

WGA Team 5th Grade FAQ

Based on data we've collected over the past years, we have compiled a list of frequently asked questions and answers to support you and your child this year. Keep checking back as this list will grow as new questions arise.

What does it mean to be a WGA 5th grader?

- Our WGA 5th graders are unique individuals that have interests, ideas, and questions that we foster daily.
- Our grade level works together as a community to solve problems, act with kindness, push each other academically, as well as look beyond at the global community.
- Our students have ideas and theories that deserve to be investigated. With proper mentorship from educators and masters in our community we will help guide them through these investigations.
- They learn that the journey is more important than the end result and failure is an important part of that journey. Through this they enhance their growth mindset by reflecting daily in order to move forward wiser and excited for more.
- Our 5th graders are individually challenged in everything from daily tasks to cumulative projects. The work we do together is vigorous, global, and connected to an authentic audience.
- A WGA 5th grader is curious, creative, and artistic and we feel so lucky to spend time with them each and every day!

What are the Seven Cs that my child keeps talking about?

The Seven Cs are the Weinberg Gifted Academy Standards of Creativity.

- **Cogitate** - *To think fluently and deeply; to contemplate alternatives; to reflect*
- **Construct** - *To build physically, intellectually, and emotionally*
- **Communicate** - *To share information and ideas*
- **Collaborate** - *To work collectively for a shared purpose*
- **Craft** - *To strategically apply specialized skills, tools, and language in context*
- **Community** - *To find a group of people that support one another and share a common goal to develop a positive culture for WGA.*
- **Connect** - *To extend and link information and ideas*

What are all the ways I can stay connected to my child's experience at WGA and in 5th grade?

We expect each family to [sign up for the Infinite Campus Portal](#) to stay up-to-date on student progress on both classwork and homework. Parents can adjust their settings to receive notifications. You can also follow 5th grade through Facebook, and Instagram @wga5th. Both social media platforms will contain the same exact posts. Please also email us anytime with concerns, questions, and anything fun you would like to share. Email anytime: arden.melanie@cusd80.com durham.pamela@cusd80.com roberts.colleen@cusd80.com stevens.cassidy@cusd80.com thomas.james@cusd80.com

What is Google Classroom?

Much of WGA 5th Grade work is assigned and submitted through Google Classroom. Classroom is a free web service for schools, non-profits, and anyone with a personal Google Account. Classroom makes it easy for learners and instructors to connect—inside and outside of schools.

What I need to know about homework in 5th Grade?

We have found over the years that many of our students are busy with after school extracurricular activities. Our students play sports, take language classes, music lessons and so on. To avoid added stress we typically won't add an assignment at the end of a day. Homework in 5th grade will usually be unfinished work that the students had started during the school day and might just need a bit more time to fine tune or complete the assignment. As a parent, if you feel that your child is in need of extra educational work time then we recommend that you look at the options on our 'At Home Resources' tab on our grade level website. Your child should not exceed 60 minutes of homework a night. It is so important that your child advocates for themselves so we know how to best help them.

Where can I find information about what my child is learning this year?

[Visit the Standards and Curriculum page on the District website](#). As a general rule, students will learn math and language arts standards at the grade level above. Science and social studies will be at grade level. Teachers will use a variety of assessments to determine achievement and to design learning activities that meet their needs. When applicable, students might explore standards more than one grade level above.

What's with all of the building?

WGA Team 5th Grade employs a constructivist pedagogy in a design thinking environment that challenges students to develop a growth mindset. The work we do together is vigorous and connected to an authentic audience. The physical building, making, and constructing we do is one part of an in-depth, deliberate, and applied experience. It involves interpreting scholarly articles, communicating with experts, collecting and analyzing data, applying algorithmic thinking and problem solving. It includes crafting and using detailed blueprints in both metric and standard systems of measurement, connecting the past and present and future, documenting processes, developing hand-eye coordination and manual dexterity, project management, communicating results and ideas, navigating collaborative groups, and reflecting on personal learning.