

Introduction

We are pleased to provide this overview of the fifth grade academic program at Lexis Prep. Our carefully developed curriculum provides Lexis Prep students with a strong college-prep education in the setting of personalized instruction.

The following guide gives an overall picture of what a Lexis Prep student will learn in fifth grade. The individual learner and classroom needs will determine how the guide is implemented in the classroom.



English Language Arts and Reading



Students at Lexis Prep benefit from an English Language Arts and Reading curriculum that teaches students not just how to read and write, but also the meaning and purpose of what they are learning. The Lexis Prep curriculum utilizes the *Imagine It!* program which is correlated to the national standards put forth by the National Reading Panel. This curriculum includes the areas of: Literature; Informational Text; Language; Speaking and Listening; and Writing. The standards offer a focus for instructional practices and strategies and help ensure students gain adequate exposure to a range of learning opportunities.

The *Imagine It!* English Language Arts and Reading program thoroughly addresses the five key areas of reading: phonemic awareness; systematic, explicit phonics; fluency; vocabulary; and comprehension. The curriculum lays the foundation of reading skills, provides practice increasing confidence, assesses progress,

provides additional help and challenges, guides through inquiry, questioning, investigating and exploring, teaches writing strategies, offers a variety of genres, and bolsters instruction with the use of technology resources.

Reading Standards for Literature

Key Ideas and Details

- Quote from a text to support statements about the text
- Determine a theme of a text, drawing on how characters in a story respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text
- Compare and contrast two or more characters, events, or settings in a text

Craft and Structure

- Identify how metaphors, similes, rhymes and other repetitions of sounds supply meaning
- Explain major differences between drama and prose stories
- Identify how a narrator's perspective or point of view influences how events are described

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

- Explain how images, sounds, and movements contribute to an animated or live-action adaptation
- Compare the treatment of similar ideas, themes, character types, and patterns of events in myths

Range and Level of Text Complexity

- Read independently, proficiently, and fluently literature appropriately complex for fourth to fifth grade

Reading Standards for Informational Text

Key Ideas and Details

- Quote from a text to support statements about the text
- Determine two or more main ideas and how they are supported by details; summarize the text
- Explain the relationships between two or more historical events or scientific concepts

Craft and Structure

- Determine meanings of general academic language in a text relevant to a fifth grade topic
- Describe how events, ideas, or information are/is organized
- Analyze two accounts of the same event or topic and describe similarities and differences

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

- Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources to efficiently solve a problem
- Explain how an author uses evidence to support his or her claims in a text
- Integrate information from several texts on the same subject for writing and speaking

Range and Level of Text Complexity

- Read independently, proficiently, and fluently informational texts appropriately complex for fourth to fifth grade

Language Standards

Conventions in Writing and Speaking

- Observe conventions of grammar and usage
- Observe conventions of capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
- Make effective language choices

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

- Determine word meanings based on fifth grade reading
- Understand word relationships
- Use words that are in common, conversational vocabulary and appropriate for fifth grade

Speaking and Listening Standards

Comprehension and Collaboration

- Initiate and engage in group discussions on fifth grade topics and texts being studied in class
- Summarize key ideas and supporting details presented graphically, visually, orally, or multi-modally
- Summarize and support claims made by a speaker or presenter

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

- Report on events, topics, or texts in a focused, organized manner
- Incorporate visual displays and digital media into presentations when appropriate
- Adapt formal and informal speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks

Writing Standards

Text Types and Purposes

- Use organizing, writer's purpose, reasons, facts, details and closure for an opinion with defense
- Write informative and explanatory pieces with topic, observations, details, quotations, vocabulary, technical terms and conclusion
- Write narratives establishing a situation, sequencing the events, using dialog and including a conclusion

Production and Distribution of Writing

- Write using organization, development, substance, style, purpose and audience
- Strengthen writing by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach
- Use technology to produce, publish, and interact with others about writing

Research to Build Knowledge

- Perform short, focused research tasks that build knowledge through investigation
- Gather information from experience, print, and digital sources; summarize and paraphrase; produce bibliography
- Demonstrate response to literary/informational sources with analysis and reflection

