

FIFTH GRADE CURRICULUM GUIDE



This booklet contains an outline of the instructional goals in each curricular area for fifth grade students at St. Joseph School. The topics are covered in a sequence that is responsive to the individual class of students. Overall, the philosophy of St. Joseph School emphasizes that learning is integrated, experiential, value-based and a foundation for continued and lifelong learning. Learning is designed to promote the spiritual, intellectual, social, physical and emotional growth of each unique child.

RELIGION

The fifth grade religion program is a continuation of the content and faith development begun in previous grades. Knowledge of the traditional prayers of the Catholic Church – the Our Father, Hail Mary, Act of Contrition, Morning Offering, Grace Before/After Meals and recitation of the Rosary – and familiarity with the Old and New Testaments of the Bible are emphasized and enhanced. The religion program also includes attendance and active participation at Mass and other liturgical celebrations, such as Stations of the Cross and Advent Wreath prayer services.

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Religion program. Students will be able to:

- Become more active participants in liturgy by acting as altar servers, readers of the Word and leaders of the Psalms
- Learn the seasons of the Church Year, the various liturgical colors and their meanings, and how the liturgical year integrates with the seasons
- Appreciate the Bible as a vital resource in studying the history of God among His people
- Appreciate the beatitudes and put them into effect in their daily lives
- Develop knowledge of traditional prayers of the Church, particularly the Apostles' Creed, as well as individual and spontaneous prayer
- Demonstrate faith and respect for each other through service to others at home, in school and in the community

- Understand the seven Sacraments as continuing signs of God's love for us—the three Sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation), the two Sacraments of healing (Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick) and the two Sacraments of commitment (Marriage and Holy Orders)

Text: [This Is Our Faith](#), School Program, Silver Burdett Ginn, 1998

LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERATURE

The fifth grade language arts curriculum focuses on the continuing development of comprehension so students can effectively interpret, evaluate, analyze and reflect upon what they read and hear. A second focus is the sequential development of communication skills so students can successfully use written language and speaking as appropriate to audience and purpose.

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Language Arts/Literature program.

Students will be able to:

Reading

- Read and identify definitive features of various literary forms and genres
- Increase the quality and quantity of independent reading
- Read age appropriate material aloud with fluency and accuracy
- Read works of well-known classic, traditional, and contemporary authors
- Identify main ideas and details
- Predict outcomes and draw conclusions
- Determine cause and effect relationships
- Identify plot structure and elements of conflict in reading
- Identify literary elements and literary techniques in a variety of literary works
- Understand how literary elements are used in literature to create meaning
- Derive word meanings from context and prior knowledge; verify meanings using resource materials

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- Identify important themes and topics
- Identify themes in literature from different societies and eras
- Make comparisons across reading selections
- Identify how authors and illustrators express their ideas in text and graphics
- Interpret tables, maps and charts, and apply information
- Respond to literary material by making inferences, drawing conclusions and comparing it to their own experience, prior knowledge, and other texts.
- Make judgments concerning morals and values as presented in literature
- Set a purpose for reading
- Monitor comprehension
- Apply appropriate reading strategies
- Relate literary works and their elements to historical and current events, people and perspectives
- Respond creatively to literature through drama, art, oral reading and creative writing
- Use word identification strategies for learning new words

Writing

- Write in persuasive, narrative, expository and descriptive forms
- Write poetry and other creative forms
- Gather and organize data
- Produce and format compositions for specified audiences using available technology
- Use the 5-step writing process – prewrite, draft, revise, edit and publish
 - Prewriting – generate and organize ideas using a variety of planning strategies

- Draft/revise to establish central idea, organization, and unity in relation to purpose and audience
- Edit for clarity, grammar, spelling, capitalization, punctuation; final form formatted for publication
- Publish – produce a final draft copy

Mechanics and Grammar

- Use capitalization correctly
- Use punctuation correctly – periods, commas, question marks, exclamation points, apostrophes, hyphens and quotation marks
- Identify sentence parts – subject and predicate
- Develop an effective paragraph writing style and include a variety of sentence types, appropriate use of parts of speech, accurate mechanics
- Understand and correctly use nouns – proper, common, singular, plural and possessive
- Understand and correctly use adjectives – modifiers of nouns and pronouns
- Understand and correctly use pronouns – noun replacements
- Use prepositions and prepositional phrases correctly

