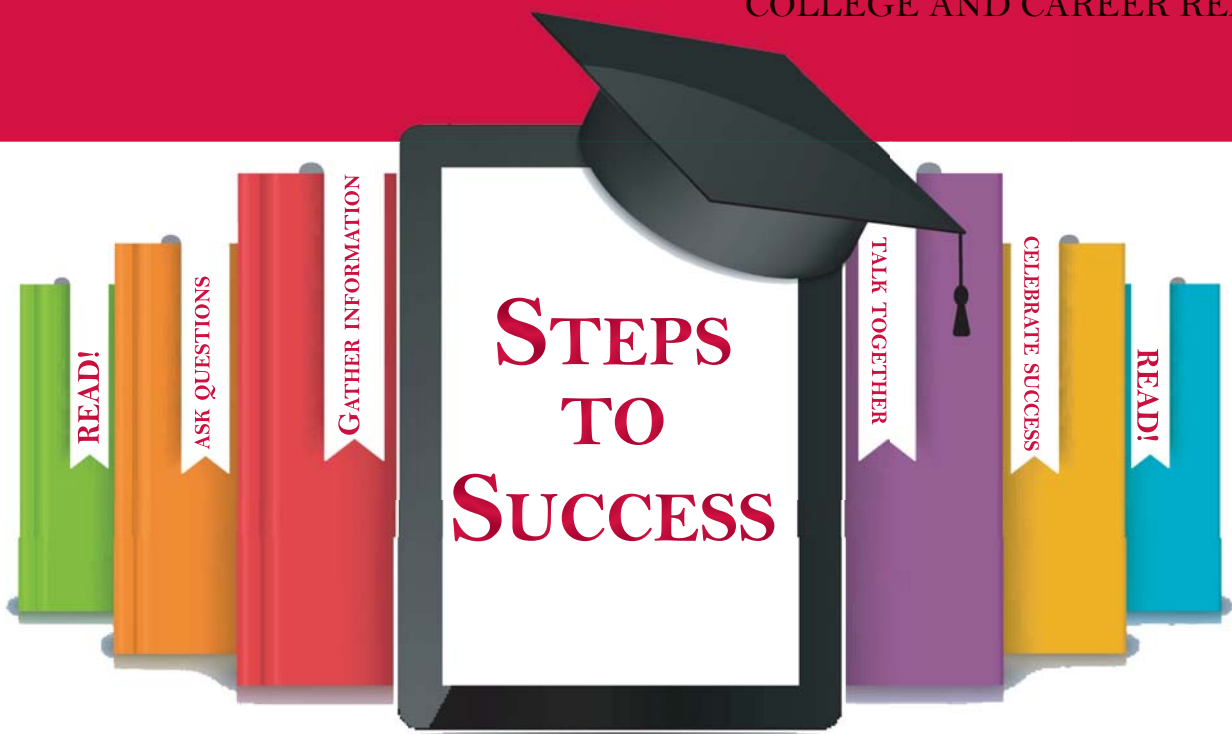


SOUTH CAROLINA STANDARDS

COLLEGE AND CAREER READY



Family-Friendly Guide for Fifth Grade

English Language Arts


Fifth-grade students have a firm grasp of the basic academics. The *South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards* guide students into reading and writing skills that are more complex. From this grade on, writing becomes more important and more frequent. In fifth grade, students practice and refine the skills learned in the lower grades. They are encouraged to think and analyze more deeply. At this age, students are able to take more responsibility for organizing and prioritizing their work.



STEPS TO SUCCESS

This document is designed to:

- Provide examples of the standards, skills, and knowledge your child will learn in English language arts and should be able to do upon exiting fifth grade
- Suggest activities on how you can help your child at home
- Offer additional resources for information and help



Log on to the SC Department of Education website, <http://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/>, for the complete standards.

LEARN ABOUT THE STANDARDS

The *South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for English Language Arts (ELA)*:

- Outline the knowledge and skills students must master so that, as high-school graduates, they have the expertise needed to be successful in college or careers.
- Provide a set of grade-level standards, “stair steps,” based on the previous grade’s standards which serve as the foundation for the next grade.
- Ensure that no matter where a student lives in South Carolina, the expectations for learning are the same.

Human knowledge now doubles about every three years. Therefore, revision of South Carolina’s standards occurs periodically to respond to this growth of knowledge and increase of needed skills so our students will be ready for college or jobs. The *Col-*

lege- and Career-Ready Standards prepare students for dealing with the growing mass of information by not only emphasizing content knowledge but by also stressing the skills of reasoning, analyzing data, and applying information to examine and solve situations.

