

Huntsville City Schools Fifth Grade Skills List

Outlined skills are from the Alabama State Department Courses of Study and were compiled and summarized by a committee of Huntsville City School teachers. Courses of Study are reviewed and adopted on six year cycles by rotating subject areas annually.

Language Arts

Students will:

1. Demonstrate reading vocabulary knowledge, including recognition of multiple-meaning words.
2. Use a range of strategies, including drawing conclusions such as opinions about characters based on their actions and summarizing passages, to comprehend fifth-grade literary/recreational materials in a variety of genres.
3. Recognize the use or effect of literary elements and devices-including setting, character traits, stated purpose, metaphors, and simple symbolism-and recognize stated purpose and gain information from various text formats, including tables and charts.
4. Use a wide range of strategies and skills, including using text features to gain meaning, summarizing passages, and drawing conclusions, to comprehend fifth-grade functional and textual/informational reading materials.
5. Use a wide range of strategies to interpret, evaluate, appreciate, and construct meaning from print materials.
6. Use text features to gain meaning.
7. Exhibit the habit of reading for a substantial amount of time daily, including assigned and self-selected materials at their independent and instructional levels.
8. Demonstrate literal understanding of print material.
9. Interpret passages in print material.
10. Demonstrate reading improvement gained through substantial amounts of daily reading.
11. Use literary analysis.
12. Read grade-level text aloud and silently with fluency and comprehension.
13. Recognize the features of a variety of genres.
14. Read and view literature representative of various cultures, eras, genres, and ideas to develop an appreciation of their heritage and that of others.
15. Monitor own reading.
16. Read a variety of materials and genres encountered in daily lives.
17. Apply strategies of a skillful listener.
18. Select appropriate print and nonprint media independently for a variety of purposes.
19. Recognize persuasive techniques found in a variety of sources.
20. Compare and contrast cultural similarities and differences of the world through exposure to multicultural literature.
21. Describe how events, places, and characters encountered in written, spoken, and visual works reflect human experiences and influence the thinking of the reader, viewer, or listener.
22. Compare and contrast the experiences and feelings of literary characters to students' lives.
23. Employ study strategies with increasing facility to gain information.
24. Demonstrate vocabulary growth developed through reading and listening to literature.
25. Use appropriate reference sources for a variety of purposes.
26. Write in a variety of modes to express meaning.
27. Exhibit the habit of writing on a daily basis in academic, social, and/or personal situations.
28. Organize content of written compositions with attention to basic characteristics.
29. Use the writing process when composing different forms of written expression.
30. Know and apply principles of grammar and usage in writing, speaking, and presenting and apply mechanics in writing.
31. Monitor the writing process.
32. Spell correctly in final written products.
33. Write legibly in cursive.
34. Express meaning through writing more complex sentences, more detailed paragraphs, and multi-paragraph compositions in an organized manner.
35. Correct errors in sentence structure in oral and written presentations.
36. Use computers for expression.
37. Apply figurative language found in literature to enhance written and oral expression.
38. Organize and present information in visual, oral, and/or print form.
39. Exhibit skill in dramatizations and other oral presentations.
40. Demonstrate increased facility with oral language for a wide range of purposes and audiences.

Mathematics

Students will:

1. Demonstrate number sense by comparing, ordering, rounding, and expanding whole numbers through millions and decimals to thousandths.
2. Solve problems involving basic operations on whole numbers, including addition and subtraction of seven-digit numbers, multiplication with two-digit multipliers, and division with two-digit divisors.
3. Solve word problems that involve decimals, fractions, or money.
4. Determine the sum and difference of fractions with common and uncommon denominators.
5. Identify numbers less than zero by extending the number line.
6. Demonstrate the commutative, associative, and identity properties of addition and multiplication of whole numbers.
7. Write a number sentence for a problem expressed in words.
8. Identify regular polygons and congruent polygons.
9. Identify components of the Cartesian plane, including the x-axis, y-axis, origin, and quadrants.
10. Identify the center, radius, and diameter of a circle.
11. Estimate perimeter and area of irregular shapes using unit squares and grid paper.
12. Calculate the perimeter of rectangles from measured dimensions.
13. Convert a larger unit of measurement to a smaller unit of measurement within the same system (customary or metric).
14. Analyze data collected from a survey or experiment to distinguish between what the data show and what might account for the results.
15. Use common fractions to represent the probability of events that are neither certain nor impossible.

