

Tredyffrin-Easttown Middle School 5th Grade Information Packet



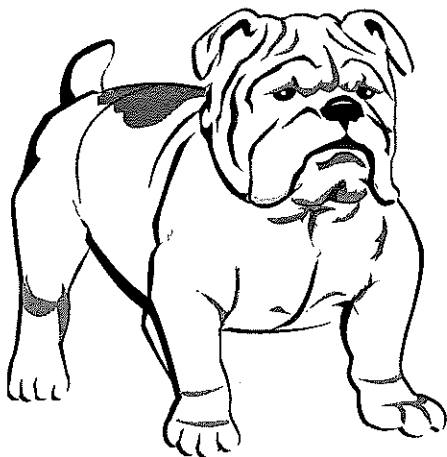
Inspiring the Future

Tredyffrin-Easttown Middle School
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BEGINNINGS

UNDERSTANDING

LEARNING

LOCKERS

DECISION MAKING

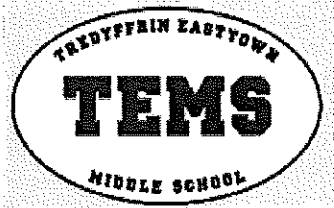
ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS

GUIDANCE

STUDY SKILLS



Important Websites



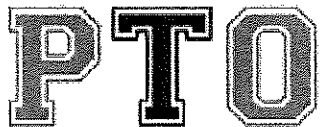
T/E Middle School

www.tesd.net/tems

Calendar, weekly bulletins, attendance info, lunch menus, teacher webpages, summer math packets, clubs, activities, services, music, library resources, and other useful information.

TEMS Parent-Teacher Organization

www.temsppto.org



Opportunities to volunteer, Cultural Arts, spirit wear, fundraising, school store, and more.

★ Join the mailing list to receive blasts from the PTO about TEMS ★

Tredyffrin-Easttown School District

www.tesd.net



Emergency closing information, participation fees, school board, and access to information about the district.

Add or Update your email address

★ Sign up to receive E-Newsletters and other T/E News ★



Fifth Grade Transition

TEMS takes steps to make sure the children have a successful transition to middle school



FIRST MARKING PERIOD — “Becoming a Bulldog”

- * Fifth graders are dismissed five minutes early at the end of the day
- * Parents are invited to Curriculum Night to learn what happens in the classroom
- * Fifth grade homerooms select Homeroom Representatives as an extension of the TEMS Student Council
- * Both teams take a team building fieldtrip to Paradise Farms



SECOND MARKING PERIOD AND BEYOND — “Belonging”

- * Student Council sponsors a Fall Mixer for grades 5 & 6
- * TEMS has Spirit Days to bolster a sense of school community
- * Schoolwide community service projects encourage students to help others
- * And many more activities to keep students engaged in our school community

As a parent/guardian, your interest and support can help with the transition to middle school as well!

Each night, we encourage you to check their assignment books and ask them what they’ve been learning about in school!

5th Grade Supply List for Core Subjects:

- Staples Better Binder 2” size 3-ring binder (No zip-up binders)
- 8.5” x 11” wide ruled notebook paper
- 12-pack of SHARPENED #2 pencils
- Handheld pencil sharpener
- Zippered supply case for binder
- Three (3) Glue Sticks
- Scissors
- big, hand-held erasers
- Ear Buds/Earphones
- Box of tissues, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes (Homeroom teacher)

Reading:

- Pocket folder with 3 rings for binder
- Marbled Lined composition book (100 pages)
- Post-it notes

Math:

- Pocket folder with 3 rings for binder
- Spiral Notebook
- Protractor (for use at home)
- **Highly Recommended:** Calculator- Texas Instruments TI-15 (for use at home)

English:

- Pocket folder with 3 rings for binder
- Marbled Lined composition book (100 pages)

Science:

- Pocket folder with 3 rings for binder
- Marbled Lined composition book (100 pages)

Social Studies:

- Pocket folder with 3 rings for binder
- Three (3) thin, fine-point black Sharpie markers
- Colored pencils, crayons, markers
- Index Cards
- Highlighters

Special Areas:

Art

- 9” x 12” spiral sketchbook (marked with first & last name)

World Language (Spanish/French)

- One (1) 1” binder

ELD (English Language Development)

- Two (2) marbled composition books (100 pages)

Please use paper book covers or paper grocery bags as they protect books the best.
In our experience, book “socks” damage the spine of the book.