South Carolinians developed these academic standards for South Carolina’s children. The ELA standards are aligned with the *Profile of the South Carolina Graduate*, which summarizes the knowledge, skills, and habits employers expect (See http://sccompetes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Profile-of-the-South-Carolina-Graduate_Updated.pdf.) Developed by business leaders, the *Profile* is approved by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and is endorsed by the Superintendents’ Roundtable, as well as South Carolina’s colleges and universities. The *Profile* demands world-class knowledge and skills, emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving, communication, and interpersonal skills.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS IN FIFTH GRADE

INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATION

Fifth-grade students are expected to analyze more deeply what they learn, read and investigate. At this level, students form ideas from their research and must support those ideas with evidence and details. Fifth graders use more materials to do research on a broader array of topics. These **Steps to Success** include:

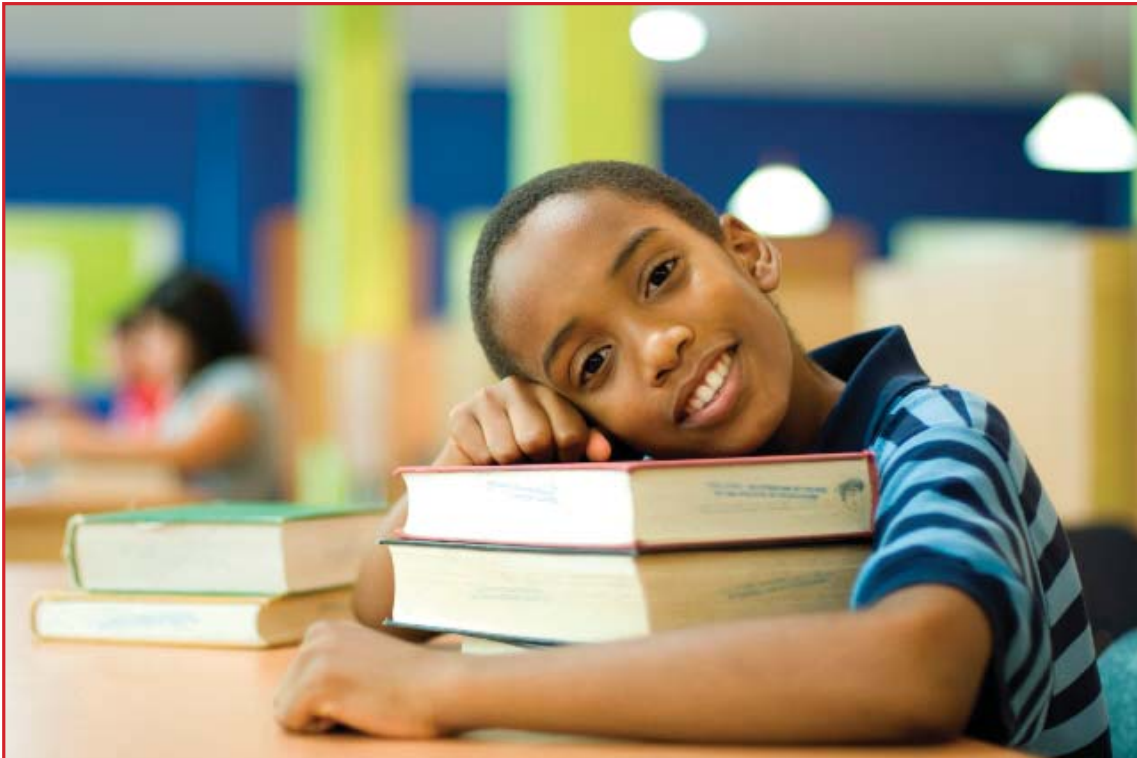
Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Middle School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop questions that narrow a topic and help direct further study • Conduct short research projects (such as book reports) to build knowledge and generate possible explanations. Consider other views or possible results. • Compare the way similar topics or ideas are handled in several print and multimedia sources • Draw conclusions from relationships and patterns found during the research • Discuss the purpose and reliability of information presented in different print and digital sources • Develop a plan to communicate findings and/or conduct further research • Examine the act of learning and think of how new learning can be used and applied in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop questions that narrow a topic and help direct further study • Conduct research to develop questions, build knowledge; and, generate possible explanations, while considering other views or possible results • Combine information from several print and digital sources to answer questions and solve problems • Analyze the reliability of information presented in different print and digital sources • Draw conclusions from relationships and patterns found during research • Develop a plan to communicate findings and/or conduct further research • Analyze the learning process and think of how to apply new ways of learning to future study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop questions to broaden thinking about an idea and direct additional study • Demonstrate that patterns of evidence lead to certain conclusions. Critically review them and acknowledging other views. • Develop questions based on evidence, give explanations, propose conclusions, but consider other viewpoints • Gather information from many sources and evaluate each for perspective, validity, and bias • Assess the process of investigation and anticipate and overcome obstacles. Reflect on the comprehensiveness of the inquiry.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS IN FIFTH GRADE

