



Summer Blast

Getting Ready for
Fifth Grade

Reading

Writing

Math

Art

Puzzles

and more!



Welcome to Summer Blast!

Dear Family,

Welcome to *Summer Blast: Getting Ready for Fifth Grade*. Fifth grade will be an exciting and challenging year for your child. There will be plenty of new learning opportunities, including more complex books to read and more work with fractions and decimals! Interesting new topics in science and social studies will help keep your child engaged in the lessons at school.

Summer Blast was designed to help solidify the concepts your child learned in fourth grade and to help your child prepare for the year ahead. The activities are based on today's standards and provide practice with essential skills for the upcoming grade level. Keeping reading, writing, and mathematics skills sharp while your child is on break from school will help his or her fifth-grade year get off to a great start. This book will help you BLAST through summer learning loss!

Keep these tips in mind as you work with your child this summer:

- ◆ Set aside a specific time each day to work on the activities.
- ◆ Have your child complete one or two pages each time he or she works, rather than an entire week's worth of activity pages at one time.
- ◆ Keep all practice sessions with your child positive and constructive. If the mood becomes tense or you and your child get frustrated, set the book aside and find another time to practice.
- ◆ Help your child with instructions, if necessary. If your child is having difficulty understanding what to do, work through some of the problems together.
- ◆ Encourage your child to do his or her best work and compliment the effort that goes into learning.

Enjoy spending time with your child during his or her vacation from school, and be sure to help him or her prepare for the next school year. Fifth grade will be here before you know it!

What Does Your Rising Fifth Grader Need to Know?

- 1 Identify morals and themes in various types of texts.
- 2 Identify and describe conflict, climax, resolution, and character development in stories.
- 3 Understand parts of words, including root words, prefixes, and suffixes.
- 4 Add and subtract fractions and decimals to hundredths.
- 5 Divide large numbers by multi-digit numbers using long division.
- 6 Understand coordinate planes and ordered pairs.
- 7 Know about bacteria and other major domains of life.
- 8 Understand solids, liquids, and other states of matter.
- 9 Know about the history of the United States, including the 13 colonies, the American Revolution, and the Civil War.
- 10 Learn about the states in the United States and their capitals.



Things to Do as a Family

General Skills

- ◆ Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep. Children this age need 9–11 hours of sleep each night. Even in the summer, establish bedtime routines that involve relaxing activities, such as taking a warm shower or reading.
- ◆ Help your child become organized and responsible. Have places for your child to keep important things. Take time to set up a schedule together. Use a timer to keep track of time spent on different activities.

Reading Skills

- ◆ Set a reading time for the entire family at least every other day. You can read aloud or read silently. Help your child choose books that are at comfortable reading levels and interesting to him or her.
- ◆ After reading, be sure to talk to your child about what they've read. Ask questions about the characters, the plot, and the setting. Encourage your child to share details from the books.

Writing Skills

- ◆ Encourage your child to write emails, texts, or letters to friends and family members who live near and far.
- ◆ Have your child create an online blog or keep a diary/journal about activities he or she is doing during time off from school.

Mathematics Skills

- ◆ Have your child estimate measurements while out in the community. For example: *This menu is about 8 inches wide. About how wide do you think the table is?*
- ◆ Involve your child in cooking dinner. This is a great way to teach about fractions as well as liquid and dry units of measure.

Table of Contents

Introduction

Welcome Letter	4
Helpful Family Resources	5

Weekly Activities

Week 1 Activities	13
Week 2 Activities	23
Week 3 Activities	33
Week 4 Activities	43
Week 5 Activities	53
Week 6 Activities	63
Week 7 Activities	73
Week 8 Activities	83
Week 9 Activities	93

Appendices

Appendix A: Activity Cards	103
Appendix B: Answer Key	115
Appendix C: Parent Handbook	123



Week 1

This week, blast through summer learning loss by:

- ◆ using relative pronouns
- ◆ summarizing a story
- ◆ writing a story
- ◆ designing a T-shirt
- ◆ ordering numbers
- ◆ calculating area
- ◆ using estimation to solve problems
- ◆ using clues to learn about explorers
- ◆ multiplying with number cubes



It's All Relative!

Directions: Complete each sentence with the correct relative pronoun.



A *pronoun* is a word that replaces a noun, such as *he*, *me*, or *we*.

A *relative pronoun* introduces a relative clause, which gives more information about a noun.

There are five relative pronouns: *that*, *which*, *who*, *whom*, and *whose*.

- 1 The letter _____ you gave me was very thoughtful and kind.
- 2 Babe Ruth, _____ is still considered one of the greatest athletes in all of American sports, will never be forgotten.
- 3 A fifth grader, _____ main job is to work hard in school, is still learning how to be responsible.
- 4 Ramona ordered the chocolate cake, _____ is why her sister made the same choice.
- 5 The library was full of students, almost all of _____ were looking for research books for their reports that are due on Friday.
- 6 My favorite pizza topping is pepperoni, _____ was the most popular response in the class survey.



A Visit with Penguins

Directions: Read the passage. Then, answer the questions.

