

PARENT GUIDE TO

FIFTH GRADE

Fourth Nine Weeks

STEAM

READING LANGUAGE ARTS

This grading period, students strengthen key reading and writing skills. They will practice writing clear responses, using text evidence, and improving sentence clarity. Students will read engaging texts and explore themes that will guide a short research project.

Students will:

- Write clear responses that include a claim and evidence.
- Organize ideas with strong reasons and explanations.
- Revise sentences to make writing smoother and more precise.
- Identify an author's claim, evidence, and perspective.
- Read new texts, identify themes, and use those themes to explore research topics.

MATH

Module 6

Problem Solving with the Coordinate Plane and Data

- Students will use the Coordinate Plane (grid) to locate points using the x-axis (horizontal) and y-axis (vertical).
- Students will use ordered pairs to identifying points/locations written as (x, y).
- Students will apply different rules to points to see how they form various lines on the coordinate plane.
- Students will use the coordinate plane to plot points/create graphs to track changes over time, like plant growth or savings.

[Grade 5 Math Module 6 Tips for Families](#)
(English and Spanish)

SCIENCE

- Observe and talk about how plants, animals, and non-living things (like water, soil, and sunlight) all work together to help living things survive.
- Discuss how energy from the Sun moves through food webs, from plants (producers) to animals (consumers) and back to the environment through decomposers.
- Imagine what might happen to animals and plants if something in their environment changes, like less water or fewer plants, and how that affects the food chain.
- Talk about what makes an ecosystem healthy and how people's actions, like planting trees or polluting, can help or hurt the environment.

SOCIAL STUDIES

This grading period, students are learning:

- How World War I and World War II affected the United States and the world.
- How the Great Depression and Dust Bowl changed life for many Americans.
- How the civil rights movement worked to gain equal rights for all people.
- How the Cold War shaped global politics and led to conflicts like the Space Race.
- How the Space Race inspired scientific discoveries and exploration.
- How 9/11 impacted the nation.
- How the 2008 election was historic.
- How individuals can get involved in their communities and participate in government today.

News and Resources All Year Long

DICKINSON
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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HOW CAN I HELP MY Exceptional Learner

- How ready is my child – academically and emotionally – for middle school?
- What strengths will help them succeed as a 6th grader?
- What are some key learning gaps or concepts to revisit before next year?
- How does my child manage increased responsibility and independence?
- How has my child grown as a thinker, problem solver, or communicator this year?
- What are some summer learning opportunities (books, programs, websites) you'd recommend?

LOOKING AHEAD Preparing for Sixth Grade

Sixth grade is the start of junior high, bringing new routines and responsibilities. Help your child prepare by:

Practicing time management. Switching classes and juggling assignments requires planning. A planner or digital calendar can help.

Encouraging self-advocacy. Teach your child to ask questions, seek help, and communicate respectfully with teachers.

Promoting organization. Middle schoolers need clean backpacks, organized binders, and awareness of due dates.

Supporting reading skills. Texts become longer and more complex—talk about main ideas, evidence, and connections to their world.

TOOLS FOR SUCCESS



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



BEYOND ACADEMICS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

Character Strong:

- Cooperation (March)
- Courage (April)
- Creativity (May)

Cooperation means working together to reach a common goal, even when tasks feel challenging or opinions differ. Students learn how to listen, share ideas, and respect others' strengths.

Courage isn't just about being brave in big moments—it's also about speaking up, trying new things, and doing what's right even when it's difficult. Students learn that courage can look quiet or bold, and that mistakes are part of growing.

Creativity is the practice of thinking in new ways, solving problems with imagination, and expressing ideas through art, writing, design, or innovation.

News and Resources All Year Long

