

## Fifth Grade Earthschooling *Written Curriculum* Summary of the Year & Supply List

### **SUMMARY OF THE FIFTH GRADE YEAR**

The Earthschooling Fifth Grade Curriculum is designed to guide educators and parents in teaching fifth graders through a Waldorf-inspired approach. The curriculum emphasizes a holistic education that integrates various subjects, including history, geography, science, math, music, and handwork, while fostering a sense of self-awareness and connection to the world. The overarching theme for the year is "Who am I?" which encourages students to explore their identity in relation to historical and cultural contexts.

#### **Curriculum Structure**

The curriculum is organized into ten planners, each focusing on a specific theme or subject area over four weeks. Each planner includes main lessons, complementary subjects, and handwork projects. For example, Planner One focuses on Ancient India and Botany, while Planner Two continues with Ancient India and introduces math concepts related to ancient numerals.

#### **Weekly Themes**

Each month is structured around weekly themes that help establish a rhythm for the classroom. For instance, the first week of August emphasizes rhythm, encouraging students to find their natural flow in daily activities. The second week focuses on time, discussing the calendar and seasonal changes, while the third week introduces guidelines for community cooperation.

#### **Daily Structure**

The curriculum suggests a daily rhythm that includes circle time, main lessons, and handwork. Circle time is particularly important in the fifth grade, where the focus shifts to oratory skills and recitation of verses related to the main lesson. Each day begins with a verse, which serves as a meditation and sets the tone for the day's learning.

#### **Main Lesson Blocks**

The main lessons are divided into three parts:

1. **Rhythmic:** Engaging students in movement and repetition to reinforce learning.
2. **Thinking:** Introducing new material through storytelling or direct instruction.
3. **Doing:** Allowing students to actively engage with the material through projects or hands-on activities.

This structure is designed to cater to different learning styles and temperaments, ensuring that all students can connect with the material on some level.

**Copyright Earthschooling:** *This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.*

## **Subjects Covered**

### **History and Geography**

Fifth graders study ancient cultures, including India, Persia, Egypt, and Greece, connecting these lessons to their own development and understanding of humanity. Geography expands to include North America, allowing students to relate their local experiences to broader global contexts.

### **Science**

The science curriculum focuses on botany, where students explore plant life, the water cycle, and photosynthesis. This subject is integrated with nature walks and hands-on experiments to deepen understanding.

### **Math**

The math curriculum introduces decimals, percentages, and practical business math skills, alongside geometry. This integration of math with historical contexts enhances students' understanding of its application in real life.

### **Music and Handwork**

Music and handwork become increasingly challenging in fifth grade. Students are encouraged to take private lessons in instruments and engage in complex handwork projects that reinforce their fine motor skills and creativity.

### **Storytelling and Verses**

Storytelling remains a vital part of the curriculum, with an emphasis on using stories to convey lessons and morals. Teachers are encouraged to adapt stories to fit the developmental stage of the students, ensuring that the narratives resonate with their experiences. The curriculum also highlights the importance of storytelling in fostering imagination and understanding of cultural narratives.

### **Modifications and Flexibility**

The curriculum is designed to be flexible, allowing educators to modify lessons based on the needs of their students. Teachers can adjust the pace of lessons, incorporate local resources, and adapt snack times to fit the classroom rhythm. This adaptability is crucial for multi-age classrooms, where different age groups may require different approaches to learning.

### **Conclusion**

The Earthschooling Fifth Grade Curriculum provides a comprehensive framework for teaching fifth graders through a Waldorf-inspired lens. By integrating various subjects and emphasizing a holistic approach to education, the curriculum aims to foster a deep understanding of self and the world, preparing students for their future learning journeys. The focus on rhythm, storytelling, and hands-on activities ensures that learning is engaging and meaningful, allowing students to connect with the material on multiple levels.