5th Grade Schedule



Building Opens 7:45 AM

Homeroom 8:27 AM

Period 1 Core Subject

Period 2 Core Subject

Recess / Snack

Period 3 Core Subject

Period 4 Core Subject

Lunch and Activity

Period 6 Core Subject

Period 7 Special Areas

Period 8 Special Areas

Student Dismissal 3:10 PM

Core Subjects (meet daily)

Math
Reading
English
Social Studies
Science

Special Areas Classes

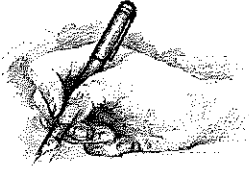
(meet 2 days per 6 day cycle)

Advisory Support
Art
Music
Physical Education
Health
Spanish/French

The library and cafeteria are open before school starting at 8:15 AM. We have a number of extracurricular clubs and activities. Check out our website to learn more: WWW.TESD.NET/TEMS to learn more.



5th Grade Core Curriculum



English

Students continue their development in writing, focusing particularly on the three modes: narrative, opinion, and informative. Additionally, students work through the process of crafting a text-dependent analysis (TDA) essay through the English curriculum. In each writing experience, students will move a piece through the standard process:

Prewriting → Drafting → Revising → Editing → Publishing

Students will also study and explore language through grammar, usage, and spelling.



Reading

Students expand their repertoire of reading skills and strategies through lessons revolving around six specific clusters:

Monitoring comprehension
Activating and connecting
Asking questions
Inferring meaning
Determining importance
Summarizing and synthesizing

Students engage in a wide variety of reading experiences including class novels, work with nonfiction, literature circles, and analyzing/creating poetry. Fifth grade reading classes are grouped by ability. On and above-level classes are taught on both core teams. In some cases, the reading specialist teaches reading classes as well.

Math in Focus

The Singapore Approach

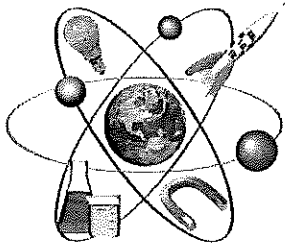
Mathematics

The mathematics curriculum is designed to build on the students' prior knowledge and to extend it more deeply in mathematical areas including geometry, probability, graphing, problem solving and computation with fractions and decimals.

Both levels of math continue with *Math in Focus*, which is a Singapore Math curriculum. This challenging program balances conceptual understanding, visual learning, and problem solving.

Students receive instruction with TI-15 calculators but are also expected to be able to solve problems without a calculator. It is helpful for students to have access to a calculator at home to check homework and to use to complete homework when permitted.

Fifth grade math classes are grouped by ability. On and above-level classes are taught on both core teams. In some cases, other staff members teach math classes as well.



Science

Scientific Method

Introduction to the systematic and logical approach to discovering how things in the universe work.

