



Bennington
Public Schools
Fifth Grade
Curriculum

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



Bennington Public Schools
Language Arts
Mission Statement

Bennington Public Schools is committed to helping all students become successful readers, writers, listeners, and speakers.

Students will be provided with reading skills based on both the structure of language and the meaning of language in context that they can apply.

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
 - fluency
 - conventions
 - presentation
- modeled and shared writing
- interactive writing
- independent writing
- speaking instruction & opportunities
- listening instruction & opportunities

Reading

Fifth grade reading incorporates the use of Wonders by McGraw-Hill. The curriculum is designed specifically to address 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. Fifth grade will implement a rich range of diverse literature and digital media through personalized student instruction.

Writing

Throughout the year the students will work on developing and strengthening their writing and grammar skills with the implementation of Scholastic Traits Writing from Ruth Culham. Time will be spent learning the writing process and the 6 + 1 traits of writing. Students will learn how to implement these skills into their writing. The students will participate in various writing assignments such as, personal narrative, expository writing, research report, poetry writing, letter writing, and informational articles. The students will present their writing in the form of podcasts, poetry readings, and booklets.

Spelling

Fifth grade uses the Sitton Spelling Series. We do not give a weekly list of words to study. The students focus on high-frequency words and level five core words. (see attached list) It emphasizes the learning of important words for a lifetime of spelling in the real world. We focus on homophones, adding prefixes and suffixes, plurals and possessives, and spelling patterns.

Listening

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

Mathematics

This year students will be introduced to many new mathematical concepts. Children need to practice new concepts so you can expect your child to bring home math assignments most evenings. Time is given at the end of each period so students can work on their assignment. We want to ensure that children have a good understanding of the concept being taught. Listed below are the areas that will be covered in fifth grade. Several state assessments are given. I have marked those concepts with an asterisk.

❖ Numeration/Number Sense

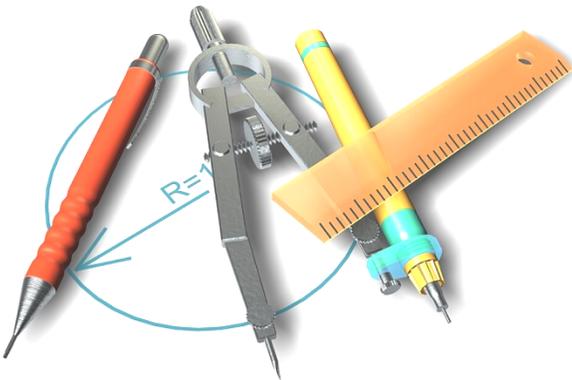
- o Recognize whole numbers, rational numbers, and integers
- o Identify equal ratios
- o Compare and order fractions and decimals
- o Change percent to equivalent forms
- o Identify prime and composite numbers

❖ Computation and Estimation

- o Add and subtract fractions with like denominators
- o Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators
- o Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals *
- o Multiply fractions and mixed numbers
- o Add and subtract mixed numbers with like and unlike denominators
- o Use a variety of strategies to solve word problems*
- o Find a percent from a number
- o Add, subtract, multiply whole numbers*
- o Divide whole numbers by 1 and 2-digit divisors*
- o Rename fractions as mixed numbers and in simplest form
- o Solve proportions and ratios
- o Evaluate expressions using the order of operations
- o Use estimation in a variety of problems

❖ Measurement

- o Use the proper tools and units to measure time
- o Find elapsed time*
- o Recognize and find the area of a figure in both standard and metric units
- o Use the proper tools and units to measure both metric and customary capacity
- o Use the proper tools and units to measure weight, mass, temperature, perimeter, area, and volume
- o Solve problems involving time



- o Convert units of time*

❖ **Geometry/Spatial Concepts**

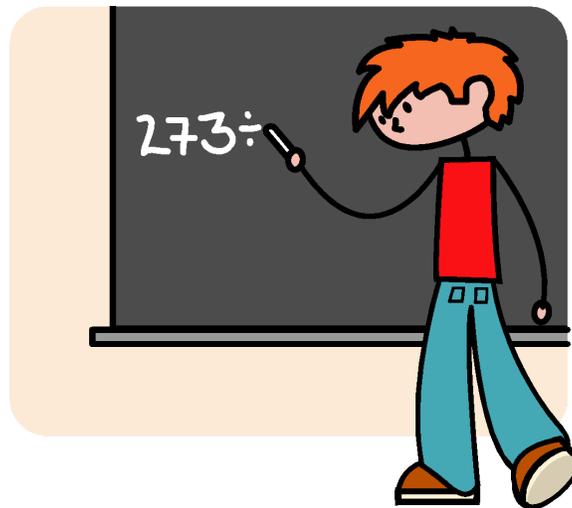
- Identify polygons*
- Identify lines*
- Describe the properties of quadrilaterals*
- Classify and describe angles and ray
- Understand and apply the properties of congruence, similarity, and symmetry
- Find perimeter and area of rectangles, squares, triangles, and parallelograms
- Find circumference and area of a circle
- Find the volume of a prism
- Apply slides, flips, and turns to quadrilaterals
- Use geometric representations to solve problems and describe the physical world