## **DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE FIFTH GRADE YEAR**

### **Fifth Grade Planner One**

Main Lesson: Ancient India: Part I

Complimentary Lesson: Botany: Part I

Creative Lesson: Mandalas: Parts 1, 2, 3 & 4, Traditional Holi Crafts, Jar Plants, Moss and Lichen Craft, Algae Shake

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

### **Fifth Grade Planner Two**

Main Lesson: Ancient India: Part II

Complimentary Lesson: Math: Ancient Numbering Systems

Creative Lesson: Mandalas: Parts 5, 6, 7 & 8

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

### **Fifth Grade Planner Three**

Main Lesson: Ancient Persia: Part I

Complimentary Lesson: Botany: Part II

Creative Lesson: Arabic/Persian Calligraphy

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

### **Fifth Grade Planner Four**

Main Lesson: Ancient Persia: Part II

Complimentary Lesson: Language (Grammar), Language (Writing Short Stories)

Creative Lesson: Persian Cooking, NoRuz Table, Creating a Persian Marketplace

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

### **Fifth Grade Planner Five**

Main Lesson: Ancient Egypt: Part I

Complimentary Lesson: Math (Averages & Decimals)

Creative Lesson: Make a Senet Game, Window Stars Parts 1, 2, 3 & 4

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

### **Fifth Grade Planner Six**

Main Lesson: Ancient Egypt Part II

Complimentary Lesson: Math (Negative Numbers), Math (Story Problems), Math (Ancient Clocks)

Creative Lesson: Ancient Egyptian Cooking, Mummification, Making Papyrus, Window Stars Part 5

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

**Copyright Earthschooling:** *This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.*

### **Fifth Grade Planner Seven**

Main Lesson: Ancient Greece: Part I

Complimentary Lesson: Language (Greek)

Creative Lesson: Greek Form Drawing, Greek Olympics, The Chiton, Greek Theater

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

### **Fifth Grade Planner Eight**

Main Lesson: Ancient Greece: Part II & Greek Philosophers

Complimentary Lesson: Math Through Sewing

Creative Lesson: Greek Oration and Theater

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

### **Fifth Grade Planner Nine**

Main Lesson: North American Geography: Part I: Explorers, Mountains, Rivers & History

Complimentary Lesson: Language (Short Stories and Essays)

Creative Lesson: Window Stars: Parts 6, 7, 8 & 9

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

### **Fifth Grade Planner Ten**

Main Lesson: North American Geography: Part II: Regional Foods & Crafts

Complimentary Lesson: Regional Foods and Crafts

Creative Lesson: Final Window Star Lessons

Music: Soprano Recorder

Ukulele: Level 2 (Living Lessons Only)

**Copyright Earthschooling:** *This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.*

## **SUPPLY LISTS FOR FIFTH GRADE WRITTEN CURRICULUM**

### **Basic Supplies for All Lessons All Year**

These supplies are used in many grades of the Waldorf curriculum, so if you have already been teaching in the Waldorf style, you may have many of these on hand. This is also a general list to get you started. If you get everything on this list, you will not need to supplement with much else all year. *You will also need the supplies from the "specific supply list" below this one.*

### **Optional Supplies for the Year**

These are not required in the curriculum. However, they may be suggested or can be used to supplement lessons and support creative expression.

### **Specific Supplies for the Year**

This list was taken directly from the crafts and projects presented in the curriculum

### **Basic Supplies for All Lessons All Year**

1 Main Lesson Book - 32 Pages, Landscape, 32x24 cm, Blank, With or Without Onion Skin.\*\*

1 Main Lesson Book - Composition Book 21 x 29.7 cm Portrait Format – Blank\*\*

4 Composition Books - 21x29.7 cm Portrait Format - Lined - 35 Lines Each Page\*\*

1 Main Lesson Book - Composition Book - 21 x 29.7 cm, Portrait, Graph Paper 5 x5mm\*\*

1 Geography Main Lesson Book (Optional)\*\*

Watercolors (Set of 8)

Watercolor Brushes (Different Sizes)

Watercolor Paper (At Least 11' x 14")

Watercolor Board (Can purchase, make, or use the back of a frame)

Instrument of Choice (Violin, Piano, etc.)

