

Family Road Map for Fifth grade

An overview of your student's academic, social and emotional growth, courtesy of Eudora Elementary School

Academic Top 5

Here are some of the things that students learn during their fifth grade year. If you'd like more details, contact your child's teacher, or visit www.eudoraschools.org/empower to see a generic copy of the fifth grade report card.

1. **Math:** Fractions, decimals, place value and volume, as well as multi-step story problems with division, multiplication, addition and subtraction.
2. **Social studies:** American history from Native Americans and explorers through the American Revolution and U.S. Constitution.
3. **Reading:** Increasing skills in reading poetry, drama, nonfiction and chapter books. Summarizing texts and using inference skills to understand parts of a story that aren't fully explained by the author.
4. **Writing:** Parts of speech, capitalization, punctuation and spelling.
5. **Science:** Matter, the scientific method, inventions, and Earth's systems, resources and patterns.

Social emotional skills & behavior

Here are some of the developmental skills and phases that are typical at this age:

- Fifth graders are typically optimistic but can be anxious about friendship issues, world or family events. If your child is having trouble dealing with anxiety, contact the teacher or our office — we can help!
- “I don't know” or “Leave me alone” may be initial responses to “Have you finished your homework?” A parent's patient and consistent effort to keeping the conversation going will pay off, as most students at this age still need an adult's help keeping their schoolwork organized.
- Friendships in fifth grade often become more exclusionary (“who's in, who's out”), and some students start to pay closer attention to dynamics between classmates of the opposite sex (who's “going with” whom).
- At this age, the tendency for self-criticism can make sarcastic humor from adults confusing and painful.
- Healthy bodies make for healthy minds, and parents are the biggest influence on kids' decisions. Take time to explain your expectations about tobacco, alcohol and drug use, and touch base now and then to keep the lines of communication open.



COOL things about fifth grade

Fifth graders are unique! Here are a few of the many things that make this age special...

- By fifth grade, students have become intellectually curious learners who typically have the patience and persistence to work on more complex projects.
- Fifth graders often want explanations of facts, and they work hard to understand how things work and why things happen as they do. In the classroom, this makes it a great age for scientific exploration, small group discussion and class read-alouds.
- Battle of the Books motivates all fifth graders to contribute to their team of classmates by reading books that fit both their interest and reading skill level.
- Market Day is a special event weeks in the making, where Eudora fifth graders think critically, build business skills, and experience economics in action!

Questions?

If you have questions, or believe your child might benefit from more support in any area of learning and growth, here are some resources:

- **Your student's teacher** is a great first checkpoint if you have questions or concerns about academic progress or experiences at school.
- **Our school principals** are a good resource if you have concerns or questions about your child that extend beyond the classroom or aren't able to be resolved with your child's teacher.
- If your student seems to be struggling with social and emotional skills or is going through a stressful time with family or friends, our **WRAP worker (mental health professional) or school counselors** can help. You can reach these professionals by calling the school office.