❖ **Data Analysis/Probability/Statistics**

- Make and interpret charts and graphs
- Calculate the mean, median, mode, and range of data
- Use ordered pairs to organize data

❖ **Algebraic concepts**

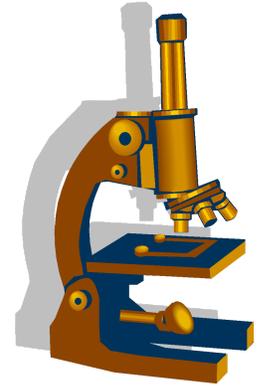
- Solve expressions using order of operations
- Describe patterns to solve problems



Science

Course overview

The fifth grade science curriculum focuses on four units of study: life science, physical science, earth science, and the human body. 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.



Life Science

- ❖ Students will study living and nonliving things.
- ❖ Students will study ecosystems, habitats, and adaptations.
- ❖ Students will understand systems, order, and organization.

Physical Science

- ❖ Students will study and experiment with matter, physical and chemical changes, and mixtures and solutions.
- ❖ Students will study and experiment with gravity, potential and kinetic energy, and inertia.
- ❖ Students will investigate and experiment with light, heat, electrical, and magnetic energy and how energy is transferred.
- ❖ Students will report on a famous inventor and how the invention impacted society.
- ❖ Students will create an invention to solve a problem or make a job easier.

Earth Science

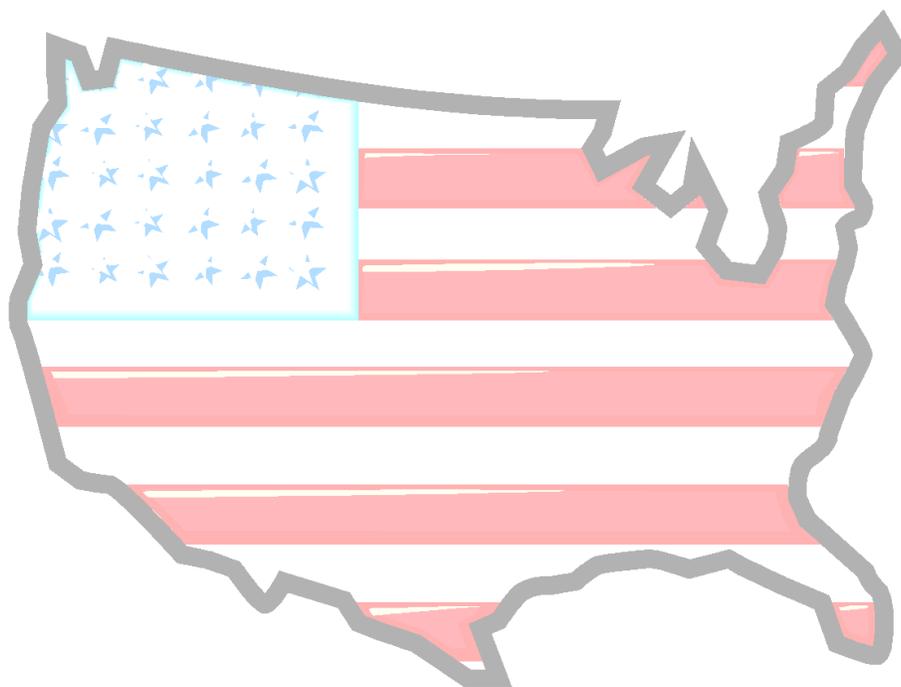
- ❖ The students will study the parts of the earth; crust, mantle, and core.
- ❖ The students will study natural resources both renewable and nonrenewable.
- ❖ The students will learn about changes to the earth's surface caused by weathering, erosion, and deposition.

Human Body

- ❖ The students will learn about the respiratory system.
- ❖ The students will learn how the body gets rid of cell wastes.
- ❖ The students will study the food pyramid and the importance of good nutrition during the RATS project.

Social Studies

Course



Overview

Fifth grade students study the beginning 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 begin the year by learning what the term Social Studies means. We introduce ourselves through a time line that defines who we are through Social Studies terms.

Our study then turns to the very beginning of the United States through the study of the Ice Age and early Native cultures of North America. We learn how these cultures were influenced by factors such as climate and resources. Students create models and reports and present their findings to the class.

Our next unit centers upon European Explorers and exploration: from the Vikings through the Spanish, French, and English. We learn reasons for their explorations as well as the impacts upon the native communities through a menu-based project.

Students then delve into European colonization of the Americas. The conflicts between the imperial powers of France, Spain, and England are related to their

impact upon our country. We also learn of the difficulties and successes of the first settlements in North America.

Life in the original 13 colonies is studied. Once again, the factors of climate and resources are examined. The motivation of these early colonists is studied by asking questions such as, "Why did the colonists leave their homeland for a new world?" and "How did this influence their colonial lives?"

We then study the growing conflicts between the colonies and England—the factors which slowly but relentlessly moved towards open conflict, a declaration of independence, and war. We learn of key forces, people, and events. Students also study the years immediately following the war: the difficulties experienced by the government and its people. We then come full circle and review the United States Constitution and its impact on our lives, including our systems of checks and balances and electoral politics.

