

Understanding the Grade Five Report Card

This guide has been prepared to help you understand your child's report card. It describes in detail what skills, concepts, and behaviors are expected at this grade level. Further information about curriculum specifics is available from your child's teacher. Please ask if you need further clarification.

The Key

The following key is used to describe student progress as a class citizen, a learner and in academics:

4 = Demonstrates independent consistent application of concepts and skills

3 = Demonstrates application of concepts and skills

2 = Demonstrates developing understanding of concepts and skills

1 = Demonstrates some understanding of concepts with skills and assistance

Letter grades will be given for overall achievement in reading, writing, math, social studies, and science:

A = 90-100	C = 70-79
B = 80-89	N = Not meeting the standard

AS A CLASS CITIZEN AND LEARNER

Accepts responsibility for own behavior

- Understands the connection between behavior and logical consequences.
- Internally monitors own behavior.
- Accepts responsibility for (and works to rectify) mistakes.

Follows school rules

- Follows classroom, playground, specialist, bus, and cafeteria rules.

Shows respect and consideration for others

- Respects and honors differences.
- Is kind and considerate to all members of the school community.
- Shows empathy for others' struggles and challenges.

Uses positive strategies to resolve conflicts

- Uses non-physical strategies such as discussion, role-playing, "I" messages, using a staff member as a resource, writing a note, and signing up for class meeting to resolve conflicts.

Works well collaboratively

- Contributes to group projects.
- Participates without monopolizing the leadership role.
- Skilled at solving disagreements within the group in a positive manner.

Follows classroom routines and schedules

- Follows routines: (Turning in homework without a teacher prompt, walking appropriately in the halls, checking for homework and mail at the end of the day, etc.)

Uses materials appropriately and cleans up

- Uses classroom materials without breaking or damaging them.
- Puts materials back in the appropriate place.
- Shares materials generously with others.
- Cleans up work space and floor when asked.

Listens attentively

- Listens attentively and respectfully to classmates and school staff without interrupting.

Follow oral directions

- Follows a multi-step oral direction.

Follows written directions

- Attempts to read and follow directions before seeking teacher help.

Demonstrates organizational skills

- Gathers materials needed for a particular task.
- Keeps track of and prioritize assignments.
- Keeps individual spaces (desk, backpack, mailbox, cubby, etc.) and work materials (papers, notebooks, and folders) organized enough to be productive.

Adjusts to transitions / changes

- Lines up quickly and quietly for other classes.
- Shifts between tasks with little or no disruption to the learning environment.
- Adapts to unexpected change (substitute teachers, last minute adjustments to the schedule, etc.)

Makes productive use of class time

- Settles down quickly to begin assignments.
- Sustains independent work for the specified time.
- Stays on task.

Daily work is legible and shows thought and organization.

- Takes care to do a complete and thorough job on all assignments.
- Strives to make written work neat and easy to read.

Works well independently

- Works for a specified time on an assignment without losing focus or interrupting others.

Seeks / accepts assistance when necessary

- Can advocate for him/herself if he/she needs help.
- Willing to accept individual help or additional small group support from any staff member.

ACADEMICS**SPEAKING AND LISTENING****Communicates clearly for a variety of purposes**

- Advocates for him/herself.
- Solves problems through discussion.
- Contributes to class discussions and class meetings.
- Explains thinking.
- Asks questions.
- Presents information to an audience.

Follows rules for discussion (raising hand, waiting turn, speaking one at a time)

- As a speaker, is respectful, articulate, focused, and willing to take turns.
- Is a quiet listener who carefully attends to the speaker's words.

READING**Reads orally with fluency and expression, using appropriate word attack strategies**

- Reads text out loud at a smooth and comfortable pace.
- Varies expression as indicated by text. (For example, voice rises at the end of a question, or becomes more emphatic to express strong emotion.)
- When confronted by an unfamiliar word, tries to figure it out using one or more word attack strategies ("sounding it out", context clues, word parts, etc.)

Reads and responds to literature with an understanding of basic plot, facts, ideas, or information from the text (literal comprehension)

- Understands basic ideas/information which are explicitly stated in the text.
- Shows this understanding in a variety of ways: discussion, answering questions, summarizing the text, highlighting main ideas, etc.

Demonstrates understanding of ideas/information not explicitly stated in the text (inferential comprehension)

- “Reads between the lines”.
- Uses higher level thinking skills to organize and prioritize ideas/information to come to a conclusion.
- Shows this understanding in a variety of ways: discussion, written responses to literature, test essay questions, science lab write-ups, etc.

Discusses and uses reading comprehension strategies

- Examples: schema (prior knowledge), visualization (mental images), asking questions, making inferences, synthesizing (creating an original idea or thought from information in the text), etc.

Thoughtfully responds to reading in writing

- Spends time and effort on responses to literature as well as nonfiction texts.
- Responses are thoughtful, focused, and complete.

Is a motivated and responsible reader

- Works toward conscientiously learning and applying reading comprehension strategies.
- Self-selects appropriate independent reading material.
- Comes to reading group prepared with all materials.
- Is respectful of other readers.
- Reads quietly for the allotted time.

WRITING

Develops topics effectively

- When writing about a subject, uses enough detail and supporting evidence to make the writing lively and lucid.

