Language Arts

In Language Arts we use Journeys, by HMH, a comprehensive, evidence-based K-5 literacy program.

Student log-in for Journeys: www-k6.thinkcentral.com

5th grade Lexile Range: 830L-1010L

Reading:
5th grade students will read widely and deeply from a range of high-quality, increasingly challenging fiction and nonfiction texts from diverse cultures and time periods. They will integrate information from several print and digital resources to answer questions and solve problems. 5th grade students will continue to build knowledge of academic words and use strategies to determine the meaning of multisyllabic words.

Writing:
5th grade students will write stories or essays that are several paragraphs long. They will spend a significant amount of time and effort producing numerous written pieces over short and extended time frames and will gain control over many conventions of grammar, word usage, and punctuation.

Speaking and Listening:
5th grade students will come to classroom discussions prepared and fully engage with others. They will report on a topic or present an opinion with his/her own words, a logical sequence of ideas, sufficient facts and details, and formal English when appropriate.

You can help your child by:
- Create a quiet place for your child to study
- Carve out time every day when your child can concentrate on reading and writing
- Invite your child to read his/her writing out loud to the family and then ask questions about your child’s word choice and ideas

Preparing for Middle School

Middle school opens up many new opportunities for students. There are new classes, new friends and new activities to experience! For example, all 6th graders will have the opportunity to choose to participate in band and learn to play an instrument. In addition, the Success 101 class will help students transition to middle school by teaching students strategies, expected behaviors, and practices that will assist in fostering independence and providing a successful middle school experience. Toward the end of their 5th grade year, students will tour the middle school they’ll be attending and be able to choose their exploratory class path.

Middle School Accelerated Math
CVS offers an accelerated math pathway in order to appropriately challenge highly-capable students. Students must qualify for this class based on results from 4th and 5th grade M-STEP and NWEA scores. In the spring, a letter will be mailed to all potential candidates. Parents and students will need to attend a registration night and students will need to complete a summer assignment and posttest to qualify for the program.

Clinton Macomb Public Library:
All CVS students have access to the Clinton Macomb Public Library’s online resources! You can download e-books, use research links and access great educational websites like http://kids.mel.org/

Visit www.cmpl.org and enter your student’s Chippewa Valley ID number as the username and the last 4 digits of your phone number as the password.
Science

Science is a way of understanding the world and a pattern of thinking that begins in the very early years. Students will continue developing science and engineering skills by learning to ask questions, using models, planning and carrying out investigations, and analyzing data. Students will be encouraged to obtain, evaluate and communicate their findings both orally and in writing as they make claims, find evidence, and support this with scientific reasoning.

Animal Systems
Students will:
• Explain the major purposes of the body systems of an animal (not limited to humans)
• Describe how two or more systems work together

Evolution and Traits of Organisms
Students will:
• Compare/contrast inherited and acquired traits and demonstrate the influence genetics and environment have on them
• Compare/contrast physical and behavioral characteristics of plants and animals, and describe how they help an organism survive
• Explain how fossils can help us understand how organisms are related, and how catastrophic events may cause some organisms to change or become extinct

Measuring Changes in Motion
Students will:
• Explain contact/non-contact, balanced and unbalanced forces; demonstrate how they cause an object to change motion and speed
• Relate the size of change in motion to the strength of the force and the mass of the object
• Represent motion on a graph and calculate speed of an object using the formula S = d/t

Position and Motion of Objects in the Sky
Students will:
• Model the Earth’s motion to show the occurrence of day/night, a year, and seasons
• Design a model of our solar system that shows the relative order and scale of the planets, dwarf planets, comets, and asteroids to the sun
• Draw the phases of the moon in relationship to the Earth and sun, and draw a lunar/solar eclipse
• Use a tide chart to explain the tides

The way science is approached might seem different than what you remember. You can help your child by encouraging your child to talk about the “I can…” statement used in the classroom.

Mathematics

Chippewa Valley Schools uses Bridges in Mathematics, a K–5 math program that will help us meet the new standards and make math meaningful and exciting. In fifth grade, students focus on computing with fractions, dividing with larger numbers, calculating with decimal numbers, and finding the volume of rectangular prisms.

Throughout the year, students will:
• Add, subtract, and multiply fractions
• Divide unit fractions by whole numbers (¼ ÷ 3)
• Divide whole numbers by unit fractions (3 ÷ ¼)
• Calculate with decimal numbers
• Find the volume of rectangular prisms (boxlike shapes)

When you are helping your child, the math might sometimes seem unfamiliar or different than you remember, but there are many ways you can help!

• Invite your child to talk about math by asking questions like, “Did you do a problem like this at school? How did you think about it?”
• Focus on the pictures. Bridges uses visual models to make mathematics accessible to all learners. Talking about the pictures is a great way to get started.
• Ask questions like, “What do you notice about this picture? Where do you see the numbers in this picture? Can we use the picture to help solve the problem?”

Get more information and ideas about how to help your child by visiting the websites:
www.chippewavalleyschools.org, click Academics, click Curriculum, click Elementary Math-Bridges
www.mathlearningcenter.org/families/bridges2 click 5th grade

By being open to learning and talking with your child, you can help your child develop strong skills and a love of math.

Social Studies

Geography
Students will:
• Identify and understand how regions are created from physical and human characteristics

Economics
Students will:
• Use principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in the early United States

History
Students will:
• Understand the beginnings to 1620, the colonization and settlement prior to the American Revolution, and the American Revolution

Civics & Government
Students will:
• Understand the values and principles of American constitutional democracy, including individual rights
• Understand the formation of the new government

Public Discourse, Decision Making, & Citizen Involvement
Students will:
• Plan, conduct, report, and evaluate a public policy issue
• Act constructively to further public good

Literacy in Social Studies
Students will:
• Determine the meaning of vocabulary
• Distinguish between primary and secondary sources
• Apply evidential support to writing
• Construct informative and argumentative essays