



Content Area: English Language Arts

Grade Level: 5

Course Name: Grade 5 ELA

**Course Description:** Grounded in the science of reading, Amplify CKLA for grades 3–5 integrates foundational skills students have learned in grades K–2 while continuing to build rich content knowledge. Students move fluidly between reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language activities, with increasingly complex texts, close reading, and a greater writing emphasis. In Grades 3–5, lessons combine skills and knowledge with increasingly complex texts, close reading, and a greater emphasis on writing. Students start to use their skills to go on their own independent reading adventures, further opening up their worlds.

Units - # of Lessons	Description
Unit 1: Personal Narratives 16 Lessons	<b>Unit Overview:</b> This unit examines the genre of personal narratives, which consists of works of nonfiction written by a first-person narrator involved in the events being described. Students read five personal narratives, identifying the elements of the genre and, throughout the unit, using these elements in writing a variety of their own personal narratives. These elements include a logical sequence of events, dialogue, vivid descriptive language, sensory details, figurative language, and images that accompany a written text. Examining the genre in this way will help students build their knowledge of descriptive writing.
Unit 2: Early American Civilizations 15 Lessons	<b>Unit Overview:</b> The Big Idea of this unit is that large complex civilizations, including those of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca, developed in the Americas before the arrival of Europeans. This unit orients students to the geography, climate, flora, and fauna of the Americas. It also presents an overall history and timeline highlighting the rise and fall of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations. In addition, the unit describes innovations and discoveries of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca and features myths from these ancient civilizations.

Units - # of Lessons	Description
Unit 3: Poetry 13 Lessons	<p><b>Unit Overview:</b> The poems in this unit are drawn from various literary traditions over the last several centuries, and they range from William Blake’s 18th-century verse to the work of such contemporary writers as Virgil Suárez and Marie Howe. The poets come from many backgrounds and nations: the poets included are of European, Middle Eastern, African American, Native American, and Hispanic descent. The poems themselves are similarly diverse; some employ precise meter and rhyme schemes, while others use free verse and experimentation. Uniting them all is their engagement with language and its potential.</p>
Unit 4: Adventures of Don Quixote 15 Lessons	<p><b>Unit Overview:</b> This unit examines the fiction genre through a classic novel, <i>Don Quixote</i>. Students will focus on character and plot, as well as on literary elements such as characterization, while reading a full-length adapted version of <i>Don Quixote</i>. It is important for students in the upper-elementary grades to be able to read longer works of fiction and be able to trace the development of plot, characters, and literary elements over the course of a novel; this unit will provide students that opportunity. In addition, this adapted version of <i>Don Quixote</i>, written by Miguel de Cervantes during the Renaissance, a period in European history that students will study in the next unit, will expose students to the culturally relevant aspects of the classic novel such as the quixotic nature of the primary character, the relationship between Don Quixote and his sidekick, Sancho Panza, and episodes such as the one involving windmills. Students will also read extended excerpts from another adapted version of <i>Adventures of Don Quixote</i> that contains richer, more complex vocabulary and syntax. Students will be able to compare and contrast this more challenging adaptation with the primary text used in this unit.</p>
Unit 5: The Renaissance 19 Lessons	<p><b>Unit Overview:</b> The Big Idea of this unit is that the Renaissance was a cultural movement that began in Italy and swept through Europe. During the Renaissance, increased trade between European countries led to increased wealth, power, and influence of the middle class. This increased wealth allowed merchants and businessmen to support artists as their patrons. Scholars, philosophers, and artists turned to the works of the ancient Greeks and Romans for inspiration. This unit provides students with a broad exposure to the art and literature of this time period, through the works of renowned masters such as Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Donatello, Brunelleschi, Botticelli, Bruegel, Dürer, Van Eyck, Machiavelli, Castiglione, Cervantes, and Shakespeare.</p>
Unit 6: The Reformation 10 Lessons	<p><b>Unit Overview:</b> The Big Idea of this unit is that the Reformation was a movement involving religious and political upheaval that shifted the power in Europe from the Catholic Church to the state and led to the creation of Protestantism. Gutenberg’s invention of an efficient printing press helped fuel the Reformation movement and allowed Martin Luther’s and others’ ideas to spread quickly. Great advances in science were also made during this time, some of which challenged religious doctrine and contributed to the undermining of the power of the Catholic Church.</p>

Units - # of Lessons	Description
Unit 7: William Shakespeare's <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> 15 Lessons	<p><b>Unit Overview:</b>            The <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> unit is an immersive Quest. The Quest treats Shakespeare's comedy <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> as both literature and a living text for interpretation and performance. Over the course of the Quest students will read, write, act, direct, design, and watch <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>. By the end of this unit students will know the story and major characters of <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>, be able to explain how Shakespeare was and is performed, and have a strong set of tools to decipher Shakespeare's plays (and many other challenging and unfamiliar texts) in print or performance.</p>
Unit 9: Chemical Matter 15 Lessons	<p><b>Unit Overview:</b>            This unit introduces students to the concept of matter, physical and chemical changes, and elements and compounds. It is not presented as a standard informational text but written as a detective story. Chemical content is introduced gradually and through the context of the protagonist's experiences, giving students constant examples of the practical interest of these ideas. This is a unit that combines literary and informational characteristics into a single text. It also asks students to look beyond the reader to additional sources to understand and explain the concepts introduced. This unit therefore asks students to <i>integrate</i> the skills they have learned in the rest of Grade 5: how to read and analyze informational and literary texts, how to use information to explain concepts and ideas, and how to write for different audiences and purposes. The unit is designed to be a culmination of the year, and a preparation for the kinds of skills expected in Grade 6 and beyond. It is also, as a detective story, designed to be a fun end to the year!</p>

NYS Standard	Links
Grade 5 Next Generation ELA Standards	<p><a href="#">New York State Next Generation English Language Arts Learning Standards</a></p>