of exploration and settlements, and major historical events and figures. In addition, the structure of the United States government and its role in relation to its neighbors will be examined. Students will continue to develop critical thinking skills and acquire and use new information.

African Studies: Fifth grade students will develop an understanding of the roles and characteristics tribal members and ethnic groups have in their community and regions. Students will study the culture, political system, and history of Nigeria. The study begins with the tribal boundaries of Nigeria and extends to the present day. Emphasis will be placed on Nigeria before the European occupation and Nigeria's government in transition. (?) In addition, students will examine the role of Nigeria with its neighboring countries.

Math

Fifth grade students will expand their understanding of concepts related to whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. They will compute and solve problems using both concrete manipulative and abstract examples, with emphasis on the use of math language in oral and written communication. They will apply these skills when problem-solving, working with formulas, and solving simple algebraic equations. They will demonstrate their understanding of geometric transformations including translations, reflections, and rotations. They will learn to find mean, median, and range of sets of data. They will solve more complex measurement problems involving area and volume.

Science

Fifth grade students will focus on the process of doing investigation, develop the ability to ask scientific questions, investigate aspects of the world around them, and use their observations to construct reasonable experiments and explanations. Students will develop general abilities to complete systematic observations, make accurate measurements, and identify and control one variable.

P.E.

Students will continue to participate in developmental activities related to muscular strength and endurance, flexibility and cardio-respiratory endurance. Students will also be involved in fitness testing and appraisal and activities to develop power, agility, speed, coordination, reaction and balance.

Music

Fifth grade students will sing familiar and increasingly difficult new songs. They will continue to study the elements of music including reading and using the standard symbols to notate meter and rhythm. They will continue play the soprano, alto, tenor, and bass recorder. In addition, they will be introduced to the flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, and trombone, and play the instruments as part of an ensemble.

Arts

Students at this level continue to create art based on a variety of sources. Lessons emphasize creating art to communicate ideas, to portray action and movement and to express feelings. Students make sketches to explore and try ideas. This level introduces students to proportions, perspectives, and color interactions and other design styles and kinds of artwork. Students compare and contrast visual qualities in various kind of art, such as expressive, imaginative, representational, abstract, decorative, and functional. Students become aware of criteria of judging their own and others arts. Students learn to use perceptual skills developed in earlier grades to discern more subtle and complex visual relationships in the environment.

French

Fifth grade students will study the French culture. They will focus on tourist needs in transportation and popular sporting activities. Students will also compare French and American shopping habits for clothing and food. They will continue to build vocabulary and be introduced to a wider range of irregular verbs and grammatical structures to help expand their writing and conversational skills. They should be able to understand a variety of French speakers and written materials within the scope of their acquired vocabulary and grammar.

Technology

Students will continue to learn how to care for computers properly and understand the ethical issues pertaining to computers and their use. They will know and demonstrate correct finger placement, finger reach and body position while keyboarding. They will produce quality work to enhance various curriculum areas. They will proofread and edit documents for conventions in writing (spelling, punctuation & capitalization, grammar & paragraphing). They will operate and use information input and output devices like keyboard, scanner, network, printer, and monitor. Students will use electronic encyclopedias and Internet resources for information. In line with integration across the 5th grade curriculum, students will perform basic graphing and display functions and create multimedia project presentations, using technology tools (digital cameras, scanners) and technology resources (educational software).

Library

Fifth grade students expand their ability to locate and determine the best reference materials to complete class assignments. They learn to state simple research questions and take useful notes from multiple sources. Library and research skills are coordinated with the grade level curriculum and are taught by the librarian within the assigned library class time and by the classroom teacher.

Exploratory

It is an extension of the P.E. program. It is based on building a basis for healthy leisure activity for life. Students will build up stamina, endurance, and proper breathing techniques.

Band

Beginning Band in Grade 5 offers students the opportunity to learn music through performance of a band instrument (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, percussion, etc.) and to perform in an ensemble. No previous instrumental performance experience is required.