One of the penguins was ready to play. He waddled up the icy hill as fast as he could. Then, he flopped onto his stomach and slid down. Some of the penguins were eating lunch. They swallowed the fish as quickly as the zookeeper could empty the big buckets of food. A few of the penguins were sleeping quietly.

The children watched the penguins for a long time. When it was time to leave the exhibit, all the children were sad to go. Many of the children liked the penguin exhibit best.



- 1 Write one to two sentences to summarize the passage.

- 2 What do you think will happen next? Why?

Circus Balloon

Directions: Finish the story below. Include descriptive words in your story. Use the five senses (sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell) to add details.

A man from the circus filled the boy's large, red balloon with helium and tied it to a long ribbon. The boy held the ribbon tightly in his hand and walked over to see the enormous gray elephant. All of a sudden, a brisk wind . . .



T-Shirt Designer

Directions: You are a famous T-shirt designer who designs for different charities. Use the template below to create your newest design!



Raffle Tickets

Directions: Place the raffle tickets in ascending order, and write the numbers below. Write each of the ticket numbers in standard form next to the number. The first one is done for you.



Number	Standard Form
1 6,942	six thousand, nine hundred forty-two
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

Directions: Add 159 to each number below. Write the new number in digits and then in words. The first one has been done for you.

Number	+ 159	New Number
7 6,035	+ 159	6,194; six thousand, one hundred ninety-four
8 16,432	+ 159	
9 84,735	+ 159	

Calculating Area

Directions: Calculate the area of each rectangle.



To calculate the area of a rectangle, multiply the length by the width.

> Area = length \times width

> $A = l \cdot w$

18 ft.



7 ft.

$$A = 18 \cdot 7$$

$$A = 126 \text{ square feet (126 ft.}^2\text{)}$$

1

5 ft.

3 ft.



$$A = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

2

54 cm

43 cm



$$A = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

3

50 m

25 m



$$A = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

4

12 ft.

9 ft.



$$A = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Solving by Estimating

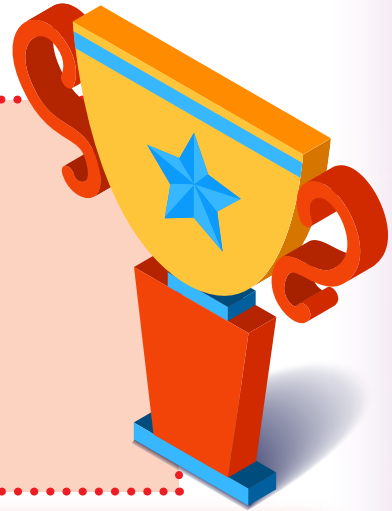
Directions: Estimate to solve the problems.

Example

Jocelyn played 3 games on a social networking site. She received 321, 489, and 273 points.

About how many points did Jocelyn earn all together?

$$300 + 500 + 300 = 1,100 \text{ points}$$



- 1 The same number of cats were curled up on each of 5 chairs. A total of 52 cats were curled up on these chairs. About how many cats were on each chair?
- 2 John caught 2,735 pounds of fish. He put them into boxes of 92 pounds each. About how many boxes did he need?
- 3 Ann played Math Martians on her computer. She scored 832 in the first game, 505 in the second game, and 397 in her last game. About how many points did she score all together?

Which Explorer Went Where?

Directions: Use the clues to find out why each explorer is famous. Use the chart to eliminate each one based on what you find out in the clues.

Clues

One explorer is famous for sailing with the *Niña*, *Pinta*, and *Santa Maria*. Another explorer is famous for conquering the Incas. A third explorer is responsible for the fall of the Aztec empire. And a fourth explorer is famous for traveling around the world.

- 1 Christopher Columbus did not meet the Aztecs or Incas.
- 2 Ferdinand Magellan sailed very far but did not have ships named the *Niña*, *Pinta*, or *Santa Maria*.
- 3 Hernán Cortés defeated some people, but it was not the Incas.
- 4 Francisco Pizarro did not travel around the world.

	Sailed <i>Niña</i> , <i>Pinta</i> , and <i>Santa Maria</i>	Conquered the Incas	Caused the fall of the Aztec Empire	The first to travel around the world
Francisco Pizarro				
Ferdinand Magellan				
Christopher Columbus				
Hernán Cortés				

Roll-the-Numbers Multiplication Game

Number of Players

2–6

Materials

- ◆ pencils
- ◆ paper
- ◆ 2 number cubes
- ◆ calculator

Directions

- 1 Each player will need a pencil and a sheet of paper.
- 2 Player 1 will roll the number cubes one at a time and write the two-digit number. For example, if the first roll is 6 and the second roll is 2, the two-digit number is 62.
- 3 Player 1 will roll the number cubes again in the same way and write down the two-digit number.
- 4 All players multiply the two-digit numbers together.
- 5 The first player to complete the math problem correctly wins the round. Use the calculator to check the answers.
- 6 Continue playing multiple rounds. Use tally marks to keep score on a sheet of paper. The first player to score 10 tally marks wins the game.

