



**CASCADES
ACADEMY**
OF CENTRAL OREGON

Cascades Academy of Central Oregon

Lower School – Fifth Grade

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The fifth graders at Cascades Academy spend their school year in preparation for the middle school years and are looked to as the role models for the younger students. The classroom setting and work is structured to foster independence and responsibility with support if necessary. In addition to studying math, reading, writing, science, history and their electives, fifth graders are required to complete an independent study of their choice to culminate their year of learning presentation skills. The fifth graders also perform service learning throughout the year to benefit the community.

<p style="text-align: center;">Language Arts</p> <p>The fifth grade program focuses on the use of critical thinking and abstract reasoning to analyze literature. The reading is novel based with topics ranging from social studies, storyline topics and Newberry award winners. Current events are discussed through the newspaper on a biweekly basis. Writing is a major focus across the curriculum areas to establish skills in all four types of writing: persuasive, narrative, expository and descriptive. The mechanics and grammar skills are reviewed. Students regularly use technology to create, edit and publish their compositions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mathematics</p> <p>Some of the new concepts the fifth graders encounter are using the four basic operations to solve equations involving negative numbers and percentages, pre-algebra and interpreting graphs. Through these hands-on practices, students assimilate both concrete and abstract mathematical concepts.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Social Studies</p> <p>The fifth grade social studies program is "U.S. History and Geography". Students explore the unique issues arising throughout the development of our nation and evolving up to the Civil War. The investigations include Native American studies, explorers and colonialism. In addition the causes, course and consequences of the American Revolution. The geography program includes political, cultural and physical aspects of the United States and the world with an emphasis on map skills.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Science</p> <p>The students will study a variety of science topics within the physical, earth, space and life science areas dependent on the storyline topics throughout the year. These include hands-on experiences with geology, water, volcanoes, earthquakes, Lego Robotics, solar system, water, microscopes, health and organisms. The students attend Outdoor School and other field excursions throughout the year to gain further understandings. The students incorporate the scientific method within their projects.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Technology</p> <p>Each of the fifth graders uses the computer to showcase their abilities in all subject areas. Students process written documents, create spreadsheets and use multimedia presentation software to present and share their information. They learn to analyze information from the internet for usefulness, appropriateness and reliability. The students continue to develop their keyboarding skills through software to reach over 20 words per minute. The fifth graders are technology buddies with the younger students to assist in mastering their learned skills.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Storyline</p> <p>The Scottish Storyline teaching method is used throughout the lower school. This method provides an opportunity to integrate all aspects of the curriculum into the classroom and across multiage groups. The chosen storyline will have the students develop settings and characters in order to explore incidents or problems that develop throughout the story. The characters are using their prior knowledge and continuously explore new understandings through their experiences of answering key questions that are asked of them. A culmination of their knowledge is shared with various forms of exhibitions. Previous storylines have been a medieval castle, a rainforest, an art museum, caves, a hospital, a Mexican Tour Bus and an explorer ship traveling around the world.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Spanish</p> <p>Students will increase their listening, comprehension and verbal language skills through pronunciation drills, reading, oral dialogues, native-speaker videos, songs and games. Past and present cultural information will be explored to increase student understanding of Hispanic culture. Each fifth grader develops an in-depth study of a Spanish speaking country for their geography requirements.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Art</p> <p>In fourth/fifth grade, a Cascades Academy student will have a strong understanding of the various art elements, drawing (shape, line), painting (composition, blending of color), sculpture/clay (balance and form). Lessons reinforce what students learned in previous years to help make the curriculum more meaningful. We enter various contests to expose the students to the community through art as well as observe and interpret the world around us. Dialogue is strongly encouraged in order to have the skills to speak about our art. Some projects consist of plaster casting chess pieces, Photoshop mock movie posters of our lives and spoof paintings of master works.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Music</p> <p>Demonstrate best competence. Perform rhythms, including dotted syncopations, tier. Sing canons and rounds, simple part songs, full scale hand signs. Play Recorder, barred instruments and percussion.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Physical Education</p> <p>Students develop positive self-concept and body management skills through organized playground games, Creative Movement and the seasonal activities including skiing/snowboarding, swimming, martial arts and tumbling.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Assessment</p> <p>Fifth graders are assessed through the use of written compositions, vocabulary tests, math projects and tests, science projects and presentations, and their social studies assignments and projects. Each fifth grader completes the ERB tests, OAKS and DIBELS testing throughout the year.</p>	



