



STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Curriculum Overview Grade 5

Course Description:

The fifth grade student will continue to increase communication skills in all curricular areas. The student will plan, write, revise, and edit writings in all curricular areas. The student will read with comprehension and increased fluency. Mathematics instruction will emphasize problem solving, communicating, reasoning, making connections and using representations. Social studies will help prepare students for informed and responsible citizenship by developing knowledge of history, geography, civics, economics, and the operation of American constitutional democracy. Scientific methodology is stressed and content knowledge from a variety of science disciplines is covered. Opportunities are provided for students to explore music and art and develop an appreciation for the fine arts. Physical Education will continue to refine basic movement and sport skills as used in sports and fitness activities. Health education will cover topics such as peer pressure, substance abuse, personal safety and benefits of exercise and rest.

Essential Knowledge and Skills/Processes:

READING/ENGLISH:

- Listen, draw conclusions, and share responses in subject-related group learning activities
- Demonstrate the ability to work independently and with diverse teams to plan, create, and deliver presentations
- Use effective verbal and nonverbal communication skills to deliver planned oral presentations (e.g. eye contact, gestures, facial expressions, posture, accentuating words and phrases)
- Summarize main points as they relate to main idea or supporting details
- Use language and style appropriate to audience, topic, and purpose
- Differentiate between auditory, visual, and written media messages
- Identify the characteristics and effectiveness of a variety of media messages
- Expand vocabulary when reading by using knowledge of synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, prefixes, suffixes, figurative language, and context clues to clarify meaning of unfamiliar words and phrases
- Read a variety of literary forms, including fiction, nonfiction, and poetry
- Identify characterization, plot development, vocabulary choice, author's style and purpose, and cause and effect relationships
- Demonstrate comprehension of a variety of literary forms by summarizing supporting details, making inferences and drawing conclusions
- Describe characteristics of free verse, rhymed, and patterned poetry
- Use text organizers, such as type, headings, and graphics, to predict and categorize information in both print and digital texts
- Locate information to support opinions, predictions, and conclusions and differentiate between facts and opinions
- Read fluently with expression and accuracy
- Write for a variety of purposes: to describe, to inform, to entertain, to explain, and to persuade
- Write multi-paragraph compositions using a variety of prewriting strategies, writing a clear topic sentence with supporting details that elaborate the main idea, and vary sentence structure by using transition words

- Edit writing for grammar (including conjunctions, eliminating double negatives), capitalization, spelling, punctuation, (including use of possessives, commas, and quotation marks), sentence structure, and paragraphing
- Locate, evaluate, and select appropriate resources for a research product
- Use technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate, and communicate information
- Construct questions about a research topic
- Collect and organize information on charts, maps and graphs using information collected from multiple sources including print, online, and media
- Give credit to sources used in research (Understand the definition and consequences of plagiarism)

MATHEMATICS:

- Explain and represent mathematical ideas orally and in writing.
- Organize and communicate mathematical thinking.
- Recognize and name fractions as decimals.
- Compare and order fractions and decimals.
- Identify and describe the characteristics of prime and composite numbers and even and odd numbers.
- Create and solve single-step and multistep practical problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers and decimals
- Solve single- and multi-step practical problems involving add/subtraction with fractions and mixed numbers
- Evaluate whole number numerical expressions using the order of operations
- Differentiate among and find perimeter, area, and volume
- Identify equivalent measurements within metric system
- Choose appropriate unit, estimate and then measure to solve problems using customary and metric units
- Identify and classify angles, triangles and plane figures based on their attributes.
- Investigate and describe the results of combining and subdividing plane figures
- Make predictions and determine the probability of an outcome
- Collect, organize, and interpret data in a variety of forms.
- Describe mean, median, mode as measures of center and find each

- Describe the relationship found in a number pattern and express the relationships
- Investigate and describe the concept of variable; write an open sentence representing a given relationship; model one-step linear equation in one variable
- Investigate and recognize the distributive property of multiplication over addition

SCIENCE:

