

Canton Public Schools

Curriculum Overview

Grade 5

The 2023-24 Year at a Glance for Grade 5 helps to organize the units of study in each subject that our grade 5 students will engage in throughout the year. Educators utilize the [MA Curriculum Frameworks](#) to design standards-aligned units of study for each subject. The units are rigorous, yet developmentally appropriate with learning experiences that allow students to achieve their personal best as they strive to meet and exceed grade level expectations.

Canton Public Schools 2023-2024: Grade 5 Curriculum Guide 6/13/2023											
	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	
Reading	Interpretation Book Clubs: Analyzing Themes		Tackling Text Complexity			Reading History: American Revolution	Argument and Advocacy: Researching Debatable Issues	Text Tasting: Reading Complex Text	Fantasy Book Clubs: The Magic of Themes and Symbols		
Word Study	Patterns of Power Lessons 1-10 & Spelling Connections		Patterns of Power Lessons 11-21 & Spelling Connections			Patterns of Power Lessons 22-34 & Spelling Connections	Patterns of Power Lessons 35-47 & Spelling Connections	Patterns of Power Lessons 48-60 & Spelling Connections			
Writing	Narrative Craft		Up the Ladder: Informational Writing Incorporate writing about SS topics related to US Government			Bringing History to Life Focus on Revolutionary War	Research Based Argument Essay	Text Tasting: Written Response	Literary Essay: Opening Texts and Seeing More		
Social Studies	Topic 1: Early Colonization and growth of colonies		Topic 3: Principles of the US Government		Topic 2: Reasons for the revolution, the Revolutionary War and the formation of government		Topic 4: The Growth of the Republic		Topic 5: Slavery, the legacy of the Civil War, and the struggle for civil rights for all		
Math	Launching Routines Math Is... Unit 1	Number and Operations in Base 10 Place Value and Number Relationships- Unit 3 Add and Subtract Decimals- Unit 4 Multiply Multi-Digit Whole Numbers- Unit 5		Geometry Volume Unit 2 <i>Benchmark Assessment</i>	Number and Operations in Base 10 Multiply Decimals- Unit 6 Divide Whole Numbers- Unit 7 <i>Benchmark Assessment</i> Divide Decimals- Unit 8		Number and Operations- Fractions Add and Subtract Fractions- Unit 9 Multiply Fractions- Unit 10 <i>Benchmark Assessment</i> Divide Fractions- Unit 11		Measurement and Data Unit 12 Geometry Unit 13	Operations and Algebraic Thinking Unit 14 <i>Reveal Summative/</i>	
Science	Launching Routines Survivor: How Do Living Things Make it in this World? L3 only		Earth & Space Science: Water You Doing For Your Community? Sunshine, Earth-shine, Moon-shine, How Do You Shine?			Physical Science: Does Science Really "Matter"?		Life Science: Survivor: How Do Living Things Make it in this World? (L1 and 2) I2 Learning: Loon Lake		MCAS Review	EOY PBL
Universal Screener & Grading	9/11-9/22 STAR Reading Math	CBM By 9/29	Place of Confusion 11/18 & 11/17	Term ends 12/1	01/02-01/12 Reading Math	CBM By 1/19	Term ends 3/12	Place of Confusion 04/43 & 45	5/06-5/17 STAR Early Lit., Reading Math	CBM By 5/31	Term ends 6/13

The timelines shared in the chart are approximate, the timeframes listed are not intended to be unit deadlines. Teachers may adjust the length of a unit based on student learning needs. Some units may take longer if students need more time and instruction, while others may be shortened if students are ready to move forward with their learning sooner.

Literacy in Grade 5

Literacy instruction in Grade 5 is designed around the Reader's Workshop and Writer's Workshop model of instruction which fosters student independence, confidence and a love of reading. Instruction is often designed around a core text, called the mentor text, for each unit, which allows teachers to build community around learning in specific areas driven by the grade level expectations. Then, by offering choice and access to engaging, challenging and thought provoking literature with a range of reading levels, students learn, both independently and in small groups, to read, discuss and respond in writing, as

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they build a strong foundation of skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Using the [MA English Language Arts and Literacy Framework](#) as our guide, educators draw from a variety of sources to design for instruction in reading, writing and word study.

In order to ensure a consistent student experience across classrooms and schools, elementary teachers mainly use a reading and writing curriculum designed by Teachers College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia University. Teachers will use additional resources to enhance their instruction from a variety of district provided programs. We are continually updating our classroom libraries to provide students with access to high quality, diverse and engaging literature while providing students with opportunities to choose what they are reading.

Reading

Interpretation Book Clubs: Analyzing Themes

Using the mentor text *Home of the Brave* by Katherine Applegate as a guide, students draw on a repertoire of ways for reading closely, noticing how story elements interact, understanding how different authors develop the same theme, and comparing and contrasting texts that develop a similar theme.

Tackling Text Complexity

In this unit, children investigate the ways nonfiction texts are becoming more complex, and they learn strategies to tackle these new challenges. This unit emphasizes the strong foundational skills, such as fluency, orienting to texts, and word solving, that are required to read complex nonfiction.