Organizes ideas clearly and logically

- Organizes ideas in a way that shows some sort of underlying structure to help the reader more easily follow the writer’s thinking.

Produces writing that flows smoothly

- Varies sentence structure and wording; uses transitions to make the piece sound smooth and fluent.

Chooses words carefully and strives for rich language

- Looks for interesting or “just right” words to lend power to his/her ideas.
- Uses literary devices such as similes and metaphors to enrich description.

Consistently applies standard spelling rules and strategies

- Example: Applies rules such as dropping the y and adding *ies* in plural words such as *stories*.
- Knows to use the text, the writing prompt, and classroom resources to check spelling.

Uses appropriate mechanics and grammar

Uses the following appropriately:

- Upper and lowercase letters.
- Punctuation (period, comma, question mark, quotation marks, etc.)
- Subject / verb agreement (“They are” instead of “They is”; “He and I went” instead of “Me and him went”).
- Good sentence structure (complete sentences; no “run-ons”).
- Paragraph indentation.

Is a motivated and responsible writer

- Makes productive use of writing time.
- Thoughtfully considers suggestions for revisions.
- Understands the purposes of writing (to reflect and to communicate), and strives to meet these objectives.
- Shows pride in finished work by editing carefully and using best handwriting/word processing.

MATH

Knows and applies basic facts

- Automatically recalls and uses specified math facts.

Uses strategies to compute accurately

- Can solve multidigit math problems with good to excellent accuracy.

Communicates an understanding of major concepts both orally and in writing

- Can explain math thinking clearly and completely both orally and in writing, so that listeners/readers can follow the problem-solving process.

Selects and uses a variety of problem-solving strategies

- Has a “toolbox” of problem-solving strategies; chooses appropriate strategies and operations when solving a complex math problem.
- Some problem-solving strategies include: using pictures or math objects, making an organized list, breaking numbers apart, estimating, working backwards, etc.

Is a motivated and responsible learner

- Works steadily during math time.
- Shows a willingness to practice and learn new math facts.
- During math lab assignments, works cooperatively with partner or in a small group.
- Handles math materials respectfully.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Understands major ideas and concepts

- Demonstrates a solid understanding of the major ideas/concepts through written assignments, class discussions, projects, and tests.

Uses resources to locate and apply information

- Uses nonfiction books, picture books, maps, encyclopedias, textbook etc. to answer a question or research a specific topic.

Is a motivated and responsible learner

- Is an enthusiastic, curious, and knowledgeable participant in discussions.
- Contributes to group work and projects.
- Listens carefully and follows directions.
- Makes good use of social studies time.

SCIENCE

Understands major ideas and concepts

- Demonstrates a solid understanding of the major ideas/concepts through written assignments, class discussions, projects, and tests.

Uses the scientific method (questions, predicts, observes, records, and concludes)

- Makes careful observations (written or verbal).
- Sorts or classifies things such as plants or minerals using various criteria.
- Records and logically interprets lab data.

Is a motivated and responsible learner

- Is an enthusiastic, curious, and knowledgeable participant in discussions.
- Contributes to group work, labs, and projects.
- Listens carefully and follows directions.
- Makes good use of science time.
- Handles science materials respectfully.

MUSIC

Demonstrates an understanding of concepts

- Shows understanding of appropriate contemporary and historical music through written work, performance, projects, and discussion.

Applies skills and knowledge

- Takes care to do a complete and thorough job on all assignments.
- Demonstrates application of skills when performing, creating, and responding to music.

Is a motivated and responsible learner

- Contributes to group projects without monopolizing the leadership role.
- Respects and honors differences.
- Listens attentively without interrupting.
- Shows focus.
- Uses music materials properly and cleans up.

ART

Demonstrates an understanding of concepts

- Communicates in a non-verbal symbolic form.
- Makes connections between art and other academic disciplines while creating and responding to art.

Applies skills and knowledge

- Demonstrates competence with media, materials, and techniques.
- Takes care to do a complete and thorough job on all assignments.
- Applies skills learned in class when completing assignments.

Is a motivated and responsible learner

- Contributes to group projects without monopolizing the leadership role.
- Respects and honors differences.
- Listens attentively without interrupting.
- Shows focus.
- Uses art materials properly and cleans up.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Demonstrates an understanding of concepts

- Shows competence and confidence in movement-centered and knowledge-based activities.
- Shows awareness of the benefits of physical education to lifelong health.

Applies skills and knowledge

- Takes care to do a complete and thorough job on all assignments.
- Demonstrates application of skills when participating in physical education.

Is a motivated and responsible learner

- Contributes to group projects without monopolizing the leadership role.
- Respects and honors differences.
- Listens attentively without interrupting.
- Shows focus.
- Uses physical education materials properly and cleans up.

LIBRARY/TECHNOLOGY

Demonstrates an understanding of concepts

- Efficiently and effectively accesses information from books and the Internet.
- Appreciates literature presented in class.
- Uses library and technology resources to develop research skills.
- Learns more proficient keyboarding skills

Applies skills and knowledge

- Takes care to do a complete and thorough job on all assignments
- Applies skills learned in class

Is a motivated and responsible learner

- Contributes to group projects without monopolizing the leadership role.
- Respects and honors differences.
- Listens attentively without interrupting.
- Shows focus.
- Uses classroom materials properly and cleans up.