

**Encouraged throughout the year:**

**\*Boxes of Tissues \*Hand Sanitizer \*Clorox Wipes \*Paper Towels**

\*Please note, students switch between teachers in 5th grade and will NOT have a desk to\* keep personal supplies in. All supplies will be kept in their backpacks.

**Optional**

**(label with your child’s name)**

\* Thin markers & crayons

\* Glue (stick or white)

\* Pencil box

\* Multiplication/division flash cards

Supply List

**Required**

\* 2 composition notebooks (**not** spiral)

\* 2 folders (one for homework, one for classwork)

\* Headphones (or earbuds) for classroom computer use

\* Thin dry erase markers

\* Pencils & hand-held pencil sharpeners

I am so excited to spend this upcoming school year with you at Logan as the 5th grade math and science teacher! At the bottom of this page you will find a supply list for the subjects of math and science for the 2020-2021 school year.

Over the summer, I encourage you to continue helping your child to learn. I strongly recommend that your child continue to use flash cards 5-10 minutes a night to have their multiplication and division facts memorized if they do not have them memorized already. In order to be successful at 5th grade math, students are required to have their multiplication facts memorized before the start of the school year.

To start the school year in math, students will be working on place value, adding and subtracting decimals to the hundredths, and fluently multiplying multi-digit numbers. Students will continue on the year by multiplying decimals, dividing whole numbers and decimals, expanding their knowledge of fractions, and understanding volume concepts, just to name a few topics. In science, students will be exploring the topics of force and motion, our universe, energy in ecosystems and what it means to think like a scientist.

On the back of this page you’ll find tips for helping your child to be successful in both math and science. I’m looking forward to a great school year! -Ms. Tansits

Welcome to

5th Grade

Math & Science

Math at Home

The following has been adapted from [https://www.the74million.org](https://www.the74million.org/) …

**Parent Hacks: Reducing your own math anxiety**

Math anxiety is like an oxygen mask on an airplane: You can’t help others unless you help yourself first. For parents who struggle with math anxiety, there are solutions to help adults decrease their discomfort.

One way is to write. A [study](http://science.sciencemag.org/content/331/6014/211.full" \t "_blank) found that people who wrote about their anxious feelings before a test improved their overall score, because writing helped to disrupt their negative thought patterns.

Other [research](https://econtent.hogrefe.com/doi/abs/10.1027/1614-0001/a000228" \t "_blank) has found that anxiety can help improve performance, but only if the worrier believes that it is a powerful tool for success.

“Chill out, make math something fun, and embed it in everyday life so when it comes up, it’s not a stressful thing,” Herts said. “Don’t let the idea of anxiety add more anxiety.”

**Tools to help kids get comfortable with math**

Incorporating math into everyday activities rather than just helping with homework improves children’s attitudes.

For example, researchers [found](https://cogdevlab.uchicago.edu/sites/cogdevlab.uchicago.edu/files/uploads/Science-2015-Berkowitz-196-8.pdf" \t "_blank) that parents who read math passages to their children using the iPad app Bedtime Math significantly increased math achievement over the course of a school year. Researchers pointed out that the tool also helps math-anxious parents because it gives them a structure they can use to help their children.

Even discussing how math is relevant in the real world has proven an effective way to boost student performance. One [study](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5293025/" \t "_blank) found that when parents talked with their teenagers about how their high school classes would be useful in the future — like the importance of learning math to calculate sales prices or being prepared for specific college majors — their children performed better on the ACT and were more likely to pursue STEM majors than those who didn’t have these kinds of conversations with their parents.

Researchers at the University of Chicago have compiled a series of free tools in a resource <https://becomingamathfamily.uchicago.edu/> which walks parents through research-backed activities that parents can do with their children to help teach math concepts.

For example, one activity called “Checkout Line Estimation,” for children 8 and older, is a math game that families can play at the grocery store. Parents teach their children about rounding to the nearest dollar, and they then try to guess the total grocery bill before checkout.

Science at Home

Students will be learning from their textbook, videos and experiments. Most of their grades will come from their ability to explain what they learned and the **whys** and **hows** of science. One way to support your child at home is to simply ask them on a daily basis what they learned in science that day. Be sure to ask WHY and HOW about the information they are sharing with you. I learn something new each year I teach, you’ll be excited to see how much you’ll learn with your child by having these conversations!