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A Survey of Skills Taught at the Fifth Grade Level

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Fifth grade students at Cascades academy communicate through well written multi-paragraph compositions in a variety of genres, refine their self editing skills and comfortably use reference tools to assist their work. They use abstract reasoning in math and are also introduced to basic algebraic operations. Fifth graders explore United States history and a variety of science topics associated with storyline. At this level technology is incorporated into all areas of curriculum. Texts used at the fifth grade level are Writer's Express, Writing Skills, Wordly Wise, Vocabulary from Classical Roots, Trailblazers, Arithmetic Developed Daily and A History of US.

Language Arts		Social Studies	
<p>Reading Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Read, analyze and respond to novels using critical thinking and abstract reasoning ◆ Read, analyze and respond to non fiction works ◆ Identify and discuss the elements of a story ◆ Read for pleasure <p>Writing Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Create multi-paragraph compositions using four main types of writing (expository, persuasive, narrative and descriptive) ◆ Self edit through the stages of writing: pre-write, draft, revise and publish ◆ Peer edit for content, spelling and grammar ◆ Write with a command of the six traits of writing: ideas and content, organization, word choice, voice, sentence fluency and conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Write in cursive legibly ◆ Use technology and reference tools to research and enhance writing ◆ Keyboard at 15-20 words per minute ◆ Learning to use presentation software (ie. PowerPoint) <p>Listening and Speaking Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Prepare and give oral presentations from their own writing ◆ Prepare and give oral presentations with the use of technology 	<p>Historical Comprehension and Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Identify and understand the infrastructure vital to a functioning society ◆ Recognize diversity of human character and respect the differences ◆ Identify and analyze the causes and effects of historical events ◆ Link historical elements to modern society ◆ Reconstruct literal meanings of historical passages ◆ Discriminate between perspectives, points of view and bias ◆ Investigate current events from periodicals ◆ 	<p>Chronological Thinking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Place key events in chronological order, specifically from Pre-history through the Revolutionary War ◆ Sequence individuals within time frames <p>Investigative Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Formulate questions that can be answered by historical study and research ◆ Share and present knowledge gained through multimedia, oral and written presentations ◆ Assess credibility of primary and secondary sources <p>Geography and Map Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Investigate types and scales of maps ◆ Interpret and apply information from maps ◆ Know all the states and capitals of the United States ◆ Explore orienteering and compass skills ◆ Create an in-depth project for foreign countries
Mathematics Skills		Science	
<p>Number Sense</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Solve problems involving fractions, decimals, percentages and positive and negative numbers ◆ Understand prime numbers, exponents, patterns ◆ Investigate fraction skills with equivalent fractions, improper fractions, ordering fractions and mixed numbers ◆ Master the multiplication tables to twelve ◆ Solve double digit mental math ◆ Interpret remainders in division ◆ Understand ratio concepts ◆ Graphing including Cartesian Coordinates ◆ Develop strategies to solve word problems 	<p>Algebra and Functions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Solve basic algebraic problems involving linear functions <p>Geometry and Measurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Compute volume /area of two/three dimensional shapes ◆ Identify, describe, classify properties of geometric figures ◆ Construct specific angles and shapes <p>Statistics, Data Analysis and Probability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Display, compare and interpret different data ◆ Apply data to Excel spreadsheets and use technology to create graphs ◆ Apply probability to real life situations, games or predictions ◆ Explore probability <p>Mathematical Reasoning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Solve mathematical problems using concrete and abstract reasoning 	<p>Scientific Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Classify or group organisms based on a variety of characteristics ◆ Describe basic plant and animal structures and their functions ◆ Describe the life cycle of an organism ◆ Understand and explore the components of different habitats ◆ Explore adaptations of plants and animals ◆ Identify properties of earth materials including rocks, soils and water ◆ Identify and research geological events specifically earthquakes and volcanoes 	<p>Technology and Tools</p> <p>Understand the process of technological design Utilize proper tools for volume, mass. Know the parts and how to use a microscope</p> <p>Investigation and Experimentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Develop and implement the steps to the Scientific Method including: ◆ Formulate a question ◆ Research ◆ Construct hypothesis ◆ Create an experiment plan ◆ Analyze and interpret the data ◆ Formulate a conclusion ◆ Communicate findings through presentation