



PREPARING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS IN GRADE 5

Your Child's Progress

A parent resource for understanding what your child should learn and be able to do this year, and helpful suggestions for supporting your child's learning at home.

We owe it to our kids to make sure that they receive an education that prepares them to thrive in a global economy and civic life. That is why Connecticut raised the bar and issued an instructional roadmap that will prepare our kids for college and careers.

Our roadmap, the Connecticut Core Standards, sets learning expectations for what students should learn and be able to do at each grade level so that by the time they graduate from high school, they are ready to succeed in college and the workplace. These standards help set clear and consistent expectations for everyone involved in your child's learning.

A ruler for measuring student success

The Smarter Balanced assessments measure student progress based on the standards, or learning expectations, for Grades 3-8 in English language arts and mathematics. The scores can be used as a ruler to measure the skills your child acquired throughout the school year. The tests provide information about achievement in the current grade and growth from one grade to the next.

Building a bridge between school and home

At home, you can play an important role in setting high expectations and supporting your child in meeting them. If your child needs a little extra help or wants to learn more about a subject, work with his or her teacher to identify tutoring opportunities, to get involved in clubs after school, or to find other resources. Talk to your child's teacher regularly about how your child is doing beyond the parent-teacher conferences. By building a connection between home and school, you can greatly improve the impact of your child's learning.



What Your Child Learned in Grade 4

Mathematics

- Adding and subtracting whole numbers within 1,000,000 quickly and accurately.
- Developing an understanding of and building fluency with multi-digit multiplication and division (Example: $36 \times 15 = 30 \times 15 + 6 \times 15$; and $20 \times 15 + 10 \times 15 + 6 \times 15 = 36 \times 15$).
- Solving multistep problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, and explaining why the answer makes sense.
- Adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator (Example: $5/8 = 1/8 + 1/8 + 1/8 + 1/8$).
- Extending the understanding of fractions by comparing the size of two fractions with different numerators (top numbers) and different denominators (bottom numbers).
- Developing an understanding of equivalent fractions by using pictures, number lines, and fraction models (Example: $1/2$ is the same as $3/6$ and the same as $5/10$).
- Converting fractions with denominators of 10 or 100 into decimals and locating decimals on a number line.
- Connecting addition and subtraction of whole numbers to multiplying fractions by whole numbers.

English Language Arts

- Identifying the purpose of a story, drama, or poem.
- Identifying the main idea of a historical, scientific, or technical text.
- Summarizing the main topic of a text using the key supporting details.
- Comparing characters, events, settings, theme, or point of view in stories and myths.
- Explaining how an author uses facts, details, and evidence to support their points.
- Writing on a topic using facts, details, definitions, quotations, or other information.
- Writing a story with an event sequence that unfolds naturally, using dialogue, description, and sensory details, and providing a conclusion.
- Writing complete sentences with correct capitalization and spelling.
- Conducting short research projects using evidence from books and other sources.
- Participating in discussions by listening, asking questions, sharing ideas, and building on the ideas of others.

Please note: Text is printed materials (books, newspapers, magazines) as well as graphics, drawings, and multimedia such as audio or visual recordings.

What Your Child Will Learn in Grade 5

Mathematics

- Multiplying multidigit whole numbers quickly and accurately.
- Adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators (bottom number) by converting them to equivalent fractions with the same denominator (Example: $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{4}{6} - \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{6}$).
- Measuring volume using what is known about multiplication and addition and explaining why the measurement makes sense.
- Dividing up to four-digit whole numbers by two-digit divisors (Example: $6,132 \div 14 = 438$; use compatible numbers and think: $5600 + 420 + 112 \div 14 = 400 + 30 + 8$).
- Using models and story contexts to multiply and divide unit fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by unit fractions. Multiply fractions by fractions (Examples: $2400 \div \frac{1}{4} = 9600$; $\frac{3}{5} \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{9}{20}$).
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals to the hundredths place (Example: $0.7 + 1.25 = 1.95$).

English Language Arts

- Summarizing the key details of stories, dramas, poems, and nonfiction materials, including their themes or main ideas.
- Identifying how an author is using evidence to explain or support a topic.
- Giving in-depth descriptions of characters, settings, and events in a story.
- Explaining the relationship or interaction between two or more individuals, events, or ideas based on specific information in one or more texts.
- Writing opinions that offer reasoned arguments and provide facts and details that are logically grouped.
- Writing narratives that develop the plot with dialogue, description, and effective pacing.
- Strengthening writing by planning, revising, editing, or rewriting.
- Using technology to produce and publish writing.
- Conducting short research projects in which a topic is investigated using several sources.
- Participating in discussions by listening, asking questions, sharing ideas, and building on the ideas of others.

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How You Can Help Your Child

Mathematics

- Encourage your child to use what is already known to find answers for new problems (Example: if $30 \times 7 = 210$, then $3,000 \times 70 = 210,000$).
- Ask your child to explain what he or she is doing when working on a problem. Be patient with unfamiliar methods, because they might be helpful to support your child's understanding of mathematics.
- Encourage your child to stick with a problem that may seem difficult at first, working on different ways to solve a problem can be helpful.
- Play math games with your child and ask for explanations of his or her strategies and solutions.
- Use everyday activities such as shopping to show your child how fractions and decimals are used.

English Language Arts

- Encourage your child to "read like a detective" to find evidence to compare and contrast characters, events, and information.
- Work with your child to research a topic of interest through print and online resources.
- Urge your child to keep a daily journal, if possible, on the computer.
- Encourage your child to use reference materials (either in print or online) such as a dictionary, thesaurus, or glossary to look up unknown words or phrases and to look for word meaning within the text.
- Support your child in learning how to make a strong argument. Have your child present an argument on a topic using evidence to support the argument or claim.
- Have family members look for interesting words that were heard that day. Have everyone share the word they collected and tell what they think it means. If the child shares an incorrect meaning, guide him or her to the correct meaning. Try to use some of the words in conversation.
- Talk about the daily news. Pick one news event to read and then watch a news clip on the same topic. Compare the facts, details, and points of view of the news story.
- Provide your child with exposure to typing on a keyboard (using a home or library computer).

Resources

Mathematics

Khan Academy

The [Khan Academy website](#) provides an extensive library of user-friendly content for K–12 mathematics. Students can practice at their own pace and use interactive challenges and videos from any computer with Internet access.

Be A Learning Hero

The [Be A Learning Hero website](#) supports families in guiding their children’s learning by providing resources, tools, and tips aligned to grade-level expectations. It helps parents understand their child’s progress in math and offers activities to build skills at home.

IXL

The [IXL website](#) offers comprehensive, standards-aligned practice in mathematics. Students receive personalized recommendations, immediate feedback, and interactive questions that adapt to their skill level.

Math Playground

The [Math Playground website](#) provides a variety of engaging math games, puzzles, and problem-solving activities for students. It encourages critical thinking and helps students build fluency through play and practice.

English Language Arts

Reading Rockets

The [Reading Rockets website](#) offers many resources and activities that can help your child become an engaged reader, including literacy adventure packs, themed booklists, author interviews, nonfiction resources, summer reading suggestions, and more.

AdLit:

The [AdLit website](#) supports adolescent literacy with resources for both parents and educators.

iColorín Colorado!

The [iColorín Colorado! website](#) is a national multimedia project that offers a wealth of bilingual, research-based information, activities, and advice for educators and families of English learners/multilingual learners.

National PTA Parent Toolkit

The PTA's mission is to make every child’s potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children, they offer the [National PTA Parent Toolkit website](#).