- Plan and conduct investigations in which hypotheses are made and quantitative data collected with appropriate instruments; identify manipulated and responding variables
- Use graphs, charts, and diagrams to record and interpret data collected in experiments
- Use a classification key to identify minerals and organisms
- Investigate properties of sound transmission and sound as a means of communication
- Investigate the properties of the visible spectrum and how it behaves
- Investigate the properties of states of matter and the concepts of atoms, molecules and compounds
- Investigate cell structure and function
- Recognize characteristics of vertebrates and invertebrates, vascular and nonvascular plants, and kingdoms of living things
- Investigate the geological, physical, and biological characteristics of the ocean environment
- Investigate factors in Earth surface change including weathering, erosion, plate tectonics, evidence of change shown by fossils, and human impact
- Identify rock types and investigate the rock cycle

SOCIAL STUDIES:

- Use map skills to recognize geographic and cultural features and regions of the United States
- Study archaeology and life in America before the 17th Century, including American Indians
- Locate and describe the characteristics of the West African societies of Ghana, Mali and Songhai
- Trace the routes and evaluate early explorations of the Americas
- Describe life in Colonial American and Virginia
- Explain causes, events, and effects of the American Revolution and key concepts in the Declaration of Independence
- Study the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. Government.
- Study western expansion and growth of the nation
- Study the causes, key events, and effects of the Civil War on Virginia
- Explain key economic concepts, events, and changes
- Develop skills in discussion, debate, and persuasive writing by analyzing historical situations and events.
- Use technology to enhance their study of U.S. History

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH:

- Explain the influence of peer pressure on behavior
- Understand the importance of resolving conflicts in a non-violent manner
- Develop skills for administering first aid during emergency situations
- Recognize dangerous situations and strategies to prevent personal harm at home and in the community

- Identify the structures and functions of the immune system and common communicable diseases
- Analyze the harmful effects of drugs on the systems of the body
- Critically analyze the social dimension of the drug problem in the United States
- Demonstrate respect for others and good sportsmanship
- Perform effective and efficient movement skills including: ball skills (punting, overhead pass, overhand throw), volleyball bump, rhythmic pattern, and fitness tests
- Describe the function of the nervous system
- Describe how a healthy lifestyle benefits the nervous system
- Describe the function of the endocrine system
- Describe how a healthy lifestyle benefits the endocrine system
- Understand the importance of setting exercise-related goals
- Recognize the benefits of exercise as it relates to promoting a healthy body
- Develop skills in discussion, debate, and persuasive writing by analyzing historical situations and events
- Use technology to enhance their study of U.S. History

FINE ARTS:

- Observe nature and render observation
- Draw the human figure from live model
- Understand techniques to enlarge drawings
- Render linear perspective
- Understand how to prepare and present art for exhibition
- Practice safety procedures
- Apply color theory – secondary and complementary colors
- Demonstrate an awareness of composition: foreground, middle ground, and background
- Identify and use symmetrical and asymmetrical balance in compositions
- Identify and emphasize one or more elements of design in artwork
- Develop skills for describing art
- Identify symbols and themes used by cultures of Pre Columbian times up to 1877
- Recognize some defining characteristics of major art movements
- Seek out museum, gallery, and historic site trip opportunities
- Attend recitals and concerts using appropriate decorum

MUSIC:

- Recognize and perform 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 6/8 meter
- Explain the function of the top and bottom number of a meter signature
- Sing and/or improvise on the major and pentatonic scales using solfege syllables and Kodaly hand signs
- Sing three and four part rounds and songs with two part harmony
- Play the soprano recorder
- Identify theme and variation
- Learn and follow Dal Segno
- Distinguish the difference between staccato and legato
- Understand and apply good choral behavior: breath control, posture, diction, following conducting gestures
- Demonstrate an understanding of vibrations, frequency, voice change and SATB

Resources:

Resources concerning the Standards of Learning for Virginia Public Schools and more can be found at the Virginia Department of Education website: <http://www.doe.virginia.gov> Helpful resources at this site include subject and grade level Standards of Learning, Curriculum Frameworks, and Scope and Sequence documents.

Additional resources are listed below:

Reading

- <http://www.readaloudva.org>
- <http://www.ed.gov/parents/read/resources/readingtips>
- <http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/>

Math

- The Mathematics Leadership Team is made up of a Math Lead Teacher or a Math Specialist from each school, the Elementary Mathematics Coordinator, and the Mathematics Supervisor.