Reading History: American Revolution

In reading workshop, students will start by embarking on a research project about the events leading up to the American Revolution. As their knowledge of the time period grows, they will then participate in a debate questioning our independence from Great Britain, gathering evidence to support their side, and reenact the Second Continental Congress. By the end of the unit, students will conduct a new research project in partnerships about the time period after the Second Continental Congress.

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Argument and Advocacy: Researching Debatable Issues

Building on their knowledge from the previous unit, students read complex nonfiction texts to conduct research on a debatable topic, consider perspective and craft, evaluate arguments, and formulate their own evidence-based positions on issues.

Reading Complex Text (“Text Tasting”)

In this unit, students practice their skills in close reading of complex texts to read a variety of genres and to read across multiple texts on the same topic. Students draw upon the many skills they have acquired in grade five to read and respond to challenging texts as they prepare for their MCAS assessments.

Fantasy Book Clubs: The Magic of Themes and Symbols

In the final unit of the year, students work with the mentor text, *The Thief of Always* by Clive Barker, to become deeply immersed in the fantasy genre and further develop higher-level thinking skills to study how authors develop characters and themes over time. They then work in book clubs to think metaphorically as well as analytically, explore the quests and themes within and across their novels, and consider the implications of conflicts, themes, and lessons learned.

Writing

The Writer’s Workshop units are closely aligned with the reading units and support students in developing their skills in writing in three important areas: narrative, informational, and persuasive writing.

Narrative Craft

In the first unit of the year, students draw on their prior experience with story writing to develop narratives that are longer and stronger. Aligned with their reading unit on interpreting themes, this unit helps students deliberately use their knowledge of narrative craft to make their stories more thematic.

Informational Writing

In this unit, students will use a variety of writing strategies to create informational books aligned with their social studies content area knowledge of the Bill of Rights.

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Bringing History to Life

In this unit, students will write informational texts on the American Revolution. Drawing from their research in the reading unit, students will write an overview about the American Revolution and draft chapters on one focused topic of their choice.

Research Based Argument Essay

In this unit, fifth-graders learn to build powerful arguments that convincingly balance evidence and analysis to persuade readers to action.

Written Response

In this unit, students use all of the strategies they have learned to write essay responses to the complex texts that they are reading in the corresponding reading unit. Students will hone their skills for on demand writing as they compose focused short essays that are clear and concise in the three types of writing- narrative, informational and persuasive, as they respond to focused question prompts to prepare for the open response questions on the MCAS assessment.

Literary Essay: Opening Texts and Seeing More

This unit helps fifth graders consolidate their writing skills to focus on writing literary essays. Members of the class begin by writing an essay about a shared story—a poignant video clip that they watch and discuss together. With that shared experience work as a foundation, fifth graders then learn to design, write, and revise interpretive essays about short stories.

Word Study

In grade 5, students also engage in learning that addresses the MA ELA standards for language, which includes work in conventions of standard English, knowledge of language, and vocabulary acquisition and use. Teachers draw resources from a variety of sources to address this work in ELA as well as in the other subject areas, as students learn content specific vocabulary.

In ELA, teachers use two main resources to drive their instruction:

Grammar and Conventions: *Patterns of Power*

Students study authentic texts and come to recognize these “patterns of power”—the essential grammar conventions that readers and writers require to make meaning.

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Spelling: *Spelling Connections: A Word Study Approach* © 2022

This program teaches students common spelling patterns—the letter and sound combinations they need to know as they learn new words. As students learn how to recognize and anticipate syllable patterns, they apply these learned rules to words at their current grade level as well as to increasingly complex words.

Math

The [MA Curriculum Framework for Math](#) provides guidance around the standards and grade level expectations for student learning in math. We will be implementing a new math curriculum this year, using the McGraw Hill Reveal Math program. Reveal Math®, a balanced elementary math program, develops the problem solvers of tomorrow by incorporating both inquiry-focused and teacher-guided instructional strategies within each lesson.

Reveal Math in grade 5 engages students across 14 standards-aligned units:

Unit 1- Math Is...

Unit 2- Volume

Unit 3- Place Value and Number Relationships

Unit 4- Add and Subtract Decimals

Unit 5- Multiply Multi-Digit Whole Numbers

Unit 6- Multiply Decimals

Unit 7- Divide Whole Numbers

Unit 8- Divide Decimals

Unit 9- Add and Subtract Fractions

Unit 10- Multiply Fractions

Unit 11- Divide Fractions

Unit 12- Measurement and Data

Unit 13- Geometry

Unit 14- Algebraic Thinking

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Science

The [MA Curriculum Frameworks for Science and Technology/Engineering](#) guide our unit development in Science. In grade 5, students focus on the interconnectedness of living and nonliving things in the world and cycles found in nature. There are four units that address science learning in grade 5.

Water You Doing For Your Community?

In this unit, students learn the details and importance of water in their world and the water cycle. They study the amount and availability of both freshwater and saltwater on Earth and human impact on water resources. Students experiment with water filtration design and water testing.

