

# **Fifth Grade Curriculum Guide**

## **Bennington Elementary**



Bennington Elementary  
11620 N. 156th Street  
Bennington, NE 6800

## **OUR MISSION...**

The mission of the Bennington Public Schools is to provide educational opportunities in a safe, caring environment that will prepare all students to meet the challenges of the future.

This mission is supported by the following value statements:

- Community support enhances learning
- Every individual is important and deserves respect
  - Every student can learn
  - Students learn by doing
- Collaborative involvement facilitates learning
  - Individuals learn in different ways
- Effective communication is an essential life skill
- Thinking skills are necessary in a changing world
- A love of learning enhances the quality of life
- Reflection and self-evaluation are valuable

## **Reading/Language Arts**

Bennington students will become independent readers, writers, listeners, and speakers through a balanced literacy instructional program.

Bennington's balanced literacy program will consist of:

- systematic & explicit instruction in:
  - phonemic awareness
  - phonics
  - fluency
  - vocabulary
  - comprehension of both factual & fictional material
- reading aloud both student & teacher
- shared reading
- guided reading in flexible groups
- independent reading
- instruction in the Six-Trait Writing + 1 Model
  - voice
  - ideas
  - word choice
  - organization
  - sentence fluency
  - conventions
  - presentation
- modeled and shared writing
- interactive writing
- independent writing
- speaking instruction & opportunities
- listening instruction & opportunities
- grammar
- Text Dependent Analysis (TDA)

### **Our Reading Series:**

**McGraw-Hill Reading Wonders ©2014, Grade Levels K – 5, *Unlock the Wonders of Reading***

*Reading Wonders* is designed specifically for the State Standards for Reading/Language Arts.

Combining research-based instruction with new tools to meet today's challenges, every component and every lesson is designed for effective and efficient instruction.

The program provides support for

- Building a strong reading foundation
- Accessing complex text
- Finding and using text evidence
- Engaging in collaborative conversations
- Writing to sources
- Spelling

Using a rich range of diverse print and digital media, *Wonders* provides the instructional support and materials that were created to teach the rigor, intent, and depth of the new State Standards.

### **Listening**

- Develop listening skills for information.
- Follow oral directions.
- Listen for enjoyment and comprehension.

### **Handwriting**

The fifth grade teachers utilize the Zaner-Bloser curriculum for handwriting. The curriculum teaches the basic structure of cursive handwriting as well as more in-depth pieces.

### **Writing**

The Collaborative Literacy program for grades K–6 supports students' ability to work independently, encourages students to share their thinking with others, and fosters students' ongoing development as readers and writers.

- The Writing Community
- The Writing Process
- Personal Narrative
- Fiction
- Expository Nonfiction
- Functional Writing
- Opinion
- Poetry

### **Grammar**

The *Being a Writer* program supports students' acquisition of grammar, usage, and mechanics skills.

- Sentences
- Nouns and Pronouns
- Verbs
- Modifiers and Other Parts of Speech
- Punctuation

## **Mathematics**

We will be beginning a new math curriculum in the 2018-2019 school year. We are adopting the *Bridges in Mathematics - 2nd Edition with Number Corner* curriculum.

In grade 5 math, your child will:

- use models and strategies to divide 2- and 3-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers, with and without remainders. (Students are not expected to use the standard long division algorithm until sixth grade.)

- add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators
- multiply fractions and divide fractions in simple cases
- measure volume
- explain patterns in the number of zeros and the placement of the decimal point in the answer when multiplying or dividing by powers of 10
- read, write, round, compare, add & subtract, multiply & divide decimals
- multiply multi-digit whole numbers
- locate and graph points on a coordinate plane

### **Course overview**

The fifth grade science curriculum focuses on 4 units Nature of Science, Life Science, Earth Science, and Physical Science. Throughout the year we will incorporate using the scientific method for science inquiry. We will make and use models to explain scientific theories. Fifth graders will design and implement scientific experiments, and develop an understanding of science as a human endeavor. These are some of the main topics which will be studied throughout the year. ***Science Fusion*** is utilized in our study throughout the year.