Spelling

- Develop understanding of root words and prefixes and suffixes
- Apply correct use of irregular plurals
- Apply correct use of comparatives and superlatives
- Apply correct use of singular and plural possessive nouns

Listening and Speaking

- Present information orally in an informed and organized manner
- Make relevant contributions to oral discussions
- Demonstrate comprehension of pertinent concepts from oral presentations by summarizing and paraphrasing spoken messages orally and in writing
- Ask and respond to questions related to oral presentations in small and large group settings
- Restate and carry out a variety of oral instructions
- Identify methods to manage communication anxiety
- Identify key verbal and nonverbal communication strategies to maintain communications and resolve conflict

General Reference Skills

- Improve skills in using dictionaries, indexes, atlases, encyclopedias
- Use correct citation of research resources for bibliographies
- Formulate questions and construct a basic research plan
- Organize and integrate information from a variety of sources - books, interviews, library reference materials, websites and software
- Determine the accuracy, currency, and reliability of materials from various sources
- Create a variety of print and non-print documents to convey acquired information
- Prepare and deliver oral presentations based on research

- Produce a written research report, which includes an introduction, at least three sub topics and a conclusion. Final product will be edited to produce a document, without error, of at least six pages in length, including correct citation of at least three sources

Text: Voyages in English, Grade 5, Loyola Press, 1999
Literature Works, Collection 5, Silver Burdett Ginn,
2000

MATHEMATICS

The fifth grade math program is based on mastery of foundational skills—math operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division), whole numbers, decimals, fractions, measurement, algebra, geometry, statistics and probability. Mathematics is more than a collection of concepts and skills; it involves investigating, reasoning, visualizing and problem solving and then being able to communicate the relationships observed and problems solved to others.

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Math program. Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of numbers including numeration and operations, patterns, and ratios
- Compare and order whole numbers, fractions and decimals using manipulatives, drawings and mathematical symbols
- Solve one and two step problems (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) that involve whole numbers, fractions and decimals
- Determine accuracy of estimates by using mental math
- Prove that computations are correct
- Describe the relationship between two sets of numbers
- Understand the relationship between ratios and fractions

Measurement

- Reinforce how to calculate, compare and convert length, perimeter, area, weight/mass and volume with English and metric units
- Understand and be able to solve problems involving currency
- Use English and metric units
- Estimate conversions between measures within the English and metric system
- Determine the relationship in simple scale drawings (map scales)
- Construct drawings using common instruments and units of measure

Algebra

- Identify patterns and relationships in data - solve problems and predict results
- Understand number sentences and be able to substitute symbols for unknown quantities
- Understand and solve numerical patterns and sequences
- Identify and apply the commutative, associative, identity, zero and distributive properties of numbers and solve problems using them
- Solve simple problems using linear equations for an unknown with whole numbers and fractions

Geometry

- Use technology and common instruments to construct two and three dimensional figures, patterns, and designs
- Recognize geometric figures used in daily life situations
- Compare geometric figures and determine the properties of parallel, perpendicular, similar, and congruent
- Solve problems involving shapes and geometric figures and communicate results to others
- Organize data using pictures, tallies, tables, charts, bar graphs, line graphs, and stem and leaf plots
- Calculate the mean, median and mode of numerical data
- Make predictions from given data
- Collect and display data systematically
- Interpret results of given data
- Understand probability and make predictions using simple terms
- Use spreadsheet and graphing software to represent data

Text: McGraw-Hill Math, 2002

SOCIAL STUDIES

Throughout the Social Studies curriculum, students will prepare to become active and competent participants in the social and political world.

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Social Studies program.

