

## Grade 5 English Language Arts Course of Study

### Highland Local Schools

#### Overview

Fifth grade English Language Arts instruction aligns with [Ohio's Learning Standards](#), and emphasizes a balanced approach to reading, writing, speaking, and listening. At the core of the curriculum are high-quality anchor texts that serve as the foundation for building background knowledge, expanding vocabulary, and developing comprehension. Students will analyze and respond to texts through discussion and writing, sharpening their ability to think critically and communicate effectively. Morphology instruction, using IMSE strategies, is integrated throughout the year to help students break down complex words into meaningful parts—prefixes, suffixes, and Greek and Latin roots—enhancing both decoding and spelling skills. This comprehensive approach supports students in becoming independent, capable readers and writers.

Unit	Anchor Text
Demonstrating Courage	Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper
	Hidden Figures by Margret Lee Shetterly
Self-Discovery	Weasel by Cynthia DeFelice
Unlikely Alliances	The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin
Importance of Story	Tuck Everlasting
Powerful Words- Poetry	Messenger, Messenger
	Hoops
	The Boy Who Loved Words by Giselle Potter
Themes in Poetry	The Grackle
	Pigeon
	Told the Wild Geese
	Long-Leg Lou & Short Leg Sue
	The Earth is a Living Thing
Hope and Perseverance	Jackie Robinson Biography
	The Story of Ruby Bridges by Robert Coles
	In the Garden with Dr. Carver by Susan Grigsby
	The Story of Harriet Tubman by Chirstine Platt

	Martin Luther King Jr. -Nat Geo Kids byt Kitson Jazynka
History of Science	The Flu of 1918 by Jessica Rudolph
	Who Were the Wright Brothers? By James Buckley Jr.

## **Vocabulary and Phonics**

The fifth grade English Language Arts curriculum places a strong emphasis on morphology instruction using the Institute for Multi-Sensory Education (IMSE) approach. Students build upon prior knowledge of prefixes, suffixes, and base words by engaging in a structured scope and sequence that introduces more advanced Greek and Latin roots. Through explicit instruction, word analysis, and multi-sensory strategies, students learn how to deconstruct complex words to uncover meaning, improve spelling, and enhance vocabulary. This morphological awareness supports comprehension across content areas and prepares students to tackle the increasingly sophisticated texts they encounter in fifth grade and beyond.

## **District and State Reading Assessments**

In Grade 5, students engage in several assessments to support their reading development and meet state requirements. Throughout the year, they take the NWEA MAP Growth Reading (Ohio 2-5) assessment to monitor progress in key literacy skills aligned with Ohio's Learning Standards. This data helps teachers tailor instruction and provide targeted support. In addition, fourth grade students participate in the Ohio State Reading Assessment in the spring. These tools work together to ensure students receive the support they need to become confident, successful readers.

## **Curriculum Materials, Instructional Methods and Resources**

Ohio's English Language Arts Standards- Grade 5  
 Institute for Multi-Sensory Education- Morphology  
 Anchor Texts - guided by Open Up Resources: Bookworms  
 Scholastic Storyworks  
 IXL Learning