

The Public Schools of Brookline

Grade 5 – Essential Learning Expectations

Learning Expectations are the K-8 curriculum guidelines for all content areas. They answer these questions for parents, teachers, and students:

- What will students know and be able to do?
- How will students demonstrate their learning?

The Brookline Learning Expectations have been developed by teams of teachers, led by curriculum coordinators, and meet or exceed the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.

The Progress Reports (formerly called Conference Forms) that teachers share with parents list the **Essential Learning Expectations** (or ELEs) for English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. The ELEs are a subset or synthesis of the Learning Expectations that describe the key skills and understandings for students at a particular grade that are essential for them to master in order to be prepared for the next grade.

It is important to remember that while the ELEs are a shorthand version of the Learning Expectations to share with parents, our curriculum is designed to cover *the entire set of Learning Expectations*, which describe the full understanding of content and acquisition of skills that is expected of students. While the LEs are listed by subject area, it is our instructional practice and goal to integrate across curriculum areas as much as possible. The complete set of K-8 Learning Expectations is available to teachers by subject area in the FirstClass Teacher Portal. They are available to the public through the PSB website - <http://brooklinek12-public.rubiconatlas.org/Atlas/Public/View/Default>. (This site is being updated to reflect recent revisions.)

The ELEs for English Language Arts, Mathematics, Health, Science/Engineering and Social Studies are listed below. These ELEs are listed on the Grade 5 Progress Report. Performing Arts, Physical Education, and Visual Arts also have Learning Expectations, but these are not listed on the Progress Report. Instead, there is information about how parents/guardians are provided with information on student progress in these disciplines.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

READING OVERVIEW

Brookline's Learning Expectations in ELA meet or exceed the standards outlined in the Massachusetts Frameworks. To reach these demanding standards, Brookline educators use the *Continuum of Literacy Learning PreK-8* (Heinemann, 2011) as their day-to-day guide when teaching specific behaviors in reading and writing. The description of the successful fifth grade reader below comes directly, with a very few changes, from the *Continuum*.

Students at the end of fifth grade will read, be able to identify the characteristics of, and discuss the full range of genres, and texts will be longer, requiring students to remember information and connect ideas over many days of reading. Fifth grade students automatically adjust strategic actions to skillfully use what they understand of genre to process texts. Complex fantasy, myths, and legends offer added challenge and an increased use of symbolism. In addition, readers in fifth grade will encounter some abstract special forms of literature, such as satire. Readers understand perspectives different from their own, and they understand settings and people far distant in time and place. Most reading is silent; fluency and phrasing in oral reading is well established. In addition, these readers can be very expressive when presenting poetry or readers' theater. Students are challenged by many longer descriptive words and by content-specific and technical words that require using embedded definitions, background knowledge, and readers' tools, such as glossaries. They can take apart multi-syllable words and use a full range of word-solving strategies.

Readers in fifth grade search for and use information in an integrated way, using complex graphics and texts that present content requiring background knowledge. (Continuum PreK-8, pp. 336)

WRITING ELEs

Structure/Craft

Organization

- Introduce, develop, and conclude topics in nonfiction writing, including texts produced for Science, Social Studies, and Math.
- Construct narratives with a clear sequence of events, including texts produced for Science, Social Studies, and Math.
- Write in many genres and use a variety of text structures (including graphics) appropriate to both purpose and genre in ELA and all content areas.

Idea development

- Communicate main points clearly and provide accurate and relevant evidence to support all claims.
- Gather and use information from a variety of reliable sources when writing texts, including those produced for Science, Social Studies, and Math.

Word Choice

- Incorporate words learned through reading and content-area studies into writing.

Language Use

- Use a variety of sentence structures; write with expression and personal voice.
- Vary language and style as appropriate to audience and purpose.

WRITING: Conventions

Grammar and Punctuation

- Write in complete sentences, both simple and complex, with accurate and consistent verb tense and agreement; use appropriate punctuation.

