

Assessment

- Throughout the year, classroom teachers will assess each student's growth and progress toward achievement of the learning goals specified in the state curriculum (GPS or QCC if GPS have not been implemented).
- These classroom assessments will be used to guide instruction in order to provide every child with the opportunity to learn and to succeed.
- Students will be made aware of the performance expectation for 5th grade and will acquire self-monitoring and self-assessing skills to help them maximize their achievement.
- In the spring, Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests in Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies will be administered to 5th graders in order to provide a standardized measure of student learning.
- Beginning in the year the Georgia Performance Standards are implemented for a content area, the CRCT will directly align with those GPS.
- In January, the Grade 5 Writing Assessment will be administered.
- Georgia law also mandates the administration of a norm-reference test to all 5th grade students sometime during the school year. The state provides the Iowa Test of Basic Skills; a school may choose to administer an alternate norm-referenced test at the system's own expense.

5th Grade Expectations

What should a child be able to do at the completion of 5th Grade?

What are the characteristics of a 5th Grader?

A typical fifth grader is a student who is beginning to establish his/her independence by branching off from parents and teachers as they become more socially involved and aware of peers. Growth is evidenced through social, emotional, and physical development. Their self-awareness is developing and emerging. They are developing a sense of responsibility, but they still need to be children and have the opportunity to play. Fifth graders are able to grasp the general concepts of reading, writing, and math, and they are able to follow multi-step directions. They are beginning to find their own information and be self-directed learners.



Promotion and Retention Policy from Coweta County Schools Board of Education Policy

1. In order for students to be successful in sixth grade, each student will exhibit at least 70% mastery of reading, vocabulary skills, math skills, and three of the four following subjects: science, social studies, language, and spelling. The 70% will reflect an average of grades from each 9 weeks throughout the school year. Grades will be based on daily grades, end of the selection tests, and authentic assessment.
2. For a student to be promoted to sixth grade, a rating of meets expectations or above is required on the reading/language arts, and math portion of the fifth grade Criterion-Referenced Competency Test. A rating of meets expectations or above is recommended on the science and social studies sections of the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test. Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, no fifth grade student shall be promoted to sixth grade if the student does not achieve grade level (meets expectations) on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test in reading and mathematics and meet promotion standards and criteria established by the local Board of Education.
3. In all subject areas professional assessment, written documentation, and portfolio assessment of the student's performance shall carry great weight in the final decision for promotion and retention.

Implementation Schedule

for the Georgia Performance
Standards in 5th Grade

English Language Arts
2005-2006

Mathematics
2007-2008

Science
2006-2007

Social Studies
2008-2009



5th Grade Language Arts

Fifth grade students will receive instruction in reading, writing, listening, speaking, & viewing. By the end of 5th Grade, students will be able to:

- Read and comprehend texts from a variety of genres (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama) and from a variety of subject areas (math, science, social studies, and English language arts)
- Construct new knowledge by making connections between new and previously held ideas
- Study subjects in more formal ways
- Write for a variety of purposes
- Use reading and writing skills to learn and understand more about their world and about different cultures
- Articulate how authors use a variety of techniques and craft in their writing, and show evidence of the author's craft in their own writing
- Understand a problem or conflict as stated in oral, visual, or written texts and determine an appropriate solution
- Utilize previous knowledge and experience, draw conclusions and make valid generalizations, apply logic, and incorporate evidence and reasoning to develop and support possible solutions to problems

5th Grade Social Studies

Fifth grade students will continue the formal study of United States history, beginning with the Civil War and culminating with the present. Concepts in geography, government, and economics will interface with the study of history. By the end of 5th Grade, students will be able to:

- Explain the causes, major events, and consequences of the Civil War, and analyze the effects of Reconstruction
- Describe and/or explain life in America from the late 19th century to the present, including the U.S. involvement in various wars and conflicts, the Great Depression and the New Deal, the Cold War, and significant people and events between 1950 and present
- Locate important places in the United States, both natural and man-made
- Explain the reasons for the impact of geography on the growth of the U.S.
- Explain the protection of citizens' rights under the constitution, including the process for and history of amending the U.S. Constitution
- Use economic concepts of trade, opportunity cost, specification, voluntary exchange, productivity, and price incentives to illustrate historical events.

5th Grade Science

Fifth grade students will investigate evidence related to scientific concepts. They will conduct experiments and do research that focuses on earth science, physical science, and life science. By the end of 5th Grade, students will be able to:

- Differentiate between observations and ideas
- Use records, tables, or graphs to identify patterns of change
- Identify and find examples of constructive and destructive forces while relating the role of technology to monitoring and controlling these forces
- Explain the difference between physical and chemical change
- Investigate the relationship between electricity and magnetism
- Classify organisms into groups
- Compare and contrast characteristics of learned behaviors and of inherited traits
- Identify plants, animals, single-celled organisms, and multi-celled organisms
- Relate how microorganisms are harmful or beneficial

5th Grade Mathematics

All students will be actively engaged in developing mathematical understandings in real and relevant contexts. By the end of 5th Grade students will be able to:

- Classify counting numbers by distinguishing characteristics (prime or composite, odd or even), find multiples and factors, and use divisibility rules.
- Find equivalent fractions and add and subtract common fractions and mixed numbers
- Use $<$, $>$, or $=$ to compare fractions
- Understand decimals as part of the base-ten number system and multiply and divide decimals
- Understand the meaning of percent and use percentages and circle graphs to represent and interpret statistical data
- Compute area and volume of simple geometric figures and measure capacity
- Understand congruence of geometric figures, and the relationship of circumference to diameter of a circle
- Represent and investigate mathematical expressions algebraically by using variables
- Compare and contrast multiple graphic representations of statistical data
- Use different strategies to solve problems, including the strategy of solving a simpler problem