

Oak Grove Fifth Grade

Fifth grade is purposely designed to look and feel like sixth grade, in order to truly prepare the students for middle school. Our goal is for every fifth grader to have a **challenging** and **successful** year. We'll emphasize **responsibility, accountability, organization, time management, and independence**. We'll provide the students with opportunities to put these ideas into daily practice. Each student should spend a few minutes each day organizing his/her backpack and 3-ring binder. There should be a labeled section for each subject so that every item is kept in its place and can be found promptly.

The primary means of keeping track of classwork, homework, tests, and due dates is the **agenda**. We want students to rely on it and recognize its value as an organizational tool. If more clarity is needed, check the teachers' websites or send an email. The collective fifth grade website AND the individual teacher websites are easily accessible from the Oak Grove Elementary website: www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/oakgrove

While the agenda is an important organizational tool, it is NOT the best way to communicate with the teachers. Email is the ideal way to reach us quickly, and we welcome your questions or feedback.

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If students are **managing their time wisely**, then there should not be any (or many) evenings when the HW is overwhelming. We recognize the benefits of extracurricular activities and family time. It is never our intention for there to be tears, stress, or late nights due to HW. If the amount of HW is ever too much, a parent can allow the student to close the books without completing the work, and **email the teacher** to explain why it was too much. If this is happening on a regular basis, we ask that you and your child discuss time management strategies, and focus on the assignments that can be completed ahead of time.

Subject Summary:

Language Arts - Spelling/vocabulary words are given (mostly) every two weeks and can be found on the fifth grade website. Spelling/vocabulary HW is due on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Typically the test is given on the second Thursday of the two-week period. The Daily Language Review will focus on grammar and parts of speech. Writing assignments will be given throughout the year. We'll use novel studies to teach elements of literature.

Math – HW is assigned daily Monday through Thursday. Students are expected to show their work on ALL assignments in order to receive full credit. If students have difficulty on any assignment, students and/or parents should inform the teacher by email.

Science – We start each chapter by defining the vocabulary words. On the day the vocab is due, students can expect an open-note (but not open-book) vocabulary quiz. The students have one **Further Project Choice Board** per semester from which they choose three projects to be completed outside of class. Students will begin working on their Science Fair projects in September, and they are due in early January.

Social Studies – We will cover the time period from the Civil War to Modern Day. HW is assigned periodically and will sometimes include what was not finished during class. Projects and performance tasks will be assigned with each unit. Students will work on them in class and finish at home if needed.