Students will be able to:

Historic and Geographic Foundations

- Develop an understanding of culture as the attitudes, beliefs, customs, traditions, arts and achievements of a society that are passed from one generation to another and be able to explain ways in which stories and music are expressions of this.
- Develop an understanding of how changes in population and in the ways basic needs are met (hunting/gathering, farming, industry) cause development of social systems such as civilizations, city, states, etc.
- Develop a firm understanding of our culture and the relationship of past to present
- Apply skills related to the five themes of geography - location, place, human/environmental interaction, movement, and regions
- Use maps and other geographic representations to gather information about people, places, and environments
- Compare and contrast the interaction between physical and living components in a particular location
- Describe the impact of human interaction on the environment and vice versa

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- Describe the relationships among location of resources, population distribution and economic activities as related to the settlement of the United States
- Acquire a sense of belonging and connectedness to family, heritage, school, community, nation and world
- Develop an understanding of different political and economic realities
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between technology and society, past, present and future

Early North American Cultures

- Understand the cultural characteristics of the Asian hunters, Mayans, Incas, Aztecs and Native Americans

European Exploration

- Describe the explorations of the Vikings, Spanish, English and French explorers
- Understand the major trade routes, major explorers and their discoveries
- Understand the spread of Christianity into the Western hemisphere

English Colonization

- Locate individual English colonies in the Americas
- Identify similarities and differences between the colonies
- Understand the typical aspects of early colonial life
- Identify major contributors in the development of early American colonies

American Revolution

- Identify and understand major acts of Parliament affecting the life and growth of the colonies
- Understand the importance of the French and Indian War
- Understand the major elements of the Declaration of Independence
- Evaluate the causes of the Revolutionary war, British and American strengths and weaknesses
- Identify major contributors to the Revolutionary War – to the American cause as well as the British cause
- Understand the significance of the Articles of Confederation
- Develop an awareness of the process involved in writing the Constitution
- Understand the major content of the Constitution and identify consistencies and inconsistencies between expressed ideas and actual practices
- Identify the three branches of the federal government and the functions of each
- Develop an understanding of how political parties form
- Understand the significance of the War of 1812

Early Growth of the United States

- Locate major land acquisitions on maps in the western growth of the United States
- Understand the reasons for movement of population beyond the eastern coastal areas
- Evaluate the experiences of multicultural peoples during immigration
- Identify major routes west and significant contributors to the development of these routes

The Civil War

- Identify major causes of the Civil War
- Understand the similarities and differences between the North and South regions of the United States prior to the Civil War
- Develop an understanding of the problems and politics surrounding slavery
- Identify important events and major battle campaigns of the Civil War

Western Expansion and Industrial Growth

- Relate major changes occurring in society during this period
- Develop an understanding of basic economic principles of competition and supply/demand and relate these to historical examples
- Develop an awareness of contributions of immigrants
- Identify and understand contributions of major entrepreneurs, industrialists, and inventors such as: John Deere, Thomas Edison, Robert McCormack, George Washington Carver, Henry Ford, James Watt and Alfred Nobel
- Understand key contributors and events in the development of the conservation movement, such as John Muir, Theodore Roosevelt and the creation of the National Park System

The United States in the Twentieth Century

- Understand major events, such as Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, the Great Depression, the Cold War, civil rights movement, Korean War, Vietnam and Persian Gulf War
- Identify major twentieth century contributors, including Susan B. Anthony, Martin Luther King Jr., and Theodore Roosevelt
- Develop an understanding of the United States' role as a leading world power

Text: The United States and Its Neighbors, MacMillan
McGraw-Hill, 1998

SCIENCE

The fifth grade science program incorporates various sciences through the entire year—life science, earth science and environmental science. The science program at all levels at St. Joseph School emphasizes the importance of hands-on experiences through exploratory lab work. This process will be reinforced through the research and understanding of established scientific knowledge. The fifth grade science program emphasizes five major strands - scientific inquiry, life science, matter and energy, earth and space science, and safety, technology and historic contributions.

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Science program. Students will be able to:

Scientific Inquiry

- Formulate questions on scientific topics and formulate steps to answer inquiries
- Collect data in an orderly way using observation, estimation and measuring
- Research science topics using books, encyclopedias, periodicals and the internet
- Explain results through the use of charts and data
- Formulate reasonable conclusions from results
- Report and display the results of investigations
- Design a simple prototype of a device using available materials
- Test the prototype and identify effectiveness of design
- Communicate test design, process, and results to others
- Work with a partner or team cooperatively to realize a common goal

- Identify, research, conduct an experiment, and communicate the results of a science project
- Participate in St. Joseph School science fair

Life Science

- Understand plant processes including photosynthesis, respiration and transpiration
- Understand interrelationships of living things in their environment - food chains and food webs
- Recognize the physical features of plants and animals that help them adapt to their environments
- Understand the systems of the human body with emphasis on the skeletal, nervous and muscular systems
- Understand the natural growth and development of the human body from birth to old age
- Realize the importance of regular physical activity for healthy growth
- Understand how unhealthy habits can impact growth