### **Nature of Science**

- Students will learn how scientists work.
- Students will learn about the engineering process.

### **Life Science**

- Students learn about cells to body systems.
- Students will learn how living things grow and reproduce.
- Students will understand ecosystems and how energy moves through an ecosystem.
- Students will understand what a natural resource is and how we can conserve them.

### **Physical Science**

- Students will study and experiment with matter, physical and chemical changes, and mixtures and solutions.
- Students will study light and sound energy.
- Students will understand and experiment with forces and motion.

### **Earth Science**

- The students will study the parts of the earth; crust, mantle, and core and changes to the Earth's surface.
- Students will understand the rock cycle and learn about different kinds of fossils.
- Students will learn about the earth's oceans and the solar system.

# **Social Studies**

## **Course Overview**

Fifth grade students study the early history of the United States. The course progresses from the earliest inhabitants of North America, through European explorers, colonization, the Revolution, the Constitution, and then on through the early 1800's. With the use of hands-on projects, students hone their research, critical thinking, report writing, and public speaking skills. Additional units of study focus on economics, electoral politics, and the current regions and states of the United States.

## **Course Outline**

We utilize the *Networks Social Studies - United States Early Years* curriculum by McGraw Hill

Our curriculum focuses on seven main units of study throughout the year:

1. Geography
2. Native Peoples of North America
3. The Age of Exploration
4. Colonial America
5. The American Revolution
6. Founding the Nation
7. Westward Expansion

# **Fifth Grade Specials**

## **Guidance and Counseling**

Guidance classes as well as small group lessons and individual guidance assistance are an integral part of the school curriculum. Guidance lessons are designed to promote student growth in three areas: social/emotional domain, academic/educational domain, and career/occupational domain. The school counselor works with staff and parents in various ways to support a positive school experience for all students.

## **Physical Education**

The primary purpose of the physical education program is to provide students with the opportunities to gain the knowledge, understanding, and skills to practice healthy physical activities throughout their lives. All students are taught to work together and treat others with respect and good sportsmanship.

## **Music**

All standards in K-3 apply and sequential learning will build on that foundation.

- Demonstrate basic vocal technique through performance.
  - Sing a diatonic song with pitch accuracy
  - Sing harmony, descant, two-part, three-part singing
  - Use correct posture.
- Reading and notation of melody and rhythm.

- Use rhythm patterns that include syncopated and dotted rhythms
- Pick up and Down beat
- 6/8 time signature, mixed meters, asymmetrical meters, cut time
- Sixteenths, triplet, polyrhythms
- Ledger lines, octave, Bass clef, Grand staff, intervals, note stems
- Whole steps, half steps, tonic
- Major and minor scales and chords, Chromatic scale
- Enharmonic equivalents
- Perform on pitched and unpitched instruments, recognize instruments by sight & sound
  - Play melody or harmony on instrument (4<sup>th</sup> grade- recorders)
  - Recognize individual instruments by sight and sound
- Introducing the structural components of form and harmony.
  - Countermelody, round, descant, 4 part harmony
  - Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass
  - Chords: I, IV, V, V7
  - Accompanied, unaccompanied, accapella, unison
  - Texture, monophony, homophony, polyphony
  - Fugue, sequence, D.C., and D.S.al fine, Coda
  - First and second (etc.) Endings
- Composing, arranging and improvising melodies, rhythms, variations and accompaniments within specified guidelines.
  - Together as a class and/or as an individual
- Listening to, analyzing, evaluating and describing music and music performances and styles.
  - Listening to and/or performing many different genres of musical style
- Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

## Art

The elementary art curriculum encompasses the Art Elements and Design Principles in a comprehensive art education model and uses the Nebraska K-12 Fine Arts Standards.

