



# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Newsletter

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SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
Reading	Tackling Complexity: Moving up Levels of Nonfiction	<p>Help your child at home by asking them to do the following things after reading <b>informational</b> texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Summarize the text. When summarizing be sure to: write about the main idea, include carefully selected details to support the main idea, write about the ideas in the text not your own opinions</li> <li>☺ Explain the craft techniques the author used and why the author may have used this technique, be sure to: identify the craft techniques used, use academic language, write about how the text would have been different if the author had made different craft choices.</li> </ul>
Writing	Information Writing: Feature Articles on Topics of Personal Expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Help build your child's prior knowledge base by checking out some "how-to" books from the library.</li> <li>☺ Read the newspaper or different magazines with your child at home. Talk about the way information is organized and presented.</li> <li>☺ Read chapter books at home with your child. Together, take notice of how the purpose and type of writing differs from that of articles that you have read together.</li> <li>☺ Write for pleasure in a journal or diary and encourage your child to do the same!</li> </ul>
Math	Base Ten and Decimal Numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Try timing yourself to increase your fluency in multiplication and division facts.</li> <li>☺ Use multiple strategies when solving multi-step complex word problems.</li> <li>☺ Practice looking for decimals in real math situations and use Tenmark assignments and IXL to practice when successfully solving decimal problems.</li> </ul>
Science	Rocks and Minerals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Students can collect rocks they find around their neighborhood that we can then study in class.</li> <li>☺ Encourage your child to read articles about how rocks and minerals affect the world around us.</li> <li>☺ Support your child by encouraging him or her to find appropriate text evidence that supports the hypothesis that they may be researching and to form questions for investigations.</li> </ul>
Social Studies	European Explorers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Students can act out how the Europeans took over land when they explored new territory including the roles the Native Americans had in it.</li> <li>☺ Ask your child to describe their favorite explorer and why. Have them write two reasons before telling you.</li> <li>☺ Research with your child about Explorers who discovered local landmarks such as the Verrazano bridge.</li> </ul>

## Focus of the Month: Science Close Reading

This month the 5<sup>th</sup> grade focuses their close reading strategies in the content area of Science. While learning all about the scientific method, great scientists and beginning our rock unit, the students will challenge themselves while tackling nonfiction articles that relate to what they are learning. They will also begin using a fantastic technology based program called ThinkCERCA. This program allows students to be challenge through close reading of texts but with all the magnificent things that technology has to offer. Encourage your child to share with you the wonders of this new program.