

# What will my student learn in grade 5?



Alaska's public schools now have higher expectations in English and math. These parent guides help you understand what your child will learn. For more information, see <http://education.alaska.gov>

## English Language Arts

In Grade 5 your child will read increasingly challenging fiction and nonfiction. Students will build knowledge about subjects through research projects and analysis of literary and informational sources. They will write stories and essays of several paragraphs, using precise language and correct grammar and punctuation.



### YOUR CHILD WILL:

- Refer to details when explaining a text. Describe in depth a story or drama. Determine the meaning of words as they are used in the text, including figurative language.
- Determine the main idea of an informational text and how it is supported by details. Explain relationships among events, procedures, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text. Determine the meaning of subject-specific words (such as scientific terms).
- Interpret information that is presented visually, orally, or quantitatively, as in charts, graphs, and diagrams. Use information from two texts on the same topic to write or speak about it.
- Apply grade-level phonics and word analysis in pronouncing words. Read unfamiliar multi-syllable words. Read prose and poetry orally with expression.
- Write opinion pieces and informative texts, including an introduction, a structure to group ideas and evidence, and a conclusion. Write narratives to develop characters or events, using dialogue, description, sensory details, and a clear chronology. Plan, edit, and revise writing.
- With adult guidance, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing, collaborate with others, and gather information. Keyboard at least one page in a single sitting. Conduct short research projects.
- Engage in discussions, building on others' ideas and expressing his or her own clearly. Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker. Report on a topic or tell a story, speaking clearly. Create audio recordings and add visual displays. Use formal English when appropriate.
- Use standard grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Use the perfect verb tenses (*I had walked*) and correlative conjunctions such as *either/or* and *neither/nor*. Understand figurative language and common idioms.

## Help Your Child Learn at Home

**Parent Tips** Try to create a quiet place for your child to study, and carve out time every day when your child can concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics.



### English Language Arts— Fifth Grade

- Invite your child to read his or her writing out loud to other family members. Ask questions about your child's word choices and ideas.
- Watch a movie with your child. Discuss the way the actors bring the words to life.
- Discuss your family and village stories and history. Encourage your child to ask relatives and elders questions about their lives. Put the information together in an album or brainstorm different ways to tell family tales, such as poems or short stories.

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## Math

In Grade 5 your child will build understanding of place value by working with decimals up to the hundredths place. Students will add, subtract, and multiply fractions, including fractions with unlike denominators. They will continue to expand their geometry and measurement skills, learning the concept of volume and measuring the volume of a solid figure.



### YOUR CHILD WILL:

- Write and interpret numerical expressions. For example, express “add 8 and 7, then multiply by 2” as  $2 \times (8 + 7)$ .
- Analyze patterns and relationships. For example, given the rule add 3 and the starting number as 0, and given the rule add 6 and the starting number as 0, generate terms in the resulting sequences.
- Understand place values. Explain and extend the patterns in the number of zeroes of the product when multiplying by powers of 10, or in the placement of a decimal point when a decimal is multiplied or divided by a power of 10. Read, write, and compare decimals to thousandths.
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide with multi-digit whole numbers and with decimals to the hundredths.
- Use equivalent fractions to add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators. Multiply and divide fractions.
- Convert like measurement units within a given measurement system in solving multi-step real-world problems. Solve problems involving time, including elapsed time between world time zones.
- Represent and interpret data. Make a line plot to display a data set of measurements in fractions of a unit. Solve problems involving information presented in line plots. Use the terms mean and median.
- Understand concepts of volume. Relate volume to multiplication and addition, and solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume.
- Graph points on a coordinate plane to solve real-world and mathematical problems. Classify two-dimensional figures into categories based on their properties.

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### Math—Fifth Grade

Look for “word problems” in real life. Some 5th-grade examples might include:

- Doing arithmetic with decimals, for example when balancing a checkbook.
- Multiplying with fractions — for example, if you used about  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -cup measure of vegetable stock or berries, then how much stock or berries did you use? About how much is left over?
- Using the length, width, and depth of a garden plot to determine how many bags of garden soil to buy. At fish camp, use the weight of fish to determine how many people the fish will feed.