Sunshine, Earth-shine, Moon-shine, How Do You Shine?

In this unit, students study the relationships between Earth, Moon, Sun, and stars and the impact of those relationships on patterns of events as seen from Earth. Topics include why we experience day/night, changes in length/direction of shadows, and changes in apparent position of the Sun, Moon, and stars at different times of a day, over a month, and over a year. The basics of Earth's gravitational pull towards the center of the Earth is also explored.

Does Science Really “Matter”?

This physical science unit builds upon concepts that were introduced in second grade. Students use the particle model to explain and illustrate the phases of matter (gas, liquid, solid). They explore the conservation of mass by measuring masses of substances before and after a reaction or phase change. This unit includes an exploration of the properties of matter, such as color, hardness, solubility, and conductivity and also experimentation on mixtures vs. the creation of a new substance.

Survivor: How Do Living Things Make It In This World

By studying systems, grade 5 students learn that objects and organisms do not exist in isolation and that animals, plants and their environments are connected to, interact with, and are influenced by each other. They also learn about the connections and relationships among plants and animals, and the ecosystems within which they live, to show how matter and energy are cycled through these. Students explore and create food webs that illustrate the interconnectedness of producers, consumers, and decomposers.

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Social Studies

In 2018, new Massachusetts History and Social Science Curriculum Frameworks were released including an emphasis on “stronger attention to the intersection of history, social science, and literacy instruction, through the inclusion of literacy standards for history and social science.” To that end, whenever possible students engage in learning that corresponds with literacy units to allow for in depth reading and researching of non-fiction material.

Building on their knowledge of North American geography and peoples, students learn about the history of the colonies, the early Republic, the expansion of the United States, and the Civil Rights Movement of the mid-20th century by exploring the following topics:

Early Colonization and the growth of colonies

This unit involves going back in time and explaining the early relationships of English settlers and Native Peoples during the 1600s and 1700s. Students will compare the different reasons colonies were established and be able to locate the first thirteen colonies.

Principles of US Government

Students will begin with an understanding of the foundations of today’s government. They will study how the Constitution attempted to balance competing interests and they will explore the question of power. By unpacking the meaning of the Preamble and sections of the Constitution students will better understand the responsibilities of our government.

Reasons for the Revolution, the Revolutionary War and the formation of government

Through an interdisciplinary unit, students will explore the question of whether the colonists were justified in rebelling against Great Britain. During the literacy block, students are integrating content knowledge about the time period and learning more about events that led up to the formation of a new government. Students will explore key British policies and their impact on the colonists. They will study the actions and influence of key leaders from the Revolutionary time period and the early years of the United States Republic.

Growth of the Republic

This unit explores how the newly formed United States of America was tested during its early years. Students will learn about the first three Presidents of the United States and summarize key developments during their time. Additionally, this unit will discuss how

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the growth of the republic included the acquisition of new land and ultimately how conflict arose between Native Peoples, native, state, and local governments over land ownership and the right to self govern.

Civil Rights, including topics of Slavery, the Civil War and Civil Rights

Students will learn about the ideas and events of the 19th century that led to the expansion of civil rights in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Social Emotional Learning

The Wayfinder curriculum is used throughout the year to support our students' social and emotional learning (SEL). Lessons across the year are designed to support student learning in 6 important areas: adaptability, self-awareness, collaboration, empathy, agency, and purpose.

Wayfinder Mindsets: In the first module of the year, students play some games to begin to get to know each other and explore how we would like to build a classroom culture where we all feel seen, heard and respected.

Wayfinder Skills:

Self-expression and Authenticity: Who we are and where we belong matter. In this module, students explore who they are and how they intentionally navigate relationships.

Leadership and Compassion: It's important to understand and practice our strengths and leadership skills. In this module, students examine what they are good at, how they prefer to lead, and how they can work together.

Well-Being and Resilience: The world is complex and can cause stress. In this module, students will practice skills to support adaptability, resilience, and joy.

Purpose and Practice: In grade 5, students are often curious about their life paths, goals and questions about the world. IN this module, students will begin to investigate their purpose through activities that explore strengths, passions and purposeful people.

Reflections: Students end the year reflecting on what we've learned, celebrating and appreciating one another.

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Assessment and Grading

Universal Screening

Students in grade 5 will be assessed with our universal screener, STAR 360, in the fall, winter and spring. The STAR Reading and STAR Math assessments help to identify students who are At/Above Benchmark, On Watch, or Below Benchmark, so that appropriate support and personalized learning opportunities can be utilized to support individual growth. Parent reports are sent home to share the results with each testing period.

Students who are identified as Below Benchmark are also assessed using the STAR CBM, which measures specific skills in reading and math that are foundational to student learning.

Formative Assessments

Educators use a variety of other formative assessments to assess student learning and progress towards grade level standards. In ELA and Math, there are other diagnostic assessments that are used to glean more specific information about students' abilities.

Reports Cards

Elementary report cards are issued three times each year in December, March and June. For specific report card dates, please see the district calendar.