

## **Fifth Grade Language Arts**

### **Reading**

Fifth-graders continue using the Houghton-Mifflin reading series with the Expeditions anthology and workbook, which emphasize reading comprehension strategies. Reading grades will be based on test performance, class work, homework, and book reports. There will be two book reports due each quarter (approximately one per month).

*On the back of this page is a list of pre-approved books for book reports.*

### **Writing**

The fifth-grade writing subject encompasses both grammar and composition. We will be using the Houghton-Mifflin English series, which covers grammar, usage, and mechanics as well as the steps of the writing process. Students will write a variety of compositions focusing on specific purposes and audiences. During the second semester, they will research, write, and publish an autobiography for Open House. Writing grades will be based on test performance, classroom assignments, and homework.

### **Spelling**

The Houghton-Mifflin Spelling and Vocabulary series continues with common English spelling patterns and exceptions, root words, prefixes and suffixes, and vocabulary building. The spelling grade will be based primarily on weekly and cumulative test scores, with extra credit or deductions noted for correct spelling and vocabulary in written work.

### **Handwriting**

Students will be required to use cursive for all reading, writing, and spelling assignments. Except when specifically noted, all written assignments must be completed in blue or black ink. The report card grade for handwriting will reflect daily penmanship, not the handwriting practice book.