

George Washington Academy **Guidelines for Entering Fifth Grade**

Students entering fifth grade at George Washington Academy should have mastered the following academic, social, and behavioral milestones before entering school.

Language Arts:

- Students should be familiar with parts of speech and be able to identify nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs, prepositions, objects of prepositions, indirect object, and direct objects in sentences.
- Students should have an understanding of simple and compound sentences and be able to identify and compose both.
- Students should be able to write a well organized opinion and informative three paragraph essay with at least five complete sentences. An introduction, supporting sentences, and concluding sentences should all be present.
- Students should be able to read a grade level passage at 107 words per minute.
- Students should be able to take notes and summarize short passages.
- Students should be able to read a grade level chapter book of 150 pages without difficulty. They should also be able to draw inferences from the text.
- Students should be able to write neatly in cursive on a line.

Math:

- Students must be able to show work on problems.
- Students must be able to complete 20 random addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division “facts problems” in one minute with 100 percent accuracy.
- Students must be competent at long division and multiplication problems that have up to three digits top and bottom.

Behaviorally:

- Students must be able to follow class rules.
- Students must be able to learn attentively for 40 minute stretches.
- Students must be able to follow 2-3 step instructions.
- Students must be able to work cooperatively with absolutely no bullying!
- Parents should expect that students will dedicate 50 minutes per night to homework and 30 minutes per night to reading.
- Students are to observe all rules and expectations of the arts teachers, showing respect for the teacher, for fellow students, and for the creative process.
- Art and music classes have their own academic requirements. Students will need to keep track of make-up work, project due dates etc. for these classes. Use of a planner is highly recommended.

Science and Technology:

- Students should have an understanding of, and be able to demonstrate the scientific method.
- Students should have basic computer skills and know how to save work.
- Students should be able to type 15 words/minute using proper keyboarding techniques.

Parental Expectations:

- Your child must be at school on time every day.

- Check Powerschool and visit the 5th Grade Level website weekly
- Regularly review E.D. Hirsch, Jr.'s, book, "What your Fifth-Grader Needs to Know" with your child.
- Check and sign planners nightly and return to school daily.
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