

FIFTH GRADE CURRICULIM FRAMEWORK

Language & Literacy

By the end of the fifth grade year, a student at Mallinckrodt Academy will have acquired and be able to apply the following skills in language and literacy:

- Determine the theme of something they read and support their answers with evidence from the text.
- Compare poems, stories and historical novels, explaining the plot of each and how the characters react to the action.
- Use a number of reading strategies to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.
- Learn both the figurative and implied meaning of words and phrases.
- Identify specific claims or arguments in reading materials and decide how valid they are.
- Participate in class discussions and do short research projects using many sources to answer a specific question.
- Identify themes of stories, poems and plays by looking at how characters respond to challenges.
- Compare stories and poems that talk about the same theme.
- Support ideas with facts and details from a text.
- Use information from many different sources (books, articles, websites) to find an answer to a question or problem.
- Learn the conventions of Standard English and learn topic-related vocabulary (such as science words) to use in writing and speaking.
- Understand similes, metaphors and other figurative language.
- Participate in conversations and discussions, not only by listening, but also by asking questions and adding their own ideas.

Writing

By the end of the fifth grade year the Mallinckrodt students will be able to:

- Use a formal method of note-taking.
- Give presentations, tell stories and write reports, research papers and opinion essays in a logical order and with supporting details.
- Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence, write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
- Write an organized answer in response to a question.
- Use research skills of gathering information as well as interpreting, organizing and presenting it in oral and written formats
- Use the writing process to prewrite, draft, revise, edit and publish.
- Express, discover, record, develop, and reflect on ideas.
- Problem solve and produce texts of at least 500 to 700 words
- Write responsibly using narrative, expository persuasive, and creative writing
- Write cohesive responses to literature.

Math

Mathematics becomes a more obvious component of everyday life and real world experiences. Students learn to:

- Explore ratios and proportional relationships.
- Understand the Number System and apply and extend previous understanding of multiplication and division to multiply and divide fractions.
- Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples and apply and extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions.
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume;
- Find the area of right triangles, other triangles, special quadrilaterals, and polygons in the context of solving real-world problems
- Investigate statistics and probability.
- Use the properties of operations to solve problems, including those of area and volume. (For example, know that $2(5 + x)$ is the same as $10 + 2x$.)
- Understand that solving a problem with a symbol is asking “what number does this symbol stand for to make the problem correct?” (In order for $2 + x = 10$ to be right, x has to equal 8.)
- Understand that assigning different values to independent variables affects the value of dependent variables. (In the equation $y = 3x - 2$, the value of y depends on the value assigned to x .)

Science

Fifth graders have observed and experimented to gather data and draw conclusions and have experienced:

- The Science Education of Public Understanding Program
- STEM Education
- Weekly activities in the Science Lab that supports classroom instruction
- Engineering is Essential kits that encourage students to become experts in various fields of engineering, mathematics, science and Technology.
- Earth and space systems, properties of matter and energy, and ecosystems.

Social Studies

Fifth graders learn about political science, government and geography. They are able to:

- Explore political science and analyze the characteristics and structure of various systems of government around the world.
- Analyze how governments, organizations, and policies around the world protect or fail to protect the rights of individuals and groups
- Use geographic tools to locate places and describe the human and physical characteristics in early world history.

Technology

All fifth grade students have iPads available to enhance their learning, teaching and products. iPads are an integral part of the teaching a learning day and are used not only for research and Accelerated Reading activities but are used extensively during Genius Hour.

Enrichment

Although instruction is delivered at an accelerated level, enrichment plays an important role in the fifth grade experience. Some enrichment opportunities include:

- Fieldtrips to the Science Center, Art Museum and Shaw Nature Reserve
- Genius Hour, which is a time every day that the students are able to investigate topics of interest, create products and share knowledge with others.
- Math 24 Competition
- Open Lab times for Science and STEM investigation
- “J in a Day” which occurs when the Junior Achievement organization comes in and works with the students as they investigate entrepreneurships, business development, and career opportunities.
- JA Biz Town: students have the opportunity to immerse themselves in real life work experiences and learn about the economy and fiscal responsibility
- Geography Bee
- Spelling Bee
- International Day which is when each class researches a country, immerses themselves in the customs, language and government of that country and then opens their classroom for other students to experience the country.
- Science Fair
- Robotics Club
- Gateway Greening Garden
- Project-based Learning
- Problem-based Learning
- End of the year Fifth Grade Camp

Mallinckrodt Academy is proud of the many accomplishments that have been made.

- For the 2017-2018 school year, Mallinckrodt Academy was awarded the honor of being a Blue Ribbon school.
- Mallinckrodt Academy placed first in the district science fair.
- We received numerous ribbons for both classroom and individual Science Fair Projects.

We gladly invite you to visit our classrooms and see first-hand the exciting learning atmosphere.

Michelle Dixon and Lisa Kargus, Fifth Grade Teachers.