

# Fifth Grade Curriculum

**Reading:** Students work to improve their reading skills using various forms of cross-curricular fiction and non-fiction texts. Fifth graders will continue to improve fluency skills, enhance comprehension abilities and build higher level thinking in students by participating in annotating strategies of passages, analysis of texts, vocabulary building, and activities which offer students experiences with various types of texts. In addition, each student participates in the Accelerated Reader program, allowing teachers to monitor growth, to determine a path for reading success, and to keep parents informed of their child's progress.

**Grammar/Writing:** Our vision has been to build a bridge between reading and writing. Students are introduced to mentor texts as a way to demonstrate proper grammar and writing. Students continue to write comprehension responses utilizing a restate, answer, and cite evident from the texts in all classes. Students learn ways to enhance writing with rich vocabulary while following the basic conventions of grammar. Writing assignments are given in all classrooms and cross-curricular research is evident.

**Religion:** Students continue to explore their Catholic identity with the help of our basal, "The Spirit of Truth." Fifth grade focuses on our faith in the Sacraments as well as learning more about scripture.

**Social Studies:** The curriculum used in fifth grade is Pelican Ed. Social Studies. Students learn about early civilization up to the American Revolution. Students study geography, maps, cultures and events of early civilizations as well as the people up to the mid-1700s.

**Math:** Using the Eureka Math curriculum, students learn to apply an understanding of various math skills. Students spend time with practicing and interpreting the operations of algebra and using algebraic thinking, they form a strong number-sense with place values and base ten operations, and they continue with fractions

and measurements. In addition, geometry is introduced with coordinate planes and classifying two-dimensional figures. Zearn is implemented to reinforce the math skills that the students have learned and are currently learning. It is also a way to challenge excelling students in math. This is a great goal-orientated program to encourage and motivate students.

**Science:** The basal is Elevate Science by Pearson. In small groups and through cooperative learning activities, students are taught the Scientific Method. Concepts learned in the fifth grade include: matter, energy, ecosystems, the Earth and its place in our universe. In the spring, students participate in STARBASE, a DOD initiative at Camp Beauregard in Pineville, which affords students a weeklong learning environment focusing on STEM.

