



## Eagle Ridge Academy Fifth Grade

At Eagle Ridge Academy, we follow the Core Knowledge Scope and Sequence and the Minnesota State Standards for Language Arts; History and Geography; Visual Arts; Music; Mathematics; and Science. Core Knowledge provides a solid foundation for learning by building upon student knowledge and skills from one year to the next and eliminating gaps in student learning.

Students receive instruction in the following areas during Fifth Grade:

### Language Arts:

We follow the Scholastic Guided Reading program; classical literature; phonics; Shurley English for writing and grammar; Handwriting Without Tears; Wordly Wise 3000 Vocabulary; and spelling.

Benchmarks: In reading, students work on reading comprehension and response; study poetry, fictional stories, drama, myths and legends, and speeches; and literary terms. In writing, students produce a variety of writing (reports, summaries, poems, stories, descriptions, letters, research essays, essays that explain a process); conduct research; work on formal essays; editing and revising skills; vocabulary; and work on spelling, grammar, and usage. They also learn sayings and phrases.

**History and Geography:** The topics studied include geography with spatial sense (working with maps, globes); great lakes of the world; United States geography; Meso-American civilizations (geography; Maya, Inca, and Aztec civilizations; Spanish conquerors); European exploration, trade, and the clash of cultures (background; events; trade and slavery); the Renaissance and Reformation; England from the Golden Age to the Glorious Revolution; Russian early growth and expansion (history and culture; geography); feudal Japan (history and culture; geography); Westward expansion (before the Civil War); the Civil War (causes, conflicts, consequences); Westward expansion after the Civil War; and Native American cultures and conflicts (culture, life, American government policies, conflicts, reconstruction).

**Visual Arts:** The topics include art of the Renaissance; American art of the nineteenth century; and the art of Japan.

**Music:** The topics include the elements of music through participation (rhythm, melody, harmony, form, timbre); music notation and terms; listening and understanding (the composers and their music, musical connections); American musical traditions; and songs.

### Mathematics:

We follow the Saxon Math curriculum that allows for the development of foundational concepts and critical thinking skills, and concepts are developed, reviewed, and practiced over time. This curriculum is effective in reaching and challenging students at all levels. The scope and sequence of the curriculum provides instruction in Numbers and Operations; Measurement; Geometry; Patterns; Algebra and Functions; Statistics; Data Analysis and Probability; Problem Solving; Communication; Mathematical Reasoning; and Connections.

Benchmarks: The topics include numbers and number sense; ratio and percent; fractions and decimals; computation (addition, multiplication, division); solving problems and equations; Pre-Algebra; measurement (conversions and time); geometry; and probability and statistics.

**Science:** In Science, teachers utilize the FOSS science kits which create a hands-on, lab approach to developing science skills.

Benchmarks: The topics include the classification of living things; cell structures and processes; plant structures and processes (structure, photosynthesis, reproduction); life cycles and reproduction (reproduction in animals); the human body (adolescence, endocrine system, reproductive system); chemistry matter and change (atoms, molecules, compounds, elements, chemical and physical change; geology (Earth's layers, mountain formation, weathering and erosion); and science biographies.

**Latin:** Students receive weekly instruction in Latin.

**Physical Education:** Students receive weekly instruction in physical education class.