LEARNING TO READ

Fifth-grade students read a wide variety of increasingly challenging texts, both fiction and non-fiction. The emphasis is now on understanding what is read. Fifth graders mastery of grammar and punctuation is growing. These **Steps to Success** include:

Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Middle School
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use the knowledge of all letter combinations to read accurately, even unfamiliar multiple-syllable words in context• Use definitions, examples and restatements to determine the meaning of words or phrases• Increase the use of commas, quotation marks, and apostrophes• Read for extended periods to improve fluency and gain understanding of fourth grade texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use the knowledge of all letter combination sounds to read accurately, even unfamiliar multiple-syllable words in context• Use the overall meaning of a text or words to figure out the meaning of a word or phrase• Expand the use of commas, quotation marks, and apostrophes• Read for extended periods to understand fifth grade texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adjust reading strategies to the subject matter in order to better understand the academic subject• Expand subject specific and academic vocabularies



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS IN FIFTH GRADE

WRITING

Fifth-grade students spend a lot of time writing. They write essays, reports, and opinion papers that are several paragraphs long. They use more varied resource tools and are developing a writing style. These **Steps to Success** include:

Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Middle School
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to improve cursive writing• Write stories, opinions, and information pieces that are well organized• Use information from several print and digital sources to support ideas, opinions, and information• Adjust the writing for the task- to explain, entertain, inform or convince• Plan, revise, and edit to better focus on a topic and to improve writings. Build on the ideas of others to strengthen writing.• Write often on various topics. Increase writing in length and complexity• Demonstrate accurate keyboarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write legibly• Write stories and research papers using arguments that are well organized and supported by relevant facts• Use information from various credible sources. Provide a general observation and focus.• Use a style and tone appropriate to the writing purpose• Plan, revise, and edit to better focus on a topic and to improve writings. Build on the ideas of others to strengthen writing.• Write frequently on both fiction and non-fiction topics with deepening understanding• Write and research at length using the computer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write arguments that introduce opposing claims and provide evidence and data for each from multiple reliable sources• Develop the topic with well-chosen facts, details, and quotations. Follow a standard format for citation of sources.• Further develop a style and tone appropriate to the writing purpose• Plan, revise, and edit to improve writing• Write frequently and at length on both fiction and non-fiction topics• Write and research at length using the computer



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS IN FIFTH GRADE

COMMUNICATION

Fifth-grade students more clearly express their ideas and opinions in discussions and reports. They look more closely at presentations to analyze styles and content. These **Steps to Success** include:

Fourth Grade

- Paraphrase and respond to information given in a discussion, compare ideas, and examine evidence given to support certain points
- Express ideas gathered from many sources in a concise way. Conduct research independently.
- Report on a topic or give an opinion with facts and supporting details
- Speak clearly, adapting speech to task. Use standard English when appropriate.
- Create presentations using audio and visual tools to clarify ideas and thoughts
- Identify how and why a speaker chooses particular words and phrases or stresses certain words. Consider whether sufficient facts are included.

Fifth Grade

- Develop ideas to contribute to a discussion, providing accurate and related information
- Report on a topic or give an opinion with facts and descriptive details. Use a logical order of ideas.
- Participate in focused conversations. Build on the ideas of others. Pose questions, respond to clarify thinking, and express new thoughts.
- Identify how and why the speaker chooses particular words and phrases or stresses certain words. Consider whether sufficient facts are included and how they are presented.