Range of Writing

- Write routinely over extended time frames for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences

Mathematics

The goal of the Lexis Prep 5-8 mathematics program is for our students to develop the ability to think and reason mathematically and use mathematics to solve problems in authentic contexts. The expectation is that they will achieve mathematical proficiency through the mastery of mathematic skills, concepts, and processes. This goal is met through the opportunity to develop, practice and review concepts over time. Lexis Prep students move from the concrete to the pictorial to the abstract through a deliberate sequence of instruction. Our students' regular exposure to critical thinking and problem solving prepares them for real world applications.



The Lexis Prep mathematics curriculum is aligned with both the National Council for Teaching Mathematics (NCTM) Standards and Benchmarks as well as Saxon Math. The standards outlined below show the general progression of topics over the course of the school year. Parents can be confident their child will receive thorough mathematics instruction.

Lexis Prep Math Standards Correlated with NCTM Standards and Saxon Math

Number and Operations and Algebra

- Develop an understanding of and fluency with division of whole numbers
- Apply models and relationship for division and multiplication with operations and place value
- Develop use of efficient and accurate procedures to find quotients involving multi-digit dividends
- Estimate quotients or calculate them mentally, depending on the context and numbers involved

Number and Operations and Algebra

- Develop an understanding of and fluency with division of whole numbers
- Develop fluency with efficient procedures for dividing whole numbers
- Understand why procedures work based on place value and properties of operations to solve problems
- Consider context of problem to select most useful form of quotient/solution and interpretation

Number and Operations

- Understand and develop fluency with addition and subtraction of fractions and decimals
- Apply fractions for addition and subtraction of equivalency with unlike and like denominators
- Apply understanding of decimal models, place value, and properties to add and subtract decimals
- Develop fluency with standard procedures for adding and subtracting fractions and decimals
- Make reasonable estimates of fraction and decimal sums and differences
- Add and subtract fractions and decimals to solve problems

Geometry and Measurement and Algebra

- Describe three-dimensional shapes and analyze their properties
- Relate two-dimensional shapes to three-dimensional shapes
- Recognize volume as an attribute of three-dimensional space
- Understand quantifying volume with total number of same-sized units without gaps or overlaps
- Understand that a cube that is 1 unit on an edge is the standard unit for measuring volume
- Select appropriate units, strategies, and tools for solving problems, estimating and measuring volume
- Decompose three-dimensional shapes and find surface areas and volumes of prisms
- Find and justify relationships among formulas for areas of different polygons using surface area
- Measure necessary attributes of shapes to use area formulas to solve problems

Algebra

- Use patterns, models, and relationship contexts for writing and solving simple equations and inequalities
- Create graphs of simple equations
- Use prime and composite numbers in the addition and subtraction of fractions, common factors, and multiples
- Develop understanding of the order of operations

Measurement

- Connect solids and volume to capacity and weight or mass
- Solve problems for approximation and precision of measurement

Data Analysis

- Apply whole numbers, fractions, and decimals to construct and analyze double-bar, line graphs and ordered pairs on coordinate grids

Number and Operations

- Understand place value to numbers through millions and millionths in various contexts
- Apply multiplication of whole numbers to larger numbers
- Explore contexts describing negative numbers

Science

The Lexis Prep science program provides students with opportunities to think and act like scientists. Lexis Prep students acquire scientific knowledge, practice science process skills, and apply science concepts through reading and observing, as well as by conducting investigations that have real-world applications.

Fifth grade science is organized into four disciplines: life science, physical science, earth science, and science and technology. All science outcomes are aligned to the National Science Education (NSE) Standards.

Lexis Prep utilizes Delta Education which provides a kit-based curriculum and instructional resources that correlate with state standards. Delta Education provides the expertise to ensure the best combination of materials are selected for each grade level in order to align the Lexis Prep curriculum with the science concepts, inquiry nature, and developmental appropriateness reflected in the state standards.



