



Fifth Grade Student Profile

WHY ARE THERE LEARNING STANDARDS FOR OUR CHILDREN?

Every day our world becomes more complex and demanding. To succeed beyond high school, students must be better prepared than at any time in the history of our state. Our expectations for our students and our schools are higher than they have ever been.

To meet these expectations, the State Board of Education has adopted a curriculum for all Texas schools-Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). These learning standards will help ensure that all students meet the challenges ahead of us as we move into the next century.

- Each student must become a more effective reader.
- Each student will have to know and apply more complex mathematics.
- Each student needs to develop a stronger understanding of science concepts, especially in biology, chemistry, and physics.
- Each student must master a wider range of technology.

The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills identify what Texas students should know and be able to do at every grade and in every course in the foundation and enrichment areas as they move successfully through our public schools.

The enclosed information summarizes the TEKS at your child's grade level in the four foundation areas of English Language Arts and Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

If you would like to see all of the TEKS that your child will learn, ask a teacher or principal to show you a copy; or order the TEKS from the Texas Education Agency; or, see <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/resources/curric.html>.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING

In fifth grade language arts, your child will learn:

LISTENING/SPEAKING. Students will:

- analyze a speaker's message for content, persuasive technique, and tone
- distinguish between a speaker's opinion and verifiable fact
- listen to proficient models of oral reading of classic and contemporary works
- identify how language, such as labels and sayings, reflect regions and cultures.

READING. Students will:

- read and comprehend a variety of fifth-grade-level texts
- draw inferences from text and support these conclusions and generalizations with evidence from the text
- offer observations, make connections, react, speculate, interpret, and raise questions in response to text
- generate relevant research using multiple sources of information
- demonstrate characteristics of fluent and effective reading
- use a thesaurus, synonym finder, dictionary, and software to clarify meanings and usage
- support responses to readings by referring to relevant aspects of the text and their own experiences.

WRITING. Students will:

- compose original texts applying the conventions of capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and correct spelling
- compose and organize, and revise letters, essays, records, and research papers
- use suspense, dialogue, and figurative language in original compositions
- write to persuade, argue, and request
- engage in the writing process and refine selected drafts to publish for general and specific audiences

VIEWING/REPRESENTING. Students will:

- describe, interpret, and use visual media to compare ideas and points of view
- analyze, critique, and contrast the messages found in visual media
- produce class newspapers, multimedia reports, and/or short films

NOTE: Students of limited English proficiency (LEP) enrolled in Spanish Language Arts and/or in English as a Second Language will be expected to learn these same knowledge and skills for this grade level; however, students in Spanish Language Arts will learn these skills through their native language and apply these skills at their proficiency level in English.

MATHEMATICS

In Fifth grade mathematics, your child will learn:

NUMBERS, OPERATIONS, AND QUANTITATIVE REASONING. Students will:

- read, write, compare, and order whole numbers through billions
- read, write, compare, and order decimals through thousandths
- generate equivalent fractions
- compare fractions in a variety of ways
- relate decimals to fractions using models to the thousandths
- add, subtract, multiply, and divide whole numbers
- add and subtract decimals
- identify prime and common factors
- model adding and subtracting fractions with like denominators
- round whole numbers and decimals to tenths
- estimate to solve problems

PATTERNS, RELATIONSHIPS, AND ALGEBRAIC THINKING. Students will:

- determine all possible combinations
- use patterns to make generalizations

- identify prime and composite numbers
- select and use diagrams and number sentences

GEOMETRY AND SPATIAL REASONING. Students will:

- identify critical attributes of geometric figures or solids
- use critical attributes to define shapes and solids
- sketch translations, rotations, and reflections
- describe transformations that relate to congruent figures
- graph ordered pairs of whole numbers

MEASUREMENT. Students will:

- measure volume using concrete models
- estimate volume in cubic units
- measure length, perimeter, weight, capacity, time, temperature, and area to solve problems and describe equivalent measures

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS. Students will:

- construct line graphs
- describe characteristics of a set of data
- graph data using the appropriate representation
- use fractions to describe results of an experiment
- use results to make predictions

