

**MARYVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**DESCRIPTION OF CLASSES**  
**FIFTH GRADE**

TEACHER ADVISORY (TA) – The teacher advisory period will be held at the beginning of the school day and is spent with the teacher advisor. The period provides an opportunity for group discussions on many topics pertinent to this phase in the child’s life. Announcements concerning events in the school day are also made during this time. The same students meet at the end of the school day for closure.

**BASIC SKILLS SUBJECTS**

LANGUAGE ARTS – The skills taught in language arts include grammar (using the parts of speech correctly), conventions (capitalization, punctuation, etc.), communication (using writing, listening, and speaking skills), and spelling skills.

MATHEMATICS – Students will develop their understanding of whole numbers, fractions, volume, and decimals. They will explore various strategies to solve problems and will be asked to justify their thinking. Mental math and estimation skills will be practiced and improved throughout the year. Geometry and measurement will also be covered.

READING – Reading in grade five is a continuation of the elementary developmental reading program. The major goal of the reading program is for children to understand, use, and enjoy written language. Progress is based on successful achievement in four major skill objectives: vocabulary, decoding, comprehension and life and study skills.

SCIENCE – Students conduct scientific inquiries method to learn physical, earth, life, and environmental science. Objectives are also met by hands-on activities, simulations, internet research and understanding of written material.

SOCIAL STUDIES – This course is designed to help students develop an understanding of the United States. It provides a comprehensive study of our American history, resources, people, economics, government, and culture. Geography concepts are reinforced throughout the year.

STAT (Student/Teacher Academic Time – 4 quarters) – The objective of this class is to develop students into independent and responsible learners. STAT will be a supervised time to work on assignments. This time will also involve extra help from the teacher on certain work and making up work that is past due. Students use assignment books, which will be reviewed by the students and checked regularly by the STAT teacher.

**EXPLORATORY CLASSES**

ART (1 quarter) – Students will explore the visual arts through a variety of art materials and techniques, with an emphasis on developing drawing technique. Art is designed to give each student an opportunity to create at their best level while maintaining their individuality. Students will develop thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as improve their technical abilities, through the integration of art appreciation, history and art production, using the elements and principles of art.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES (FACS) (1 QUARTER)-- This course is designed to focus on the importance of family. Students will explore their own family’s qualities, the importance of communication and positive relationships. Students will have hands-on opportunities to explore the many avenues that Family and Consumer Sciences encompasses. Other units for this course include laundry, household sanitation, personal hygiene, hand sewing, and kitchen safety with a cooking lab.

STEM (1 quarter) –Students will learn the engineering design process through several hands-on activities. Collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving are the main focus. Students will be introduced to video game design, circuits/electricity, coding, and robotics.

KEYBOARDING (1 quarter) – This class keeps students engaged while creating a foundation of basic computer skills. Development of keyboarding skills focuses on ergonomics to improve both speed and technique using the Type to Learn program. The program engages the students while providing progress monitoring to allow for individual reteaching and enrichment. Students will become familiar with basic computer hardware, software, and computer devices. They will be taught about cyber safety in relation to the internet and technology communication devices. Students will develop skills in word processing and presentation software, through the use of Google Apps.

VOCAL MUSIC (1 quarter) – Students in fifth grade will learn the basics of vocal music and proper singing techniques. We will listen to a variety of music to learn about the elements of music and different cultures. They will sing a variety of music with one or two voice parts. Students will participate in a variety of activities, games, and projects to learn more about different musicians and musical ideas. They will perform in one graded concert which will be at the end of the quarter they have Vocal Music.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC (1 quarter) – Students in fifth grade instrumental music will: 1) learn the basics of music theory and ear training; 2) explore the instruments offered in beginning band. Through the exploration of flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, and percussion students get an extended opportunity to determine what instrument suits them best should they decide to continue on to 6th grade band.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (2 quarters) – Physical education is designed to: 1) help the student develop an understanding of the need for physical fitness and exercise; 2) help the student improve fine and gross-motor coordination and eye-hand coordination through basic skills of catching, throwing, kicking, and hitting; 3) help the student develop social skills by stressing good sportsmanship; 4) develop an understanding of how to play different games by learning the rules and procedures; and 5) help improve physical fitness through vigorous exercise activities.

### **SPECIAL SERVICES**

SPECIAL EDUCATION – Special education teachers provide assistance to students with disabilities, including speech, who are not succeeding in the regular basic skills classrooms. These students must meet federal and state eligibility requirements prior to receiving services. Depending on individual needs and abilities, a student may be served in a class within a class setting, given resource help in a resource room, or taught basic skills classes in a self-contained classroom setting.

COUNSELING – A counselor provides students the opportunity to experience career planning, knowledge of themselves and others (such as self-concept, peer relations, decision making), educational development (study skills, etc.), and immediate guidance in special situations. Students have the opportunity to grow through class presentations, discussion in small groups, and individual meetings with the counselor.