



## FIFTH GRADE CURRICULUM

**IN FIFTH GRADE LITERACY ESSENTIALS** our students will:

- write three types of essays: informative, narrative, and persuasive
- learn basic grammatical elements of a sentence by sentence diagramming
- study Latin and Greek roots and their English derivatives (“English from the Roots Up”)
- learn the basics of composition: introduction, lines of argument, and conclusion

**IN FIFTH GRADE LITERATURE** our students will read or listen to:

- novels such as Tom Sawyer, The Secret Garden, and The Wind in the Willows
- stories about Sherlock Holmes and from the works of Shakespeare
- Poems such as “O Captain! My Captain!” by Whitman and “The Tyger” by Blake
- Myths and legends such as “The Samurai’s Daughter” and “The Sun Dance”

**IN FIFTH GRADE HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY** our students will:

- memorize and identify the Great Lakes of the World
- study the Renaissance, Reformation, Counter-Reformation, and English history
- study the early growth and expansion of Russia and related geography
- study the history and culture of feudal Japan and related geography
- study the history of Antebellum America, the Civil War, and westward expansion

**IN FIFTH GRADE MATH** our students will:

- add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions
- find the area of triangle and the volume of cuboids
- understand and apply the order of operations to mathematical problems
- analyze data using coordinate graphs and straight line graphs

**IN FIFTH GRADE SCIENCE** our students will:

- classify living things by kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species
- study the structures and processes of cells in both plants and animals
- examine the asexual reproductive processes of fission, spores, budding, etc.
- study the human endocrine system, including the types of glands and their functions

**IN FIFTH GRADE ART** our students will:

- study the major works of art from the Italian and Flemish Renaissance
- become familiar with Renaissance architecture such as the Florence cathedral, etc.
- draw, paint, and sketch perspectives using a horizon line and vanishing point

**IN FIFTH GRADE MUSIC** our students will:

- take rhythm dictations and write their own original rhythm using standard notation
- listen to instrumental and choral music of the Renaissance era
- sing the fifth grade repertoire including “God Bless America,” “Greensleeves,” and “Dona Nobis Pacem”

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**IN FIFTH GRADE**  
our students read:

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer  
Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland  
Narrative of the Life of Frederick  
Douglass  
Macbeth  
Romeo and Juliet  
Hamlet  
Sherlock Holmes Mysteries  
“The Samurai’s Daughter”  
“Coyote Goes to the Land of the  
Dead”  
The Secret Garden

**IN FIFTH GRADE**  
our students memorize:

“The Eagle”  
“Jabberwocky”  
“The Tyger”  
“O Captain! My Captain!”  
“The Road Not Taken”  
“Gettysburg Address”