Handwriting

- Write fluently and legibly by hand; use keyboard comfortably.

Spelling

- Correctly spell familiar high-frequency words, a range of plurals, base words with inflectional endings, and words that have been studied in class.

WRITING: Process

Planning and Drafting

- Identify purpose and audience, select genre, and use writers' tools to produce initial drafts.

Revising and Editing

- Revise drafts, using feedback from peers and teachers, as well as new learning from instruction; edit final drafts for conventions.

Production

- Produce a quantity of writing appropriate to task and time available.

ORAL COMMUNICATION ELEs

- Participate actively in small and large group conversations; listen to and look at speaker and build upon comments of others.
- Share relevant information and ask questions that further the discussion.
- Speak at a volume and rate appropriate to setting.

MATHEMATICS ELEs

Mathematical Practices

- Makes sense of problems and perseveres in solving them.
- Communicates mathematical reasoning and ideas using words, numbers, and/or pictures.

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Writes and interprets numerical expressions.

Numbers and Operations in Base Ten

- Understands the place value system.
- Performs operations with multi-digit whole numbers with decimals to hundredths.

Number and Operations – Fractions

- Uses equivalent fractions as a strategy to add and subtract fractions.
- Applies and extends previous understandings of multiplication and division to multiply and divide fractions.

Measurement and Data

- Geometric measurement: Understands concepts of volume and relates volume to multiplication and addition.

Geometry

- Graphs points on the coordinate plain to solve real-world mathematical problems.
- Classifies two-dimensional figures into categories based on properties.

SCIENCE/ENGINEERING ELEs

Science/Engineering Practices and Nature of Science

- Ask questions and show curiosity.
- Observe closely and record observations.
- Develop and use models.
- Plan and carry out simple investigations.
- Analyze and interpret data.
- Make reasonable claims based on evidence.
- Share ideas and critique the ideas of other scientists.
- Seek additional information.
- Recognize the importance of science and the skills/characteristics of scientists.

Bird Sleuths

- Compare and contrast the needs and structures of living things.
- Explain how living things depend on one another and the environment using a food web model.
- Explain how the basic structures of birds are adapted to allow them to survive in different habitats.
- Use evidence to support the claim that characteristics of individuals in the same species can give certain individuals a survival advantage.

Sun, Earth & Moon System

- Explain patterns of day and night on Earth using models.
- Explain why changes in length and direction of shadows occur during the day using models.
- Explain why the moon's appearance from Earth changes in a predictable pattern during the month using models.

HEALTH ELEs

Intro to Adolescence

- Explain the basic function and parts of the reproductive and endocrine systems.
- Describe the physical, emotional and social changes that occur during adolescence and how to take care of yourself during this time.
- Explain why it is important to respect others and our similarities and differences.

SOCIAL STUDIES ELEs

Historical Thinking

- Take the perspective of a historical figure and represent his or her point of view.
- Use primary sources as evidence in constructing knowledge about the past.

Geography

- Demonstrate mapping skills concentrating on the 13 colonies, War of Independence, and/or westward expansion.
- Describe geographic characteristics specific to each American region (ex. landforms, bodies of water, climate, and population density) and demonstrate understanding of how the geography of a region affected the way people lived.

History

- Describe the way of life, beliefs, and challenges faced by settlers and demonstrate understanding of the impact of colonization on native peoples in early America.
- Demonstrate understanding of the development and impact of servitude and slavery on the society, economy and government in early America.
- Determine the causes and effects of the Revolutionary War.

Civics

- Explain the development of colonial and U.S. government in Early America.
- Demonstrate an understanding of key civics ideas such as citizenship, rights, representation, constitution, federalism, and separation of powers.

Economics

- Explain the ways in which domestic economies developed in the various colonial regions/states and their impact on U.S. history.
- Explain how international trade affected the American colonies and the early United States.

Research and Writing Skills

- Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge.