

FIFTH GRADE

QuickFacts



Fifth grade marks a transition from the grammar stage to the logic stage within the Trivium. You may notice your child's curious nature turning to a more critical, "why focused" nature. We will work to develop the habits of mind and character needed to engage the challenging work of the coming adolescent years.

Subjects We Study

LITERATURE:

- Explore characters, setting, plot, theme, plot, and hero's cycle
- Assign character traits according to the actions of the characters
- Discuss theme, connecting literary concepts and experiences to our everyday life

- Find words that are exceptions to those rules
- Develop grammatical understanding, classify words, and build vocabulary

SCIENCE:

- Science Through History (Berean Builders)
- Focus on life science, physical science, earth science, and the human body
- Compile sketches and observations in individual nature study journals
- Practice in a lab setting (twice a week)

WRITING AND RHETORIC:

- U.S. History-Based Writing Lessons (Institute for Excellence in Writing)
- Create Outlines
- Write paragraphs of 6-8 sentences
- Vary sentence structure in our writing
- Complete a research paper

MATH:

- Math in Focus (a version of Singapore Math)
- Develop quantitative reasoning skills
- Turn abstract problems into concrete pictures
- Practice computing, solving, and attending to detail

GRAMMAR:

- Shurley English
- Learn and use parts of speech
- Diagram Sentences

GEOGRAPHY:

- Spell to Read and Write (Wanda Sanseri)
- Learn spelling rules and applications
- Legends and Leagues: West (Veritas Press)

History Cycle

- *THE STORY OF THE WORLD VOLUMES III AND IV: EARLY MODERN TIMES AND THE MODERN AGE*
- AMERICAN HISTORY

Bible Cycle

- THE BOOK OF ACTS
- CATECHISM QUESTIONS 76-100

Fine Arts and PE

- WEEKLY MUSIC AND ART CLASSES (TWICE A WEEK)
- BATTLE MASTERS & GRACE AND STRENGTH, INCLUDES ARCHERY FOR GIRLS (TWICE A WEEK)
- RECESS DAILY

EXAMPLES OF BOOKS WE READ

- The Hobbit*
by J.R.R. Tolkien
- Tuck Everlasting*
by Natalie Babbitt
- Where the Red Fern Grows*
by Wilson Rawls
- Phantom Tollbooth*
by Natalie Babbitt
- Heidi*
by Johanna Spyri
- The Princess and the Goblin*
by George McDonald

EXAMPLES OF PIECES WE RECITE

- "The Charge of the Light Brigade"*
by Alfred Lord Tennyson
- "Music on Christmas Morning"*
by Anne Bronte
- "Casey at the Bat"*
by Earnest Lawrence Thayer
- "The Concord Hymn"*
by Ralph Waldo Emerson
- Selections from *The Declaration of Independence*
- "Verses Upon the Burning of Our House"*
by Anne Bradstreet
- "Christmas Carol"*
by Paul Laurence Dunbar

Class Traditions to Look Forward to

READING BUDDIES Each year, 5th grade students are paired with 1st grade students as reading buddies. Throughout the year, the 5th grade students enjoy helping the younger students develop their reading skills. It is one of our favorite traditions!

CELEBRATION OF DURIN'S DAY A celebration where students come together dressed as hobbits and dwarfs and enjoy a bonfire and hearty feast to celebrate the first day of the last moon of autumn on the threshold of winter.

SHILOH FIELD TRIP Students tour one of the best-preserved Civil War battlefields and learn what life was like for the soldiers as they reinforce their study of the Civil War.

DEBATE In order to practice rhetoric, the fifth-grade class engages in formal debates over important topics relevant to literature and history.

Mrs. Murila's favorite subjects are literature and history. She loves that these subjects open the door for growth in wisdom and godliness in her students as they discover truth and deepen their love for God. Fifth grade is a wonderful time of discovery, and she can't wait to begin the journey with you!