Lexis Prep Science Standards Correlated with NSE and Delta Education

Unit 1: Powders and Crystals

While studying **Powders and Crystals**, students must identify six unknown substances that their senses tell them are very similar. First, they view the white particles with pocketscopes and differentiate between the powders and the crystals. After comparing the substances to named samples, students apply several tests to discover the chemical properties of each: the water test, vinegar test, iodine test, BTB test, and heat test. Activity sheets provide detailed instructions for conducting each analysis and recording the results. These test data help students complete the next challenges: deducing the two or three ingredients in four mystery mixtures and exploring three new unknown white particle substances.

Unit 2: Oceans

In **Oceans**, students investigate our watery planet with a graphic model that compares water to land, salt water to fresh water, oceans to seas, and the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. They get their hands wet investigating several ocean phenomena such as saltiness, wave action, and currents. Students use ocean depth data to create a 3-D model of the ocean floor, make hydrometers to measure water density, and assemble a tide dial to explore the ocean's rise and fall. Students model adaptive features of fish and marine mammals and use sea specimens to study an assortment of mollusks and other creatures of the intertidal zone.

In the Delta Science Reader *Oceans*, students explore the ocean, the great body of salt water that covers nearly three-fourths of Earth's surface. They learn about the composition of ocean water, features of the ocean floor, how ocean waters move, and how oceans affect weather and climate. Students discover the many resources the ocean provides. They also read about marine biologist Dr. Sylvia Earle and undersea explorer Jacques-Yves Cousteau. Finally, students learn about deep-ocean exploration.

Unit 3: Simple Machines

Students begin exploring **Simple Machines** by measuring force as they lift, push, and pull loads and determine the mathematical relationship between force and work. Students build and/or operate classroom versions of the six simple machines: lever, wheel and axle, pulley, inclined plane, wedge, and screw. They investigate how (and how much) each one makes work easier by magnifying, modifying, transferring, or changing the direction of the applied force. By calculating such factors as gear ratios and the negative effects of friction, students discover the tradeoff between force and distance. Students also identify and examine household or other everyday simple machines.

In the Delta Science Reader *Simple Machines*, students explore the world of simple machines and the energy that makes them work. Students read about the six simple machines (inclined plane, lever, wheel and axle, pulley, wedge, and screw) and understand the difference between simple and compound machines. In biographical sketches, students meet ancient Greek mathematician Archimedes and modern inventor Lillian Gilbreth and discover how they put simple machines to work. Students also read about the scientific formula for calculating work, the many levers in the human body, and how a roller coaster works.

Unit 4: You and Your Body

Students explore **You and Your Body** starting with examining the skeletal system and identifying major bones and joints. Next they replicate the arm's muscle coordination and measure reaction time. Students model the pumping action of the heart, calculate lung capacity, and investigate respiration. They find out why we have different types of teeth and how to keep them healthy. Skin is examined as a versatile body part, not only for cooling and protecting us, but also for sensing our environment. Students discover how the five senses work to perceive and evaluate incoming information. Finally, because the body runs on fuel, students test foods for nutrient content and practice reading nutrition labels.

In the Delta Science Reader *You and Your Body*, students read about how cells, the body's building blocks, make up tissues, organs, and organ systems. Students explore some of the body's main systems such as skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, and nervous. The book also touches briefly on the endocrine, immune, reproductive, and excretory systems. Biographies of two medical pioneers, Dr. Charles Drew and Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, are included. The book concludes with a look at how reflexes work.



Social Studies

Lexis Prep students enjoy *America's Past*, the TCI *Social Studies Alive!* curriculum for fifth grade. *Social Studies Alive!* consists of a series of instructional practices that allow students of all abilities to master key social studies concepts. The *Social Studies Alive!* approach is characterized by eight features: theory and research based active instruction, standards based content, preview assignments, multiple intelligences teaching, considerate text, graphically organized reading notes, processing assignment, and assessments to inform instruction.