Matter and Energy

- Recognize different types of energy including heat, light, sound, electrical and mechanical energy
- Comprehend the properties of solids, liquids and gases
- Reinforce forces of actions and reactions
- Recognize constant, variable and periodic motions

Earth Science

- Identify natural cycles of the earth - oxygen, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, water cycle
- Recognize the importance of earth's resources and understand the importance of recycling
- Understand the structure of the universe and motions of the galaxies, stars, planets and natural satellites
- Recognize easily identifiable star patterns and constellations
- Identify objects in space

Safety, Technology and Historical Contributions

- Explain and apply safety procedures when conducting scientific experiments
- Recognize why similar investigations may have varying results
- Know the proper procedure for collecting specimens for observation
- Understand the importance of careful record keeping
- Utilize technology for measurement, data collection and communication of ideas
- Understand how scientific innovations have impacted society
- Identify important people who have contributed to advances in science and technology
- Recognize the ongoing struggle between the natural environment and growth of communities

Text: McGraw-Hill Science, 2002

FOREIGN LANGUAGE - SPANISH

The fifth grade program expands on the listening, speaking, writing and reading skills learned at previous levels. The program is adjusted to meet the different levels of competency among the students. Catholic prayers and traditions are incorporated in keeping with the religious nature of the school.

Goals developed in the fifth grade Spanish program are:

- Develop and increase listening abilities
- Expand word recognition
- Start basic sentence formation

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Foreign Language program:

- State his/her name to another person
- Use greetings and farewells
- Start verb conjugation
- Recognize cognates
- Identify 10 classroom objects
- Identify 10 colors
- Start sentence build up with learned vocabulary
- Know numbers 0 to 1000
- Identify fruits and every day edibles
- State likes and dislikes (me gusta) with learned vocabulary
- Recognize domestic animals and zoo animals
- Create short sentences with verb combinations
- Recognize parts of the body, incorporating them into "tener expressions", e.g. "Tango dolor de cabeza."
- Identify immediate family members with Spanish titles

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- Construct simple questions
- Recognize months of the year and days of the week
- Recite the Spanish alphabet
- Make the Sign of the Cross and recite the Hail Mary
- Recite the Pledge of Allegiance in Spanish
- Recognize basic language patterns, e.g. forms of address, questions, and case
- Respond appropriately to simple commands
- Comprehend illustrated stories and audiovisual programs or websites
- Respond to and ask simple questions with prompts
- Imitate pronunciation, intonation and inflection
- Recognize the written form of familiar spoken language and predict meaning of key words in a simple story, poem or song
- Infer meaning of cognates from context
- Write words, phrases and simple sentences
- Describe people, activities and objects from school and home
- Use common forms of courtesy, greetings and leave - use language appropriate to the time of day and relationship (adult, peer, parent)
- Understand various elements of Hispanic culture - music, dance, folk art, visual art, drama, and architecture
- Identify one or more art forms representative of Hispanic areas
- Construct one or more art forms representative of Hispanic culture, e.g. dramatizing a sample of children's literature, performing a song or dance

Text: Spanish Is Fun, Amsco School Publications, 2000

FINE ARTS - MUSIC

In fifth grade, music class students begin a more in-depth study of the origin of music – from the basic need to communicate to a desire for self-expression. The basic elements of music are extended to a higher level. Units on how instruments are made, composers, careers in music, songs of America’s heritage and folk music are included.

Students are involved, on many levels, in two music programs that are presented to school families and the community. The goal of these programs is to encourage students to share their talents in a unified group endeavor that displays pride in our school, personal pride and magnifies the values of our Christian community.