Middle School

- Connect the ideas of several speakers and provide ideas, evidence, and observations in a discussion
- Consider new ideas and different opinions in developing views. Justify view based on the evidence given.
- Analyze and evaluate the credibility and accuracy of information and findings
- Determine the effectiveness of a speaker's argument. Evaluate the reasoning on the sufficiency of the evidence and whether irrelevant evidence was used.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS IN FIFTH GRADE

READING FOR ENJOYMENT AND ENRICHMENT

Fifth-grade students are better able to offer detailed analyses of characters and plots of books. They read a great deal more and with increasingly complex texts. Fifth graders think more analytically even about fictional stories and books. These **Steps to Success** include:

Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Middle School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and contrast first and third person points of view and how an author’s point of view influences the content and meaning • Compare the way topics, ideas, concepts, and events are described by first person and second person accounts/sources • Determine how the author uses words and phrases in order to shape and make the meaning clear • Explain how conflicts cause the characters to change or adjust their plans before the end of a story or the final event • Read independently for a sustained amount of time to improve fluency and build stamina 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize the key details of a story or the main concepts in the text • Analyze how the author uses words and phrases to impact the reader’s point of view • Compare the way topics, ideas, concepts, and events are shown in first person, second person, and third person accounts/sources • Quote accurately to study the meaning beyond the text to support conclusions • Analyze two or more characters, events, or settings and explain how they influence the plot or action • Read often and at length to improve vocabulary, learn about style, and enjoy the stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare a portrayal of a place or character to an historical account to understand how authors use or alter history for effect • Determine the theme(s) and analyze the development. Provide a summary. • Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes or character types from myths or traditional stories. Describe how the material is presented in a new way. Analyze the author’s choice of structures (parts of the story and how the reader encounters them) and draw conclusions about how they influence meaning. • Read often and at length to improve vocabulary. Learn about style and enjoy the stories.

READING FOR INFORMATION

Fifth-grade students research and write reports several pages in length. Students develop their ability to gather and organize information then make conclusions and predictions from the text. These **Steps to Success** include:

Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Middle School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze the meaning implied in the text. Give details and examples to support conclusions. • Summarize key details of several paragraphs • Make conclusions or predictions from the reading. Support ideas with details. • Read texts that are more complex. Respond according to the purpose of the task and whether it is to explain, inform, or convince. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quote from the text to analyze meaning given and implied in the text • Summarize a text with two or more central ideas, supporting with key details • Make conclusions or predictions from the reading, supporting ideas with details • Read texts that are more complex. Respond according to the purpose of the task and whether it is to explain, inform, or convince. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cite the evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says, both stated clearly and hinted at • Determine an author’s perspective or purpose. Analyze how the author acknowledges or responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints. • Analyze and evaluate the claims made in a text. Assess whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is sufficient.

LEARNING AT HOME

Your child may be more independent at this age, but your support and help are needed still to succeed in the fifth grade. Work with your child at home. Be informed about assignments and if help is needed with specific skills. Here are some suggestions for things to do at home to help your child learn:

- Watch the evening news with your child and write down the verbs and adverbs used in the broadcast. Watch for mistakes (“The boy was bit [bitten] by a shark.” “The plan went smooth [smoothly].”) Create a new broadcast substituting verbs and making the action more exciting by using adverbs. Or have your child “act out” the verbs and adverbs used in the news.
- Getting the order of events correct is important in writing - and in science and math. Have your child write down instructions for making a peanut butter and jelly sandwich or whatever the favorite is. As the instructions are read out, follow them precisely. Were they detailed enough? Let your child see if some directions were omitted or out of order. Explain how this is important in studying, writing, and learning. Try again with an activity such as dressing for school.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- For suggestions of fifth-grade spelling words and spelling activities to work on at home, see <http://www.spelling-words-well.com/fifth-grade-spelling-words.html>.
- Check out this site's free section for reading lessons, reading games, and spelling help: <http://www.smarttutor.com/free-resources/free-reading-lessons/fifth-grade-reading/>.
- For fun and challenging free games in language arts, go to <http://mrnussbaum.com/fifth-grade-language-arts/>. Some of this site's games can be downloaded onto a tablet for use.
- This site helps with vocabulary and grammar and donates rice through the *World Hunger Programme* for every right answer: <http://freerice.com>. Start at the lowest level of difficulty and let your child work his way up.
- For games, worksheets, and more try: <http://www.gameclassroom.com/5th-grade>.
- *Scholastic* provides "parent refreshers" of the skills your child is expected to learn in each grade in school: <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/collection/subject-refreshers/parent-primers>.
- Ask your local librarians for suggestions. They see what books are of interest to children and can point your child to the appropriate reading levels or special interests. Many libraries also have suggested reading lists on their website.



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