### **Major Art Concepts for Fifth Grade**

- **Line:** blind contour, continuous line contour
- **Color:** color wheel, monochromatic, tints, shades
- **Value:** hatching, cross-hatching, scumbling, stippling, shading, blending, and value scales
- **Space:** positive and negative, 1-point perspective, depth, foreground, middleground, background
- **Form:** sculpture
- **Pattern:** motif
- **Balance:** radial, facial symmetry, facial proportion, facial distortion
- **Contrast:** contrast

## Spanish

### **Fifth Grade Goals**

In Fifth grade, our goals are to provide opportunities for children to do the following:

- To recognize a sound system different from English
- To hear and respond to simple directions in Spanish
- To name and identify vocabulary related to the unit of study
- To produce oral language by imitating, singing, rhyming and responding with learned words and phrases
- To exchange basic information and interact with peers, using phrases and questions

### **Fifth Grade Activities**

Some activities in the Fifth grade Spanish classes include the following:

- Singing, games, and movement
- Counting, graphing, sorting, etc.
- Listening to stories
- Learning about cultural similarities and differences
- Following directions
- Responding with simple words and phrases
- Writing simple sentences, descriptions and preferences
- Write a personal communication such as a note, letter, or invitation

## **Fifth Grade Information**

**Progress Reports:** First reports will be emailed and posted online about mid-September. These will simply indicate the student's progress in each core subject. A grading scale is included on each report so that you can easily convert their average into a letter grade.

**Homework:** Students can expect to have 30-50 minutes of homework. Most assignments may be taken home to be finished, but hopefully study time will be used wisely each day so that the homework load will be lightened. If your child is struggling with this at home, please call/email us so we can work towards a solution.

**Visitors:** Please come and visit our rooms whenever you have some free time. It's always fun to share our day with you. For safety reasons, we ask that you check in at the office before going to your child's classroom.

**Papers Home:** All work should go home for parents to see. Usually we make a special effort to clean out desks and pass out completed work on Friday. Look for your child's take-home folder each Friday. It will contain corrected papers and other important notes. Send the folder back on Monday. The Badgerline will also be emailed on Friday.

**Accelerated Reader:** We are using the accelerated reading program throughout the elementary school. A computer generates 10 questions about the selected library book. Your child will answer questions about his/her book on the computer. Students receive feedback in the form of a computer printout on % of correct responses, etc. The students are awarded prizes for the number of AR points they accumulate each week. Each student will set a quarterly goal and work towards reaching that goal.

**Discipline Policy:** The fifth grade teachers use a clipboard for discipline problems and late assignments. If a student has a discipline problem or a late assignment, they will be asked to write their name on the clipboard. If a student should get their name on the clipboard three times in one day, they will be referred to the principal, fill out a Discipline with a Purpose Problem-Solving form, and receive a detention. If a student is on the clipboard 4 times in one week, they will receive a detention. If a student is on the clipboard 6 or more times in one month, they will serve a detention. Detentions are served on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:07-3:45.

**Book orders:** Book orders will be sent home monthly. When returning book orders, make sure your child's name is on the order form. Please make checks payable to Scholastic Books or use the online ordering system.

## **Assessment of Learning**

The assessment program serves as a source of information to support effective decision making related to individual student achievement and learning, classroom organization and planning, school improvement planning, district management and improvement planning and district policy making.

The school system assesses students according to procedures in its local assessment plan which meets the assessment requirements specified by the Nebraska Department of Education's Rule 10: *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*.

Our students are assessed using the following tests:

**Math:** NeSA Math Assessment is given in the early spring. District assessments are administered throughout the year.

**Science:** NeSA Science is given in the early spring  
District assessments are administered throughout the year.

**Reading:** NeSA ELA Assessment is given in the early spring.

**Social Studies:** Districts assessments are administered throughout the year

### **MAPS Test**

This test is administered three times throughout the year in the fall, winter and spring. It will be given in the subjects of reading, math, language, and science.