Science

Students will:

1. Identify questions that can be answered through scientific investigations.
2. Use appropriate tools and technology resources to gather, analyze, and interpret data.
3. Demonstrate the ability to perform safe and appropriate manipulation of materials, living organisms, scientific equipment, and technology.
4. Use appropriate skills to design and conduct a scientific investigation.
5. Think critically and logically to make inferences and describe relationships between evidence and explanations.
6. Investigate alternative explanations of experimental results.
7. Use available technology to communicate scientific procedures and to defend explanations.
8. Apply mathematical knowledge and skills to scientific investigations.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationships among science, technology, and society past and present.
10. Describe the evidence of chemical changes.
11. Recognize that gravity is a force that pulls every mass toward every other center of mass in the universe.
12. Describe how simple machines make work easier.
13. Describe various forms of energy.
14. Describe a variety of sources for producing and conserving different forms of energy.
15. Recognize transformation of energy.
16. Recognize that heat flows from hot materials to cold materials.
17. Describe methods of energy transfer.
18. Recognize cumulative change over time by comparing similarities and differences of fossils to living organisms.
19. Identify the components and functions of human body systems.
20. Develop classification systems for specific purposes.
21. Recognize that living things are made of one or more cells.
22. Describe cells as observed with the aid of various technologies.
23. Relate populations within a habitat to communities, ecosystems, and biomes.
24. Describe a variety of ecosystems.
25. Identify the effects of biotic (living) and abiotic (nonliving) components on ecosystems.
26. Trace energy transfer within terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.
27. Identify and describe spheres of the Earth.
28. Describe the features of the oceans.
29. Relate the tides to the movements of the moon and the Earth.
30. Analyze effects of the sun on the Earth.
31. Describe technology used to investigate the Earth.
32. Identify technology used to update knowledge about the Earth/solar system.
33. Describe the components of the universe.
34. Describe how instruments are used to observe the universe.

Visual Arts

Students will:

1. Compare different periods of art.
2. Recognize symbols different cultures use to portray common themes.
3. Analyze lives and times of artists using the subject matter of their art work.
4. Discuss subject matter in works of art.
5. Compare subject matter in different types of art work.
6. Define selected visual art vocabulary.
7. Associate styles used by individual artists with the artist.
8. Describe ways artists use ideas and feelings to create works of art.
9. Compare differences in artistic styles.
10. Explain how art reflects and records history in various cultures.
11. Describe ways that people are involved in the visual arts within a community.
12. Describe the function of art within the total environment.
13. Describe the various aspects in a work of art.
14. Analyze the composition in a work of art.
15. Identify specific media in a work of art.
16. Observe and discuss the content in a variety of works of art.
17. Use art terms to evaluate a work of art.
18. Examine ways value, harmony, balance, and unity make a work of art aesthetically pleasing.
19. Discuss the relationships among works of art, individuals, and the societies in which they are created.
20. Analyze ways art is created as a response to images, forms, nature, and experiences.
21. Describe different effects of positioning objects.
22. Discuss ways society expresses through art forms changes in values and beliefs.
23. Analyze the use of art in everyday life.
24. Compare and contrast different interpretations of the same subject or theme in art.
25. Identify visual and tactile qualities of the world around them.
26. Describe visual characteristics of forms that are natural and man-made.
27. Discuss feelings generated by a work of art.
28. Use technology to investigate visual images.
29. Recognize color schemes.
30. Experiment with mixing colors.
31. Create different visual and actual textures.
32. Produce graphic symbols, signs, and posters to communicate ideas and feelings.
33. Organize elements of art and principles of design in a work of art.
34. Investigate the different careers in the visual arts.
35. Describe different media used in production.
36. Produce art using different two-dimensional media and processes.
37. Produce art with a variety of three-dimensional media and processes.
38. Use multimedia and other technology to create visual imagery and design.

