

Fifth Grade Syllabus

Woodland Elementary School

Welcome to 5th grade! This will be a wonderful and exciting year for you and your child! Fifth grade is such an important year, and your child will be busy with many fun and meaningful activities! I look forward to being a part of an important year in your child's life! Know that an important part of this year will be effective and constant communication between you, your child, and me! I look forward to a wonderful year working together! Below is some very important information about the goings-on in our classroom.

A. Daily Schedule:

Please check teacher's website for a copy of their daily schedule.

B. Units of Instruction:

	Math	Reading	Writing	Science	Social Studies
First Nine Weeks	Understanding Volume Developing Multiplication and Division Strategies Using Equivalency to Add and Subtract Fractions Expanding Understanding of Place Value to Decimals	Fountas and Pinnell Introduction Unit 1: Inferences, theme, summarizing, characters, setting, plot, and figurative language Unit 2: Inferences and main idea	Writing Process Review Unit 1: Narrative Writing & Narrative Craft Unit 2: Opinion Writing Research-based Essay	Unit 1: Science Process Skills Unit 2: Geological Landforms on Earth Unit 3: Ocean Shore Zone	Unit 1: Reconstruction Unit 2: Settlement of the West Unit 3: Industrial Revolution and Immigration
Second Nine Weeks	Understanding Multiplying Fractions by Fractions Comparing and Rounding Decimals Interpreting Multiplying Fractions as Scaling Developing the Concept of Dividing Unit Fractions	Unit 2: Informational text accounts, print & digital sources, and combining text Unit 3: Inferences, theme, summarizing character, setting, plot, poetry, prose, drama, and compare/contrast	Unit 3: Informational Writing – The Lens of History Unit 4: Narrative Writing & Crafting Memoirs	Unit 4: States of Matter Unit 5: Properties of Matter Unit 6: Science Fair Group Projects	Unit 3: Industrial Revolution and Immigration (continued) Unit 4: Becoming a World Power Unit 5: Prosperity and Great Depression
Third Nine Weeks	Solving Problems involving Volume Performing Operations with Decimals Classifying Two-Dimensional Figures Solving Problems with Fractional Quantities Representing Algebraic Thinking	Unit 4: Figurative language, point of view, compare/contrast, accounts, combining texts Unit 5: Inferences, accounts, print & digital sources, reason and evidence, and combining text	Unit 5: Testing as a Genre - Writing Unit 6: Argument Writing – Literary/ Comparative Essay	Unit 7: Forces and Motion Unit 8: Ecosystems and Organisms	Unit 5: Prosperity and Great Depression (continued) Unit 6: World War II Unit 7: Cold War Era Unit 8: The Civil Rights Movement

Fourth Nine Weeks	Exploring the coordinate plane Finalizing Multiplication and Division with whole numbers	Unit 6: Inferences, theme, summarizing, character, setting, plot, figurative language, poetry, prose, drama, compare/contrast, main idea, account, sources, and text structure Unit 7: Figurative language, poetry/prose/drama, point of view, and compare/contrast	Unit 7: Authoring an Independent Writing Life	Unit 8: Ecosystems and Organisms Unit 9: Human Impact and Pollution/Conservation	Unit 9: Heading into the 21 st Century and Modern Times
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C. Calculation of Grades:

Students will be assessed with weekly classwork, quizzes, observations, science labs, projects, and tests. Tests and projects are considered major grades. Classwork, quizzes, and other activities are considered as minor grades. Multiple choice, short answer, discussion, and open-ended questions will be used for assessment. A spelling test will be given weekly. Quizzes and tests will be given throughout and at the end of the other content area subjects as needed.

D. Grading Scale:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
U	59 and below

E. District Grade Guidelines:

Language Arts	Reading, Math, Social Studies, Science
Major grades —30%	Major grades—40%
Minor grades—60%	Minor grades —60%
Spelling—10%	

F. Homework Policy:

Homework will be assigned Monday – Thursday (and occasionally on Friday) for up to 45-60 minutes per day, not including the daily 20 minutes of independent reading time. It will consist of enrichment activities that will extend upon that day’s lesson. Some days students will need to study for homework without a required written activity. Children will be required to write their homework assignments daily in their agenda. I would prefer that all students use the agenda provided by the school. Homework will **not** be posted on my website. Assignments are expected to be completed and written by the student.