PROBLEM SOLVING. Students will:

- identify mathematics in everyday situations
 - use a problem-solving model that incorporates understanding the solution for reasonableness
 - select or develop an appropriate problem-solving strategy

 - explain and record observations
 - relate informal language to mathematical language and symbols
 - make generalizations from patterns
 - justify why an answer is reasonable and explain the solution process
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SCIENCE

In fifth grade science, your child will learn:

FIELD AND LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS. Students will:

- demonstrate safe, environmentally appropriate, and ethical practices
- learn to use and conserve, dispose and recycle resources

SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY. Students will:

- plan and implement investigations, ask well-defined questions, formulate hypotheses, select and use equipment, collect, analyze and interpret information, observe and measure, and communicate valid conclusions
- construct graphs, maps, charts to organize and evaluate information

CRITICAL THINKING, PROBLEM SOLVING, AND DECISION-MAKING SKILLS. Students will:

- analyze scientific explanations as to strengths and weaknesses
- draw inferences on promotional materials
- represent the natural world using models
- evaluate research on scientific thought, society, and the environment
- connect concepts with history of science and contributions of scientists

TOOLS AND MODELS. Students will:

- use scientific methods and tools, including sound recorders, computers, hands lenses, thermometers, compasses, balances, magnets, meter sticks, collecting nets, and safety goggles to collect information
- show that repeated investigations may increase reliability of results.

SYSTEMS, CYCLES, AND CHANGE. Students will:

- describe cycles, structures, interactions, and processes found in systems and life cycles
- identify events and describe changes that occur on a regular basis and the significance of water, carbon, and nitrogen cycles

MATTER AND ENERGY. Students will:

- investigate physical states of matter
- describe light, sound, heat, and electricity as forms of energy
- demonstrate how some mixtures and solutions maintain physical properties of their ingredients
- differentiate forms of energy including light, heat, electrical, and solar

ADAPTATION. Students will:

- explore and predict adaptations
- describe an organism's niche within an ecosystem
- examine traits that are inherited by offspring from their parents
- study examples of learned characteristics

PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS. Students will:

- see that growth, erosion, and dissolving are examples of past events that have effected present events

PROCESSES OF THE NATURAL WORLD-EARTH MATERIALS AND OBJECTS IN THE SKY.

Students will:

- interpret how landforms develop
 - describe processes responsible for coal, gas, and minerals
 - compare physical characteristics of the Earth and Moon
- identify gravity as a force that keeps planets and the Moon in orbits

SOCIAL STUDIES

In the fifth grade social studies, your child will learn:

HISTORY.

Students will:

- explain causes and effects of European colonization
- summarize how conflict between the American colonies and Great Britain led to American Independence
- describe events that led to the creation of the U.S. Constitution
- identify important social changes of the 19th century, including the Industrial Revolution, westward

expansion, and the Civil War

- describe important issues, events, and individuals of the 20th century

GEOGRAPHY.

Students will:

- use geographic tools to collect, analyze, and interpret data
- describe political, economic, and physical regions in the United States
- explain the location and patterns of settlement and the geographic factors that influence where people live in the United States
- describe how people in the United States adapt to and modify their environment

ECONOMICS.

Students will:

- explain basic economic patterns of early societies in the United States
- identify economic motivations for exploration and colonization
- describe the characteristics and benefits of the free enterprise system in the United States
- explain patterns of work and economic activities in Texas

GOVERNMENT.

Students will:

- identify examples of representative government in the American colonies
- identify important ideas in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution
- describe the framework of government created by the U.S. Constitution

CITIZENSHIP.

Students will:

- explain important customs, symbols, and celebrations that represent American beliefs
- explain the importance of individual participation in the democratic process
- identify leaders of the national government
- summarize fundamental rights of American citizens

CULTURE.

Students will:

- explain the relationship between the arts and the times during which they were created
- identify the contributions of people of various racial, ethnic, and religious groups to the United States

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY.

Students will:

- describe the impact of science and technology on life in the United States

SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS.

Students will:

- apply critical-thinking skills, communicate effectively, and use problem-solving and decision-making processes