The National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) has organized grade level content into Ten Thematic Units of Instruction that form the framework of the social studies standards. All ten themes are found at each grade level of *Social Studies Alive!* with specific themes enhanced at different grade levels. The focal themes in fifth grade are bolded below.



- **Culture**
- **Time, continuity, and change**
- **People, places, and environments**
- Individual development and identity
- Individuals, groups and institutions
- Power, authority, and governance
- Production, distribution, and consumption
- Science, technology and society
- Global connections
- Civic ideals and practices

The Lexis Prep social studies curriculum is content and benchmark aligned with the NCSS thematic units. Where objectives overlap with other grade levels, the objectives are met using different age-appropriate content and activities at each grade level.

Lexis Prep Social Studies Standards Correlated with NCSS and *Social Studies Alive!*

Unit: America's Past

- Explain the difference between relative and absolute locations with lines of latitude and longitude
- Explain why the first people migrated to North America and the adaptations they made
- List seven American Indian cultural and environmental regions with adaptations
- Describe how and why explorers set out for the New World in the late 1400s and in the 1500s
- List the European explorers who claimed land in North America from the late 1400s through the 1600s
- Investigate the similarities and differences among the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies
- Describe the choices West Africans had to make to survive being enslaved and brought to the Americas

- Research daily life in the colonial Williamsburg, Virginia capital
- Describe the relationship between the colonies and Great Britain before the American Revolution
- Name six prominent colonists who were either Loyalists or Patriots
- Describe the events and ideas that led to Jefferson's drafting of the Declaration of Independence
- Analyze how the American colonies defeated Great Britain in the American Revolution
- Examine the government set up by the Constitution to learn how it is strong and balanced
- Learn about the Bill of Rights and several of its key amendments
- Explain U.S. expansion into the West in the 1800s (Manifest Destiny) and the effects on the existing population
- List six groups who moved, were helped or were harmed in moving to the West in the 1800s
- List the key events that led to the Civil War
- Describe Union and Confederate soldiers during Civil War including their military tactics, technology and combat
- Describe seven key historical periods since the Civil War that have changed life in the United States

National Standards for Arts Education



The National Standards for Arts Education were developed by the Consortium of National Arts Education Associations. They describe the learning outcomes recommended as an integral part of a comprehensive K-12 education for all American students. The content standards for 5-8 visual arts education include:

- Understand and apply media, techniques and processes
- Use knowledge of structure and functions
- Choose and evaluate a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas
- Understand the visual arts in relation to history and cultures
- Reflect upon and assess the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others
- Make connections between visual arts and other disciplines

National Standards for Music Education

The National Standards for Arts Education were developed by the Consortium of National Arts Education Associations. They describe the learning outcomes recommended as an integral part of a comprehensive K-12 education for all American students. The content standards for 5-8 music education include:

- Sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
- Perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
- Improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments
- Compose and arrange music within specified guidelines
- Read and notate music
- Listen to, analyze and describe music
- Evaluate music and music performances
- Understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts
- Understand music in relation to history and culture



National Standards of Physical Education



The National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) defines five major focus areas specifying what a physically educated person is capable of performing. These focus areas are:

- Learn skills necessary to perform a variety of physical activities
- Be physically fit
- Participate regularly in physical activity
- Know the implications of and the benefits from involvement in physical activities
- Value physical activity and its contribution to a healthful lifestyle

The Difference Maker: Lexis Accent

Customizing is the Key to Success for Each Child

The hallmark of a Lexis Prep education is our personalized approach called Lexis Accent. We know some students need an extra emphasis in their academic program and Lexis Accent is our tool to do that. This customization may include special one-on-one and small group sessions during the school day. These specialized sessions give the Lexis Prep staff the opportunity to focus on the particular learning needs of every child.



Writing - Students receive extra support in the writing process from draft to final copy, including areas such as voice, style, conventions, and research skills.

Reading - A focused time spent on phonemic awareness, systematic phonics instruction, decoding, fluency, and comprehension.

Math - Students use manipulatives while receiving extra instruction in order to ensure mastery of all mathematics concepts.