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Music program:

- Ancient music
- Development of instruments
- The notation system
- Music for liturgical celebrations
- Music as ritual
- Rhythm and Form
- Expressive qualities of music
- The orchestra
- ABA and AABA
- Composition
- Music with lyrics
- Musical ensembles (vocal, instrumental)
- Musical Scales

Text: [The Music Connection](#), Silver Burdett Ginn, 1998

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FINE ARTS - ART

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Art program. Students will be able to:

- Identify and describe the elements of monochromatic color, recognizing tints and shades as values of one color
- Identify the elements of perspective, recognizing how lines are used to create three-dimensional space
- Compare the difference between two and three-dimensional shapes – circle/sphere, square/cube, triangle/pyramid
- Compare how texture is represented in two and three dimensional works of art
- Identify and describe the principles of balance – symmetrical/formal or mirror image
- Identify asymmetrical/informal image where one large object is balanced with several smaller objects
- Identify and describe composition
- Recognize how organizational principles affect the elements in works of art
- Describe how tools/materials are used in drawing – colored pencils, graphite pencils, oil pastels, markers, rulers, charcoal and paper
- Describe the tools and materials used in painting – tempera, watercolor, brushes and paper
- Describe the tools and materials used in Printmaking – water-based ink, brayer, carving tools, stencil relief, block and paper

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

An effective physical education curriculum incorporates many aspects of physical, emotional, social and personal growth. The program includes the following components:

- 1) Emphasize the child as a whole person and exercise the mind as well as the body
- 2) Utilize a variety of learning strategies
- 3) Emphasize core skills, such as locomotion, throwing and catching
- 4) Emphasize the development of lifelong physical fitness
- 5) Demonstrate good sportsmanship and cooperation as fundamental core values
- 6) Emphasize participation in all sports – individual as well as team

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Physical Education program. Students will be able to:

- Chase, flee and dodge, particularly in regard to stationary objects and moving people
- Volley and serve a volleyball
 - Return a served ball using a bump, set and dig
 - Set or bump a ball to a teammate
 - Serve a ball over the net using an underhand serve
- Throw and catch
 - Throw a softball properly
 - Throw and catch during game situations
 - Catch while moving and stationary

- Dribble and kick a ball
 - Dribble around moving and stationary defenders or objects
 - Dribble or kick during game situations
- Strike or hit a ball
 - Hit a slow pitched ball
 - Serve, lob, and drive the ball with a pickle ball racket
- Understand the fundamental rules of various sports – basketball, softball, pickle ball, badminton and scooter hockey
- Learn various track and field events – run relays, long jump and distance throw
- Establish good sportsmanship habits
 - Put forth full effort
 - Encourage teammates without negativity
 - Be courteous and respectful to each other
- Develop individual physical fitness level
 - Cardiovascular endurance
 - Muscular strength
 - Flexibility
 - Demonstrate outcomes of regular and daily exercise
 - Increase exercise duration and stamina

COMPUTER

The Computer curriculum, in a sequential and stepwise fashion from kindergarten through eighth grade, incorporates classroom strategies and student activities that promote the following core foundational skills – keyboarding and word processing. Students are encouraged to enhance individual skill levels and to continue to improve independently. Students are also encouraged to develop cooperative classroom skills of patience and mutual respect. The computer curriculum emphasizes lifetime skills of research, writing and document development.

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Computer program. Students will be able to:

- Use input and output devices correctly - mouse, keyboard and printer
- Discuss common uses of technology in daily life and identify the advantages and disadvantages
- Improve keyboarding skills of speed and accuracy
- Evaluate the source of information from the web - appropriateness, bias, relevance, comprehensiveness, accuracy and intellectual property
- Develop more advanced graphic presentations
- Write a newspaper utilizing group effort in word processing skills, clipart, search engines and graphing
- Expand individual writing technique utilizing word processing software
- Define technical terminology

LIBRARY

The following concepts and objectives are general outcomes of the fifth grade Library program. Students will be able to:

- Expand outlining and note taking skills
- Apply card catalog skills
- Utilize the Dewey Decimal Classification System
- Understand the Readers' Guide

Terms and concepts

Cross-reference	Anthology
Decoding catalog cards	Glossary
Biographical dictionaries	Frontispiece
Preface, foreword and introduction	Dialogue
Gazetteers of geographical dictionaries	Action
Verso page	

HOMEWORK

Students in fifth grade should continue to read 30 minutes or more per night. In addition, written homework assignments will typically require about 50 minutes to complete; this may vary when long term projects such as book reports or research projects are assigned. Student's first and last names and the date should be included on all homework. Blue and black inks only are acceptable (no markers or gel rollers). Math assignments must be done in pencil. All work must be neat and clearly legible, and no doodling or extra artwork should be present.

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