Social Studies

Students will:

1. Locate physical features that impacted the exploration and settlement of the Americas.
2. Identify causes and effects of prehistoric migration and settlement in North America.
3. Compare major Native-American cultures in respect to geographic region, natural resources, government, economy, and religion.
4. Explain the effects of European exploration during the Age of Discovery upon European society and Native Americans, including the economic and cultural impact.
5. Describe the early colonization of North America and the reasons for settlement in the Northern, Middle, and Southern colonies.
6. Identify the impact of trade routes on emerging colonies in the Americas.
7. Identify events leading to the American Revolution, including the French and Indian War, the Stamp Act, the Intolerable Acts, the Boston Massacre, and the Boston Tea Party.
8. Identify major events of the American Revolution, including the Battles of Lexington and Concord, the Battle of Bunker Hill, the Battle of Saratoga, and the Battle of Yorktown.
9. List steps involved in the development of the Constitution of the United States, including reasons for the failure of the Articles of Confederation and struggles over the ratification of the Constitution.
10. Explain the causes of and major events occurring during the War of 1812.
11. Describe political, social, and economic events between 1803 and 1848 that led to the expansion of the territory of the United States.
12. Identify causes of the Civil War from the northern and southern viewpoints.
13. Describe Westward Expansion and its technological, economic, and social influence on the people of the United States from 1877 to the 1900s.
14. Identify the social, political, and economic changes that occurred during Reconstruction.

Music

Students will:

1. Sing a varied repertoire of age-appropriate music alone and with others.
2. Sing with proper vocal technique.
3. Sing songs representing diverse cultures and genres.
4. Use age-appropriate vocal range.
5. Sing expressively.
6. Respond to the cues of a conductor.
7. Sing ostinatos, descant, partner songs, rounds, two-part songs, and counter melodies.
8. Perform a varied repertoire of music using correct posture and playing position.
9. Perform steady, strong and weak beats using simple, repeated rhythmic patterns.
10. Perform simple accompaniments on pitched and unpitched instruments.
11. Perform simple melodic, rhythmic, and chordal patterns on classroom instruments.
12. Echo short rhythmic and melodic patterns.
13. Perform independently while others sing and play contrasting parts.
14. Respond to the cues of the conductor.
15. Perform rhythmic accompaniments to movement.
16. Perform simple songs by sight.
17. Read rhythmic patterns in regular meters.
18. Recognize and use standard notation symbols and terms.
19. Describe staff notation as moving up, down, by skip, by step, by leap or as staying the same.
20. Use a system (syllables, numbers, or letters) to read pitch notation in the treble clef in major keys.
21. Identify notation on the staff by line and space names.
22. Identify melodies of familiar songs by name.
23. Describe melodic contours.
24. Analyze meters.
25. Recognize and perform simple forms.
26. Recognize melodic sequence.
27. Recognize instruments by sight and sound.
28. Create rhythmic and melodic variations and harmonic accompaniments.
29. Improvise short songs and instrumental pieces using a variety of sound sources and unpitched instruments.
30. Improvise answers to given rhythmic and melodic phrases.
31. Explore timbres of electronic, environmental, and invented sound sources.
32. Compose simple melodies and ostinato accompaniments.
33. Use a variety of sound sources when composing.
34. Compose accompaniments to songs, poems, stories, and dramatizations.
35. Compose and arrange songs and instrumental pieces.
36. Use composition to demonstrate understanding of musical elements.
37. Recognize and practice accepted audience behavior.
38. Recognize and practice accepted performance behavior.
39. Evaluate the quality and effectiveness of their own performances and the performances of others.
40. Identify relationships between music and the other arts as well as disciplines outside of the arts.
41. Correlate music in relation to history and culture.