G. Classroom Management Plan:

Students will be focusing on our seven habits this school year:

- Habit 1:** Be proactive.
- Habit 2:** Begin with the end in mind.
- Habit 3:** Put first things first.
- Habit 4:** Think win - win.
- Habit 5:** Seek first to understand, then be understood.
- Habit 6:** Synergize.
- Habit 7:** Sharpen the Saw.

A magnetic board in the classroom shows student numbers with five colors: green, yellow, orange, red, and blue. All students will begin each day on green. If classroom expectations are not met (e.g. talking during instruction) and a rule is violated, the following will occur:

- 1st offense** – Verbal warning
- 2nd offense** – Number is moved to yellow. – The student will lose 5 minutes of recess.
- 3rd offense** – Number is moved to orange. – The student will lose 10 minutes of recess.

4th offense – Number is moved to red. – The student will 10 minutes of recess. The teacher will send a note home to be signed by the parent.

5th offense – Number is moved to blue. – The student will be sent to the principal with a referral.

Serious offenses will go directly to blue and be sent to the principal's office with a referral.

H. Student Transportation

Student transportation is an important matter in providing a safe travel of students between home and school.

Sometimes your student's transportation from school may change periodically. If there is a change in transportation for your child, either for one day or for the remainder of the year, please communicate this information to your child's teacher.

I. Media Center

It is highly important that students choose books that support individual reading levels. During the first few weeks of school, students will focus on how to choose appropriate books for independent reading. Students will have daily access to books within the classroom. Also, students will generally have the opportunity to visit the media center at least once a week. I do expect students to read at home daily for at least 20 minutes. I encourage each child to keep a book in their book bag and desk at all times.

J. Weekly Reports

Red folders will come home every other Tuesday. I ask that you review your child's work, sign, and return the folder on Wednesday. All graded work will be included in the red folder. If signed folders are not returned by Thursday, your child will lose part of their recess. This will be a wonderful way for you to track your child's progress academically each week. I encourage you to check the Parent Portal on a regular basis for updated class averages. If you do not have a password to view your child's grades on the portal, you must present a picture ID at the school office to pick up your child's login information.

K. Missed Work/Make-Up Policy

Students will be responsible for all handouts from teachers. When your child is absent, he or she misses valuable instructional time. Please send a written note when your child is absent, and make up work will be put together for your child. Please understand that all activities (hands-on, discussion, labs) cannot be made up, and an alternative assignment may be given. If you know that your child will be absent, please let me know ahead of time so that work can be put together for your child to complete. Students will have five days upon returning to school with an excused absence to complete make up work. Those with unexcused absences will be responsible for assignments/tests on the day they return to school.

L. Non-Instructional Routines

Students will report to their designated bus holding area in the fifth grade hallway no sooner than 7:25 each morning and remain there until they are dismissed to class at 7:45. Students are required to use this as a time for independent reading, to prepare for tests, to study spelling words or math facts, or to study essential facts. At afternoon dismissal, all students will watch for their car or bus number or daycare name on the Promethean board to be dismissed. All school rules apply for student travel in the hallways, restroom, recess, and lunch.

M. Communication

Please review my website and the Cat Five newsletter weekly, which will provide you with important dates and information. Red folders will come home every other Tuesday for you to review your child's work. Important notes and information from me, the PTA, and the school will come home through email. I will schedule individual parent/teacher/student conferences at the end of the 1st nine weeks and on an as needed basis. Please feel free to call or email me at any time with questions or concerns.

N. South Carolina State Standards

A complete listing of standards can be accessed through the Greenville County School District website and the South Carolina State Department of Education/Education Oversight Committee websites:

<http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us>

<https://ed.sc.gov>

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