Wool Roving - At Least 16 Colors

Felt Board (At Least 11" x 14" - Can Make or Purchase)

Yarn (8-10 Balls) - 100% Cotton or Wool

Wood Knitting Needles (Size 6 and 8)

Colored Pencils - At Least 16 Colors

Drawing Paper (Minimum 8" x 10")

Pencils for Writing

Pencil Sharpener

Eraser

Ruler

Compass

Protractor

Blackboard and Chalk for Teachers to Present Lessons (Recommended but Optional)

### **Optional Supplies for the Year**

Small Blackboard & Chalk for Child

Modeling Beeswax (Stockmar or can be made at home)

Modeling Clay (Stockmar or can be purchased at a local art supply store)

Weaving Loom (Small 12" x 12" is Fine)

Origami and/or Kite Paper

### **Specific Supplies for the Year**

1. **Fabric and Thread:** You will need about 2 meters of fabric along with matching thread for various projects.
2. **Elastic:** For the waistband of garments, measure your waist and add 5 cm to determine the length of elastic required.
3. **Yardstick:** A yardstick is recommended for measuring and drawing.
4. **Sharpie:** This tool is suggested for drawing on newspaper, although a stick crayon can also be used.
5. **Newspaper and Tape:** These materials are necessary for various crafting activities.
6. **Ingredients for Special Snacks:** For the Catsup recipe, you will need 3 cans of whole tomatoes,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of malt or red wine vinegar,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of finely chopped onion, 2 tablespoons of Worcestershire sauce,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon of salt, 1 clove of crushed garlic, and cane sugar to taste.
7. **Live Yeast Starter:** For the Friendship Bread, you will need 1 cup of live yeast starter, which can be ordered online or obtained from a friend.
8. **Ingredients for Rocky Mountain Bean Chowder:** This recipe requires specific ingredients, although the exact list is not detailed in the provided pages, it is referenced in the context of regional food.

**Copyright Earthschooling:** *This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.*

**About Main Lesson Books:** Although we provide a supply list, the main lesson books you use can vary according to preference. The only reason we have a list of different main lesson books on the supply list is to provide you with a variety of main lesson book experiences or the option to use different formats. There is no rule as to which book goes with which lesson. Some teachers prefer to use the lined books for writing, and others prefer to use the blank page/lined book combination for writing. Blank page books often work best for math. However, lined books can also be used. Once you become familiar with the main lesson book experience, you can choose your own books according to your preference. To decide on which lesson books you want to use/order, you can use the following list:

1. Main lesson books are used for each different subject. Every time a student does a math lesson or math practice, they write or draw in their math main lesson book. Each time a student does a language lesson, they use their language main lesson book. I usually provide my students with at least one nature journal book and one “free” book (in which they can do whatever they want or practice lessons before they put it into their main book), so base how many books you need on this guideline.
2. There is no rule as to what kind of book you need. I know one Waldorf teacher who has students make their own books with plain paper and yarn. I have seen some teachers use very specific books for each subject. I, personally, prefer the style of book with lines on one side and a blank page on the other side so the student has space to write and draw each day. Although I have seen others use the lined books exclusively (and then just glue or tape in plain paper as needed) and others use just the plain pages only, and either ask students to write without lines or create their own lines before they write.
3. For size, I usually choose the largest size available or at least medium. I find the students have a hard time opening up their creativity with the smaller books. Although a smaller book might work as a nature journal if you are carrying it with you.
4. The only requirement is that the book you create needs to be able to lie flat. Sometimes you can use a piece of the child’s art or wet-on-wet watercolor as the book cover.

**Question from Member:** *When should we start using lined books for writing?*

**Reply from Earthschooling:** We recommend second or third grade, depending on the comfort level of the child. When you do start, begin with wider lines before moving to thinner ones. You can “try them out” in second grade and observe how the child responds. If they are comfortable, then you can continue using them. Some signs of discomfort might be complaining about the restrictions of the lines, consistently writing off the line, or refusal to write in the books.

