

New Curriculum Big Ideas
Reference Document for Teacher Planning and Communicating Student Learning

The following compilation is from the first draft of the new curriculum. It is a living document and as the Ministry of Education adds to the document this resource will be updated in the portal. Please contact kdawson@sd71.bc.ca if you notice that this reference document has not been updated.

Grade 5

Big Idea	Pop Out
Language Arts	
Language and text can be a source of creativity and joy.	(text) oral, written, visual, or digital communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral texts include speeches, poems, plays, and oral stories • Written texts include novels, articles, and short stories • Visual texts include posters, photographs, and other images • Digital texts include electronic forms of all the above • Oral, written, and visual elements can be combined (e.g. in dramatic presentations, graphic novels, films, web pages, advertisements)
Exploring text and story helps us understand ourselves and make connections to others and to the world.	(story) narrative texts that teach us about human nature, motivation, behaviour, and experience, and often reflect a personal journey or strengthen a sense of identity. They may also be considered the embodiment of collective wisdom. Stories can be oral, written, or visual, and used to instruct, inspire, and entertain listeners and readers.
Listening carefully helps us learn.	
Text can be understood from different perspectives.	
Using language in creative and playful ways helps us understand how language works.	
Combining different texts and ideas allows us to create new understandings.	
Texts are created for different purposes and audiences.	
Mathematics	
Number represents and describes quantity: Parts of wholes can be represented by equivalent fractions.	
Developing computational fluency comes from a strong sense of number: Flexibility in working with numbers extends to operations with larger (multi-digit) numbers.	
We use patterns to represent identified regularities and to form generalizations: Number patterns can be expressed using variables in tables.	
We can describe, measure, and compare spatial relationships: Closed shapes have area and perimeter.	
Analyzing data and chance help us to compare and interpret: Graphs can be used to show many-to-one correspondence.	
Science	

Multicellular organisms have organ systems that enable them to survive and interact within their environment.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do organ systems interact with one another? • How do organ systems interact with their environment to meet basic needs?
Solutions are homogeneous mixtures.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are homogeneous solutions? • What are their uses?
Machines are devices that transfer force and energy.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do machines (natural and human-made) transfer force and energy? • What natural machines can you identify in your local environment?
Humans use earth materials as natural resources.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we interact with water, rocks, minerals, soils, and plants? • Why is Earth considered a closed material system?
Social Studies	
Canada's policies and treatment of minority peoples have negative and positive legacies.	
Natural resources continue to shape the economy and identity of different regions of Canada.	
Immigration and multiculturalism continue to shape Canadian society and identity.	
Canadian institutions and government reflect the challenge of our regional diversity.	
Career Education	
<p>Main focus is on Awareness and Exploration. Understanding deepens through Awareness and Exploration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision-making and planning processes • Learning styles • Information acquisition and analysis • Leadership • Role of mentors in the learning journey 	
Physical and Health Education	
Daily physical activity enables us to practice skillful movement and helps us develop personal fitness.	
Knowing what we enjoy doing and knowing about our opportunities to participate in those activities helps us develop an active lifestyle	
Understanding ourselves and the various aspects of health helps us develop a balanced lifestyle.	
Personal choices and social and environmental factors influence our health and well-being.	
Developing healthy relationships helps us feel connected, supported, and valued.	
Arts Education	
Engaging in creative expression and experiences expands people's sense of identity and belonging.	

Artists experiment in a variety of ways to discover new possibilities and perspectives.	(artists) People who create works in any of the arts disciplines (e.g. dancers, actors, musicians, visual artists); also means the students themselves.
Dance, drama, music and visual arts are each unique languages for creating and communicating.	(communicating) The art itself is a form of communication.
Works of art influence and are influenced by the world around us.	(Works of art) The results of creative processes in disciplines such as dance, drama, music, and visual arts.
Core French	
Listening and viewing with intent helps us acquire French.	
Both verbal and non-verbal cues contribute meaning in language.	
Meaningful communication is possible in French using simple, high-frequency words and patterns.	
With basic French, we can describe ourselves and our interests.	
Francophone culture is a vibrant part of many Canadian communities.	
Each culture has traditions and ways of celebrating.	