Social Skills - Students learn practical strategies for developing appropriate friendships, understanding social nuances, and being comfortable in social situations.

As part of the enrollment process, your child will be evaluated to determine if he would benefit from personalized time in any of these areas. If so, it will be included as part of his education plan. There is no additional charge for these classes as we have found the Lexis Accent program is key to ensuring success in a college prep program.

Your child may also work with an Occupational Therapist, Speech Therapist, Physical Therapist, or Counselor at Lexis Prep. These are provided by a third party and there is an extra charge for these services.



Executive Function: Prepare for a Lifetime of Success

The ability to self-regulate is essential for success in life. At Lexis Prep, we call this executive function, a well-known concept that entails many different skills and abilities. Children with ADD or ADHD frequently struggle in this area so we put special emphasis on developing this skill in all our students.

According to Joyce Cooper-Kahn and Laurie Dietzel (*Late, Lost and Unprepared*), executive function can be defined as “a set of processes that all have to do with managing oneself and one’s resources in order to achieve a goal. It is an umbrella term for the neurologically-based skills involving mental control and self-regulation.” Skills and abilities that make up executive function include self-monitoring, planning, organization, emotional control, initiation, shifting, and working memory.

All Lexis Prep students spend time each day learning and practicing these critical executive function skills. Executive function is built into our curriculum and is also explicitly taught with the goal of helping every student effectively develop and utilize these important life skills.



10 Essential Elements of the Lexis Prep Success Model

UHA!

At Lexis Prep, our mission is summarized by UHA!: To Understand, Honor and Accommodate diverse learners and do it with a passion! Everything we do flows from the UHA! principles. This includes the 10 Essential Elements of the Lexis Prep Success Model.

1. A Customized Curriculum

Each child has a unique learning style. A child learns best when teaching is personalized to fit the way he learns, rather than forcing him to learn the way the school teaches. At Lexis Prep, every teacher strives to understand how your child learns best and to utilize that style in every teachable moment. Our Lexis Accent Program customizes the educational program further by strengthening those specific areas that need more attention.

2. High Academic Expectations

A Lexis Prep education is never watered down. It is a solid, age-appropriate, college preparatory experience that will prepare your child well for further studies. Our academics are research-based and multisensory.

3. Integrated Executive Function Skills

Executive function is the ability to plan and organize oneself to accomplish a goal. Your child will learn executive function skills in every aspect of his education to best prepare him for future education opportunities as well as life beyond school. It is the first thing we think about when we interact with a child and it is the last thing we teach at the end of every day.

4. Painless and Intelligent Homework

It is imperative that your child learn how to effectively manage homework before entering high school and college so we focus on developing these critical skills. Homework at Lexis Prep is individualized, manageable, and relevant. It is never busy work and should not be a source of frustration.

5. Passionate and Highly Qualified Teachers

Our teachers are passionate, experienced, and dynamic. Most of our teachers have specialized training, a masters degree or both. They receive regular training in order to continually develop their teaching and assessment skills.

6. Collaboration with Medical and Educational Providers

At Lexis Prep, we are part of a team working together to ensure your child's success. This includes coordination with other professionals, including physicians who are managing medication, psychologists and counselors, speech and language specialists, occupational therapists, and outside tutors.

7. Constant Evaluation of Academic Progress

Our teachers constantly evaluate each student's academic progress. This is done through daily assessments, anecdotal observations, and more formalized testing such as the NWEA MAP assessment given three times each year.

8. Manage the Environment, Not the Child

At Lexis Prep, we believe success is largely dependent on managing the environment. We emphasize routines and transitions throughout the day. When a difficulty arises, we analyze the antecedents in order to determine where changes might be needed.

9. Partner with Parents

A strong partnership with parents is critical to the success of each student. This partnership begins with the initial interview and continues with daily communications, a monthly open forum for all parents, and parents visiting the classroom.

10. We Make It Fun!

Learning should be enjoyable. Children who pursue education (rather than endure it) will be far more successful in the future. At Lexis Prep, we provide a great college prep education and enjoy ourselves every day in the process.