Life Science

Plants Structures and processes

Animals Cells and animal classification

Physical Science

Matter, light and sound waves, electromagnetic spectrum, mirrors and lenses

Earth Science

Rocks and minerals, Earth's structure, fossils, change over time, rock formation, faults and earthquakes,



Social Studies

Global Explorers I

I. Maps & Globes: Five Themes of Geography

II. Development of Civilizations & Writing

III. Northern Africa / Ancient Egypt

Geography, History, Culture

Research report on a selected topic of Ancient Egyptology

IV. Ancient Greece

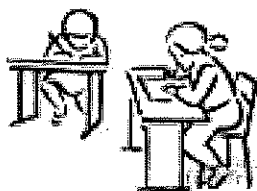
Geography, History, Culture

V. Ancient Rome

Geography, History, Culture

VI. Latin America

(Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, South America, Aztec lands, Inca lands, Mayan lands) Geography, History, Culture



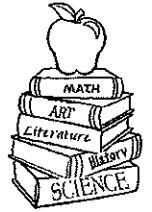
Advisory-Support

1. Class work/homework completion
2. Test make-up/test preparation
3. Organizational help
4. Independent Reading (SSR book)

Advisory is the ideal time to see a teacher for missed assignments and extra help. Students generally have less homework on the days they have advisory.



Homework Help



How independent should students be?

The key to helping your child with homework is to take a balanced approach. Provide structure and supervision, but not so much help that your child does not take **personal responsibility** for the completion of the work.

How long should homework take?

Most homework assignments are designed to be completed independently by students with the total amount of homework time each night being **45 minutes to an hour** plus independent reading. Students may have less work at home on the days they have *Advisory*. Encourage your child to read independently and practice math facts on light homework nights.

How can parents help at home?

In the beginning of the school year, help develop strong study skills with a few of these tips:

- ✓ Check your child's **assignment book daily** and have them physically **SHOW** you (not merely tell you about) completed work.
- ✓ Help decide how long the work will take and work out a **plan** to complete it.
- ✓ **Break down** long range assignments into smaller pieces with intermediate deadlines.
- ✓ If your child is having difficulty with an assignment, you could help by going over the directions or by doing an example. Encourage your child to work independently, even if he or she makes a few mistakes.
- ✓ The best time to seek **extra help** from teachers is during **advisory support**.
- ✓ After homework is completed, students should pack up their work so that it will be ready to take to school.
- ✓ Ask a classmate for assignments if **ONE** day of school is missed. Contact teachers for extended absences.

If your child is successfully completing his assignments and has settled into a successful routine, it's appropriate to start checking less frequently. Continue to express an interest in school and homework, and give help as needed. At times, teachers contact parents if they are concerned about homework completion. To help ensure homework completion, routines can be set up such as checking assignment books or having the child attend "Tutoring Club" after school.

Homework provides a valuable link between home and school. Working together will help ensure success!

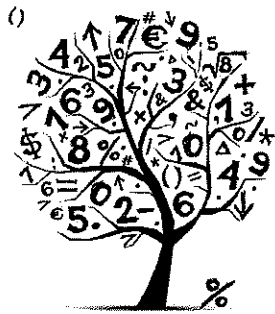


Summer Reading & Math



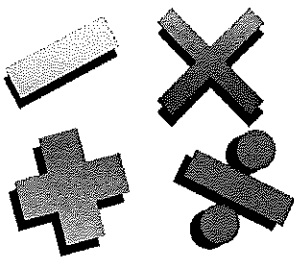
Summer Reading Assignment

Incoming students will be required to read Wishtree by Katherine Applegate and complete an assignment connected to the book in preparation to start school. Students will then participate in a variety of activities centered on the book. Detailed information will be available on **TEMS** Library page to download after the conclusion of the school year.



Summer Math Packets

Visit SCHOOLGY to download the Summer Math Packets from the “Middle School Summer Assignments” Group. These math packets also have answer keys you may download.



Math Fact Fluency

Students who are fluent with math facts can focus their thinking on problem solving and learning new concepts and skills. Students do not have to be fast at basic facts to be good at mathematics, but if they want to be more accurate, find patterns quickly, have higher test scores from fewer silly mistakes, build a strong math sense, gain confidence, prepare for higher-level math concepts, and finish homework faster, they should enter 5th grade with the ability to recall math facts for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division effortlessly.

