

## **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum**

The fifth grade curriculum consists of reading, language arts, math, science, and social studies instruction, in addition to specialty classes (art, music, and physical education).

## **Math**



In fifth grade math, students continue to develop and expand their knowledge of geometry, fractions, computation skills and applications, measurement and conversions, decimals, and general number sense abilities. On most days students will complete math boxes and a study link for the current lesson. Additional work may also be assigned.

Our class will be participating in the Accelerated Math program this year. Students who have an avid interest in math may enroll in the sixth grade Accelerated Math course. All other students are enrolled in the fifth grade course and will be expected to complete Accelerated Math assignments weekly (look for a red folder). Completion of the sixth grade course is required to qualify for the sixth grade Pre-Algebra placement test given in April.

## **Writing**



Our class will be using the Lucy Calkins Writing Workshop model for writing instruction. Students will study and write in the following genres:

- Personal Narrative
- Essay
- Poetry
- Fiction
- How-To/Informational

## **Reading**



Our class follows a workshop model in reading instruction:

### **Whole Group Reading**

In whole group reading, students practice specific reading skills/elements and comprehension strategies through a whole-class minilesson or a shared reading lesson.

### **Small Group Reading**

In small group reading, students apply reading strategies and skills to their on-level books. The teacher may confer with an individual student or meet with a small group of students to practice a specific reading strategy.

### **Independent Reading**

The majority of reading workshop is dedicated to independent reading. During this time, students will read their on-level book, interact with the text using sticky notes, and share their insights with a partner. Students will meet with the teacher periodically to confer about their independent reading.

### **Reading Expectations**

Students are expected to read a minimum of 20 minutes at home each weekday, for a total of 100 minutes at home every week.

Students will write reader's responses at home and in class throughout the week. A reader's response is a meaningful reaction to the text. There is no required length of a reader's response, only that it should be thought-provoking and include enough detail to inform and enlighten the reader. The teacher will discuss reader's responses during individual/group reading conferences.

### **Library**

Our class will visit the library on Thursdays. Students may check out up to three books at a time.

## **Word Study**



Students are placed in a word study group based on periodic assessment of their developmental spelling level. During word study, students typically sort spelling words, discuss patterns and common elements, and practice spelling through a variety of activities. Students may also study word meanings, origins and roots, and synonyms/antonyms.

Students are expected to complete weekly assignments from a word list they have in their purple word study folders. All word study assignments are due on the day of the spelling/vocabulary test. For additional practice, visit our class page on Spelling City:

<http://www.spellingcity.com/bowenpeters>

## **Social Studies**



Students will study the early history of the United States through the War of 1812. Specifically, they will learn about exploration and settlement, the Revolutionary War, the three branches of our government, and the early Federal Period. Geography and cultural studies are embedded within daily lessons.

Fifth graders will be taking a field trip on December 17 to JA Biztown, where they will participate in a hands-on experience of working at a job.

## **Science**



We will be teaching science through an inquiry-based learning model. Students will be learning through hands-on science kits and investigating physical, earth/space, and life science skills. We will be presenting the following units of study:

- Physical Science – Motion and Design
- Earth/Space Science – Earth, Moon, and Stars
- Life Science – Ecosystems
- Scientific Method – Process Skills

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Policies



### Planners

Students are given a planner to keep track of daily activities and assignments. It is the student's responsibility to fill out the planner and have a parent sign it each day.

### Homework

Any unfinished work in class will be homework and due the following day unless otherwise specified. Students are required to show all work on assignments. Our policy on late work is as follows:

- 1st day late: Loss of recess to work on assignment inside
- 2nd day late: Call to parents, loss of recess, and deduction of possible points to a 75%
- 3rd day late: Loss of recess and assignment grade deducted to a 50%

Students will be required to finish all work, no matter how late it is.

### Pride Club

Peters Pride Club rewards students for making positive behavior choices. Students who consistently show that they are respectful, responsible, and safe will earn a Peters Pride Card. Every week, students will be evaluated to see if they have earned Pride for the following week based on their behavior.

Students who have their Pride Card will enjoy certain privileges at our school. Rewards for students may include eating outside at lunch, a surprise extra recess, eating lunch with their teacher, shoes off day, and other unannounced surprises.

### Progress Reports

Progress reports will be sent home after the sixth week in each grading period. Parents are asked to sign and return the detachable portion.

## Class Schedule (Mon.-Thurs.)

Friday start is 30 minutes later

Arrival / Announcements	7:50-8:05
Specialties	8:05-8:50
Reading Workshop	8:50-9:55
Word Study	9:55-10:15
Writing Workshop	10:15-11:15
Social Studies / Science	11:15-12:00
Recess / Lunch	12:00-12:40
Interactive Read-Aloud	12:50-1:10
Math	1:10-2:30
Dismissal	2:30-2:35

## Class Web Site



Visit our class web site to view our daily agenda, upcoming events and news, information about units of study, quizzes and games for extra practice, and lots more. This web site is updated daily and can be a great resource for students to prepare for homework and tests.

<http://bowenpeters.weebly.com>

## Contact Information



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Planning Period: 8:05-8:50

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# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Mr. Bowen's Class

*Peters Elementary  
2013-2014*