Technology

Students will:

1. Demonstrate optimal posture and position at the compute workstation.
2. Communicate about technology using developmentally appropriate and accurate terminology.
3. Use common input and output devices efficiently and effectively.
4. Use developmentally appropriate keyboard techniques.
5. Describe correct procedures for troubleshooting simple hardware and software problems.
6. Discuss common uses of technology in daily life and the advantages and disadvantages associated with each.
7. Discuss basic issues related to responsible use of technology and information including personal consequences of inappropriate use.
8. Identify legal and ethical behaviors when using information and technology.
9. Identify areas in which technology has impacted human lives.
10. Demonstrate basic operations of a word processor.
11. Utilize general purpose productivity tools to facilitate learning throughout the curriculum.
12. Use a variety of media and technology resources to create and communicate knowledge products across the curriculum.
13. Use telecommunication and other media to collaborate and interact with peers and other audiences following appropriate laws and regulations.
14. Use the Internet to locate information.
15. Determine appropriate keywords for finding information using a web search.
16. Evaluate the relevance and appropriateness of electronic information sources.
17. Relate search results to class or individual assignments.
18. Use technology resources for problem solving.
19. Select appropriate technology tools and resources to address a variety of tasks and problems.

Physical Education

Students will:

1. Perform the critical elements of opposition, balance, weight transfer, and fluid movement patterns involved in all nonlocomotor skills.
2. Demonstrate the critical elements of opposition, balance, weight transfer, and fluid movement patterns involved in all basic manipulative skills.
3. Describe how the movement concepts of time, force, flow, direction, level, pathways, and relationships impact the quality of complex movement patterns.
4. Describe balance and weight transfer in a game, sport, dance, or gymnastic routine.
5. Recognize basic concepts of game strategies.
6. Perform movement concepts in increasingly complex patterns.
7. Critique elements of fundamental and specialized movement skills to provide feedback to others.
8. Identify basic principles of training and conditioning for physical activities.
9. Associate results of fitness testing with personal fitness goals and the ability to perform various activities.
10. Engage in daily moderate-to-vigorous physical activity in a variety of settings.
11. Develop an individual fitness plan based on personal fitness goals.
12. Utilize information from a variety of sources to improve fitness/skill performance.
13. Recognize individual differences and similarities while participating in group activities.
14. Create physical activities that provide opportunities for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, social interaction, and integration of other subject areas.
15. Work independently to improve movement skills.
16. Apply rules, procedures, and etiquette to physical activities.

Health

Students will:

1. Identify appropriate sources of help to cope with health-related problems.
2. Name factors to consider when selecting health products.
3. Explain how messages from media and other sources influence health behaviors.
4. Identify environmental health problems.
5. Identify types and techniques of communication that influence family behavior.
6. Identify adolescent risk behaviors that are the most common causes of injury or premature death.
7. Evaluate the impact of regular physical activity on health.
8. Discuss the impact of puberty on physical and emotional health.
9. Describe the relationship of eating disorders and mental health.
10. Identify the percentage of fat, protein, and carbohydrates needed in daily caloric intake.
11. Demonstrate the ability to practice basic first-aid skills.
12. Describe the body's natural defenses against diseases and preventive measures that help combat disease.
13. Recognize that some communicable diseases are preventable.
14. Identify positive peer pressure techniques to counteract risk factors that lead to substance abuse and other unhealthy behaviors.

Additional skills in each subject and in other areas may be required by the Alabama State Department of Education, Huntsville City Schools, or other entities. Standardized tests may assess skills that are not included. This list is adapted from the grade level Alabama Courses of Study.