

PARENT GUIDE TO

FIFTH GRADE

First Nine Weeks

READING LANGUAGE ARTS

In our first reading and writing units, we are learning how inventions shape the world and how authors bring stories to life. We are also building strong skills for explaining our thinking and writing clear opinion essays.

- Ask your student to explain the big idea of a text.
- Talk about how one event caused another –use words like “because” and “so.”
- Ask how a character changed and what helped them grow.
- Talk about what message or lesson the author wants readers to learn.
- Encourage your student to use **examples from the text** when they answer questions.
- Let them write about real problems or topics they care about.

MATH

Module 1 Place Value and Decimals: your student is developing place value understanding of decimals to the thousandths place and applying that understanding to round, compare, and order decimals, as well as perform decimal operations.

[Grade 5 Math Module 1 Tips for Families \(English and Spanish\)](#)

Module 2 Multi-Digit Whole Number and Decimal Operations: your student will be applying the patterns of the base-ten system to mental strategies and evaluating using the multiplication and division algorithms.

[Grade 5 Math Module 2 Tips for Families \(English and Spanish\)](#)

SCIENCE

- Help your student compare things by how heavy they are, if they stick to magnets, if they sink or float, their shape (solid, liquid, gas), size, how they mix in water, and if they let heat or electricity pass through.
- Explore mixing things like iron bits with sand or sand with water and see how each part stays the same.
- Look at how things change when mixed in water and talk about how nothing disappears.
- Talk about how everything is made of tiny pieces too small to see.
- Build simple electric circuits with your student and watch how electricity can make things move, light up, make sound, or get warm – and learn what parts are needed for it to work.

SOCIAL STUDIES

During this grading period, students will be learning about the geography of the United States and Exploration & Colonization. Students will:

- Learn about different regions of the United States.
- Explore how geography has shaped where people live, build cities, and start businesses.
- Discover why Europeans explored & settled in America.
- Learn about early colonies.
- Talk about early governments in the colonies.
- See how supply & demand affected farming and industries in the colonies.
- Use and create maps.

News and Resources All Year Long



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QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER



- What are the key skills my student needs to master to be ready for middle school?
- How does my student handle responsibility with assignments, deadlines, and classwork?
- What are your expectations for student behavior and participation in class?
- How is my student doing in reading, writing, and math—and are they on track?
- Are there enrichment or support opportunities available if my student needs them?
- How does my student interact with classmates and work in group settings?
- What's one thing we can do at home to support learning this year?

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD LEARN AT HOME?

- Help your student create a daily routine for homework, reading, and screen time.
- Encourage them to speak up respectfully when they have questions or need help.
- Talk through how to stay organized—keeping folders, notebooks, and supplies in order.
- Practice checking over work for mistakes before calling it finished.
- Practice math facts daily!

DIGITAL TOOLS FOR SUCCESS FOR HOME & SCHOOL



The below tools are accessible through DISD's [ClassLink Portal](#). Click the ClassLink Icon to the left and login with Student ID and Password.



(Free Resource)



BEYOND ACADEMICS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

Character Strong:

- Kindness Kickoff (August)
- Respect (September)
- Responsibility (October)

Perspective-Taking: To consider a situation from another person's point of view. Skills:

- Work to understand others' thoughts & feelings.
- Consider how to respond after understanding other people's point of view.

News and Resources All Year Long



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