Fifth Grade Specials

Guidance and Counseling

Once a week in Bennington Public Schools, our elementary guidance counselor will come to the classroom. The curriculum our district uses for our guidance program is through the Mendez Foundation. In the fall we do a program entitled Too Good for Violence, and in the spring we do Too Good for Drugs. Topics such as drugs, alcohol, tobacco, bullying, and peer pressure are covered. In addition, we learn about creating a healthy lifestyle through friendship, effective communication, self-care, and managing emotions. We teach these subjects through role-plays, games, and activities.

Supplemental topics beyond our Mendez curriculum are also studied such as career exploration, academic success, empathy/self-esteem, safety and stranger danger.

In addition to classroom guidance instruction, our counselor is available to work with individual students and small groups. Groups are available for topics such as learning social skills, making friends, coping with grief/loss and adjusting to divorce/separation.

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

The Mission of Bennington's Music Department is to engage students in the study of music, giving them the opportunity to be creative in an environment that fosters self-expression, teamwork and cultural diversity.

	<u>4th Grade</u>	<u>5th Grade</u>	<u>6th Grade</u>
Rhythm	 Anacrusis Identify 6/8 Syncopation	 Read and notate traditional rhythmic notation	 Cut time
Melody/Pitch	Fa Note Names	Ti	Bass clef Read and compose using traditional melodic notation
Form	Partner Songs Theme and variation Instrumental canon	Theme and variations 1st and 2nd endings	D.C., D.S
Texture/ Harmony	I chord Level Bordun	I and V chords 3pt speaking/canon 2 pt singing	I, IV, V chords 2-3 pt singing
Expression	Staccato Tempo markings Recorder articulations	Phrasing Legato/accent	Phrasing More Italian terminology and abbreviations
History/Style/ Timbre	Recorder Instrument families	Instrument families Technology	Musicals Technology

National Standards for Music Education

1. Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music. 2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music. 3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments. 4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines. 5. Reading and notating music. 6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music. 7. Evaluating music and music performances. 8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts. 9. 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 National Art Standards.

Focus

Unit 1: Line and Shape

Unit 2: Space and Form

Unit 3: Color

Unit 4: Texture, Pattern and Rhythm

Unit 5: Space, Proportion and Distortion

Unit 6: Balance, Variety, Unity and Harmony

Elements

Line - Sketch

Color - Monochromatic

Shape - Two Dimensional

Value - Tints & Shades

Space - Background, Foreground, & Middle ground Positive & Negative

Space

Form - Three Dimensional

Principles

Proportion - Knee's & Elbows

Balance - Radial Balance

Contrast - Shape Contrast

Unity/Variety - A Cohesive Unit

SPANISH

	UNIT 1	UNIT 2	UNIT 3
KINDERGARTEN	Numbers 1-10	Colors (primary)	Shapes and sizes
FIRST GRADE	Numbers 1-20	Colors (all)	Body parts
SECOND GRADE	Numbers 1-30	School supplies	Family members
THIRD GRADE	Numbers 1-100	Places in the school and giving directions	Alphabet
FOURTH GRADE	Ordinal numbers and review numbers 1-100	School supplies	Family members and describing them using adjectives.
FIFTH GRADE	Numbers 1-1000	Telling time	Likes/dislikes and sports
SIXTH GRADE	Market (bargaining and money) review numbers	Market (clothing, colors and sizes)	Market (food)

*Students will receive a "Spanish Squares" sheet at the beginning of each unit. It consists of 5 tasks or skills the students are to master by the end of the unit. Students are asked to practice the skills every day at home and return the individual Squares signed, when they have mastered the task/skill. Parent involvement, support and, encouragement in this process not only increases student acquisition of Spanish but also gives students an increased sense of confidence.

*Please access our Spanish website for vocabulary lists, copies of assignments, and copies of the Spanish Squares. The website also has additional practice for students.

WEBSITE ADDRESS:

<http://bennington.ishareinfo.org/kadeshina/index.cfm>

Fifth Grade Information

Midterms: First reports will come home with your child 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. Our first parent/teacher conferences are not scheduled until October.

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 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 with a parent signature and date. The Badgerbeat will also come home 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 monthly goal and work towards reaching that goal.

Discipline Policy: The fifth grade teachers use Class Dojo for discipline problems and late assignments. If a student has a discipline problem or a late assignment, they will receive one negative Dojo point. If a student should get two negative points in one day, they will use a portion of their recess time to reflect on their behavior. If the student gets three negative points 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 has 5 negative points in one week, they will receive a detention. Detentions are served on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15-3:45.

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: District assessments are administered throughout the year.

Science: District assessments are administered throughout the year.

Reading: A cumulative test is administered at the end of the year.

Social Studies: Districts assessments are administered throughout the year

MAPS:

This test is administered 3 times a year. Once at the beginning, middle and end of the school year in the area of math.

TerraNova Test

This test is administered in October over a 1 week period.

NeSA Test

This is a series of tests set by the state of Nebraska and takes place in the spring. Fifth graders test in the areas of Math, Science, and Reading.