



Preparing for Grade Six What Students Need to Know and Do

Calgary Classical Academy

As students prepare for Grade Six at Calgary Classical Academy, parents and teachers should work with them to master the following skills. We do not expect students to have mastered all of these skills and will continue to work on them in school during their Grade Six year. The intention of this document is to provide an approximate developmental level to guide parents and teachers as they prepare for their children to begin in our classes.

Personal and Study Skills

Students should be able to:

- Use eye contact and words like “please” and “thank you” when speaking with adults and peers;
- Line up and move silently through a hallway for short periods;
- Follow multi-step instructions with minimal prompting or assistance;
- Raise their hand to speak during whole-class discussions and lessons;
- Use self-calming strategies to help themselves self sooth and regulate when upset;
- Be able to care for and organize their belongings independently;
- Sit at a desk peacefully for extended periods of time; and,
- Keep an agenda, track academic obligations, and be responsible for homework.

Students entering grade 6 need the following literacy and numeracy skills:

Penmanship

- Neat and controlled printing
- Neat and controlled cursive writing
- Basic note-taking skills, with teacher guidance

Spelling & Grammar

- Eight parts of speech
- Sentence diagramming (complete subject, complete predicate, direct and indirect object)



- Spelling suggestions:
<https://howtohomeschoolforfree.com/free-spelling-games-activities-online/>

Composition

- Write in complete sentences, avoiding run-ons and sentence fragments.
- Proper use of punctuation and capitalization.
- Write a descriptive paragraph of ten to fifteen lines in 30 minutes, with a topic sentence, supporting details, and a concluding sentence.
- Practice summer writing using No Red Ink - <https://www.noredink.com/>

Literature & Reading

- To help parents build reading comprehension over the summer create a student account at <https://readtheory.org/> Be sure to track your child's progress. Complete 15 minutes daily.
- Students should be fluent readers, both silently and orally. They should be reading classic novels independently and with understanding. To achieve this students should be reading at least one hour per day of serious literature (not graphic novels) over the summer.
- Here are some of the novels read in grade 5: D'Aulaires, *Book of Greek Myths*; Sutcliffe or Cross's adaptations of Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*; Sutcliffe, *The Eagle of the Ninth*; MacDonald, *At the Back of the North Wind*; Spyri, *Heidi*; London, *The Call of the Wild*; Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*

History & Geography:

- Students should be acquainted with the ancient period of history learned in grade five. This may be accomplished by reading or listening to the audio version of Susan Wise-Bauer's *The Story of the World: Ancient Times*, vol. 1.

Students should be able to:

- Identify their country, province, and city on a map;
- Identify the continents and major oceans on a map;
- Be able to construct timelines and maps;
- Be able to use and interpret primary sources; and
- Recall selected facts and stories from the four major eras of history - ancient, medieval, renaissance, and modern. This may be accomplished by reading or listening to the audio version of Susan Wise-Bauer's *The Story of the World*



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- Identify their country, province, and city on a map;
- Identify the continents and major oceans on a map;
- Be able to construct a timeline and a map; and,
- Recall selected facts and stories from the major eras of history learned in K-4 and be exposed to (ancient, medieval, renaissance, and modern)

Mathematics - Singapore Dimensions

- Math fluency: students should be able to complete at least 30 math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division up to the number 12 in one minute). Find exercises at webmathminute.com.
- Know problems solving language and be able to decode and solve word problems
- **Singapore Dimension 5A and 5B:** students should have a strong grasp of concepts contained in these texts. Textbooks and workbooks may be purchased at <https://www.singaporemath.com/> or canadianhomeeducation.com.
- Singapore online lectures can be accessed for those who would like extra help for their children. You can access them by following the instructions below (please keep this information within the CCA community):
<https://vimeo.com/>
Login: Colleen.parks@classicalacademy.ca
Password: CCA2022!
Once in go to <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/purchases>
<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/dmathome5>
- Tutoring or support in Math?
<https://www.seriouslyaddictivemaths.ca/eng/pages/home>
<https://www.flyingminds.ca/mathtutor>
<https://calgarybrightminds.com/programs/>
Kumon
- To review the entire scope and sequence for Singapore Math 5A and 5B, and for K - 5 please review the following document:
https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0603/7487/6349/files/Scope_1.pdf?v=1635780325



- To review the scope and sequence for Singapore Math Dimensions for grades 6 - 8 please review the following:

https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0603/7487/6349/files/Scope_2.pdf?v=1635780325

Digital Detox

CCA is a smart phone free environment, and the use of technology is limited, and purposeful at every grade level. There is substantial evidence that technology is causing great harm to our children. Please consider a digital detox for your family over the summer months to help prepare them for school. Here are some readings and resources that will help you:

[How a Digital Detox Could Improve Your Child's Behavior Problems](#)

[Digital Detox: How to Limit Screen Time for Kids](#)

[Digital Detox: The Two-Week Tech Reset for Kids by Molly DeFrank](#)

We hope you find the above information useful. We look forward to the upcoming school year!

Best Regards,

The Grade Six Teachers
Colleen Parks, Principal Educator