**Question from Member:** *I am having trouble finding the exact main lesson book that is suggested on the “suggested supply list.”*

**Reply from Earthschooling:** Although we provide a supply list, the main lesson books you use can vary according to preference. The only reason we have a list of different main lesson books on the supply list is to provide you with a variety of main lesson book experiences or the option to use different formats. There is no rule as to which book goes with which lesson. Some teachers prefer to use the lined books for writing, and others prefer to use the blank page/lined book combination for writing. Blank page books often work best for math. However, lined books can also be used. Once you become familiar with the main lesson book experience, you can choose your own books according to your preference.

**Copyright Earthschooling:** This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.

## FIFTH GRADE WRITTEN CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

All items below have a direct link, but can also be accessed by using your [main fifth-grade page](#)

REQUIRED ITEMS	REQUIRED
I have downloaded my curriculum from the fifth-grade page <a href="#">by the year</a> , or I will download <a href="#">each month individually</a> . I understand this is all I need to complete the year and that everything else is extra resources. I understand there is also a page that has all the daily planners individually on an archived (older page) <a href="#">here</a> .	
I understand that if I download the planners by the month that I also need to download the document called "Introduction to All Months" as this will help guide me in using the curriculum. If I download the curriculum by the year, this document is included in that download.	
I have downloaded the <a href="#">Ultimate Fifth Grade Written Curriculum Guide</a> PDF. This checklist can be found within this guide so I might be using this file now.	
I understand that <a href="#">EarthschoolingHelp.com</a> is the only place to submit support questions.	
I understand that if I use more lessons beyond the required curriculum, I risk becoming confused or overwhelmed. I will proceed slowly and cautiously through all extra materials. If I start to feel overwhelmed or confused, I will take a step back and consider using only the required lessons or will add extra lessons and teacher education at a much slower pace. Earthschooling provides extra resources, so I have <i>choices</i> , not because they expect me to use them all.	
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BELOW	PRIORITY
I have visited the <a href="#">Teacher Support Page</a> for fifth-grade and have browsed or watched the videos on that page that will help me in my journey (Package Members only – this is not available for Core Bundles)	
I have browsed the <a href="#">START HERE</a> page to become familiar with those resources and have read or listened to the ones that I need at this time.	
ALL EXTRA AND OPTIONAL BELOW	EXTRAS
I have visited the <a href="#">Introduction page</a> for fifth-grade for help with organizing and record keeping.	
I understand that I also have the option to use the archived <a href="#">fifth-grade blocks</a> . However, the material in these blocks is not as complete as the planners.	
I have visited the <a href="#">Teacher Essentials Page</a> and have skimmed through some of the important materials there for future reference such as: Waldorf 101, My Waldorf Year, Member FAQs, Planning Essentials, Classroom Essentials, and more	
I have skimmed the <a href="#">Fifth Grade Music page</a> to be aware of the extra resources I have there such as charts, sheet music, extra verses, and mp3s	
I am aware of the member galleries <a href="#">here</a> on the Member Gallery page. However, I also know I can access all the member galleries from the EarthschoolingHelp.com page.	
I am aware that Earthschooling provides <a href="#">extra lessons for fifth-grade</a> if I need them on the Extra Lessons page	
I have looked at the optional book list for fifth-grade on the <a href="#">Book List page</a> .	
I am aware that students will need to practice the math they learn in the planners and that Earthschooling provides practice problems on the <a href="#">Math Problems</a> page. However, I am also aware I can find math problems for all grades linked from the EarthschoolingHelp.com page.	
I know where to find the <a href="#">Fifth Grade FAQs page</a> . However, I am also aware I can link to this page from EarthschoolingHelp.com.	
I am aware there is a <a href="#">Cultural Enrichment page</a> for all members and have skimmed the content to be aware of what is available.	