

# PVSchools Parents' Guide to Student Success: Fifth Grade

## Helping Your Child Learn at Home

In fifth grade, your child will be reading increasingly challenging fiction and nonfiction text. They will be expected to build knowledge about subjects through research projects. In math, multiplying and dividing fractions becomes a major focus. They will be working on the building blocks of algebra.

### Key ideas to support your child's learning:

- Know some key benchmarks and how you can support your child in meeting them is important.
- Try to create a quiet place for your child to study, and carve out time every day when your child can concentrate on reading, writing, and math without disruptions.
- Have your child participate in monetary activities such as managing a budget or an allowance.
- Involve your child in estimating distance, money, quantity, and time. An example might be to have them plan a trip using maps to plan the shortest and longest routes, travel times, places to visit, and cost.
- Invite your child to read his or her writing aloud to other family members. Ask questions about your child's word choices and ideas.

## Arizona State Standards

The Arizona State Standards are a state-led effort designed to improve educational outcomes for students.

- are aligned with college and work expectations
- are clear, understandable, and consistent;
- include rigorous content and application of knowledge
- build on strengths and lessons of current state standards
- prepares students to succeed in a global economy and society
- are evidence-based

## Key Shifts for Students

### English Language Arts (ELA) / Literacy

1. Read as much non-fiction as fiction
2. Learn about the world by reading
3. Read more challenging material closely
4. Discuss reading using evidence
5. Write non-fiction using evidence
6. Increase academic vocabulary

### Mathematics

1. **Focus:** Building on foundational skills that matter most to understanding arithmetic.
2. **Coherence:** Making math make sense by building onto foundational skills from grade to grade.
3. **Rigor:** With equal intensity apply conceptual understanding, procedural skills, and fluency.

## Resources

### Arizona Department of Education

<http://www.azed.gov/>

### Arizona K-12 Academic Standards

<http://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/>

### 6-8 ELA & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, & Technical Subjects

<http://www.azed.gov/azccrs/elastandards/ela-and-literacy/>

### English Language Learners

<http://www.azed.gov/english-language-learners/>

### Common Core State Standards Initiative

<http://www.corestandards.org/>

### Parent Roadmaps to Common Core Standards

<http://cgcs.schoolwires.net/domain/36>

### National Parent Teacher Association

<http://www.pta.org/>

### Expect More Arizona

<http://www.expectmorearizona.org/>

## Educational Student Websites

**ConnectED:** <https://learn.pvschools.net/>

**FROST:** PVSchools Tutoring, [frost@pvschools.net](mailto:frost@pvschools.net)  
PVSchools Tutoring, # 602-449-2399

**Kahn Academy:** <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

**ABCYA:** <http://www.abcya.com/>

**IXL:** <https://www.ixl.com/>

**PBS:** <http://www.pbs.org/>

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## English Language Arts / Literacy

### A sample of reading standards includes:

#### Reading Literature

- Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly
- Determine a theme of a story compare and contrast two or more characters, settings or events, and summarize the text
- By the end of the year, be able to comprehend literature, stories, dramas, and poetry at the high end of literature for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades

#### Reading Informational Text

- Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details
- Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate and answer questions quickly to solve a problem

#### Reading Foundations

- Read with specific accuracy, fluency, and expression on grade level text

#### Writing

- Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- Write informative/explanatory texts; introduce topic with facts and details
- Use technology, including the Internet to produce and publish writing. Demonstrate sufficient keyboarding skills to type a minimum of two pages in a single setting

#### Speaking and Listening

- Participate in collaborative discussions, build on others ideas, come prepared having read/studied required material, and be able to draw conclusions

#### Language

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of English grammar and usage when speaking or writing

## Mathematics

### A sample of math standards includes:

#### Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Write and interpret simple expressions

#### Number and Operations in Base Ten

- **Fluently** multiply multi-digit whole numbers
- Add, subtract, multiply, & divide decimals to 100th

#### Number and Operations – Fractions

- Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators including mixed numbers
- Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions
- Solve problems involving multiplication of fractions and mixed numbers
- Divide unit fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by unit fractions

#### Measurement and Data

- Convert different-sized standard measurement units to solve multi-step, real world problems

#### Geometry

- Represent problems by graphing points in the first quadrant of the coordinate plane and interpret coordinate values of points
- Classify two-dimensional figures in hierarchy based on properties

## Science

- Inquiry processes, observations, and hypothesis
- History & Nature of Science
- Science in Personal & Social Perspectives
- Life & Physical Science
- Earth & Space Science

#### FOSS (Full Option Science System) Kits

- Living Systems
- Mixtures and Solutions
- Sun, Moon and Climate

## Social Studies

### A sample of social studies standards includes:

#### American History

- Describe events that led to the American Revolution and identify the impact of key individuals
- Describe factors that led to the Civil War and the important events of the war.

#### World History

- Compare the causes of the American Revolution to other world revolutions.

#### Civics/Government

- Identify the people and events associated with the development of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights

#### Geography

- Locate major physical and political features of the United States

#### Economics

- Identify basic economic concepts related to historical periods and events.

## Transitioning to 6th Grade

In sixth grade, students will apply skills they learned in earlier grades and make sense of longer, more challenging books. They will be working on the building blocks of algebra such as variables and expressions.

### Ways to help for Reading and Math:

- Look for “word problems” in real life (e.g., how many miles traveled, average speed on a vacation).
- Read the same books your child is reading and compare and share opinions about the stories. plot, theme, and characters.