



5SP Supply List



Dear 5SP Families,

The first day of school is two weeks away, but most stores have had their back-to-school supplies prominently on display all summer. This makes many of us eager to buy new gear before school begins. For this reason, I am sending you a supply list now, so you know what to get and what not to get before the start of school. If you are traveling, it is fine to wait until school begins.

ITEMS WE (TEACHERS) WILL HAVE READY FOR YOUR CHILD

- One red 3-Ring Binder for Home/School work
- Sheet protectors for references inside red binder
- Pocket folders for each subject
- Dragon Agenda Book

ITEMS YOU CAN BRING IN

Please note, over the years, I have found some supplies work better than others. I have made a few comments below.

- ☐ a good quality handheld pencil sharpener with a cover for shavings. I find that Staedtler pencil sharpeners last longer and sharpen better
- ☐ a box of thick and a box of thin colored markers: Mr. Sketch Markers have a more vibrant color and last longer. Of course, any brand will be fine. Some people find them easier on line
- ☐ one or two erasers: The ones on pencils always wear out before the pencil does
- ☐ a few low-odor dry erase markers (any color): We use a LOT of dry erase markers on easels and small white boards
- ☐ a few glue sticks
- ☐ scissors
- ☐ a few packets of Post-Its- any color. Square or rectangle: We use them to keep track of ideas
- ☐ a box of 12 or more colored pencils



CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

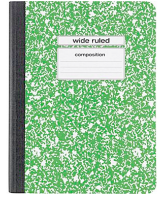
The following items will be kept in our supply closet for the class to use as needed. These items do not need to be labeled because everyone will share them.

- ☐ 1 box of tissues: spiffy or pretty boxes preferred
- ☐ 1 or more boxes of pencils: Any pencils are fine, but I have found Ticonderoga pencils sharpen better. We go through a lot of pencils, so we appreciate having a large supply ready to go
- ☐ **lavender** Method All Purpose Natural Cleaning Spray (good smell and non-toxic!) Please don't go out of your way looking for it



OPTIONAL

- ☐ mechanical pencils/lead: Some children prefer to write with them.
- ☐ speckled Wide Rule Composition Book – The school will provide black composition books, but I have noticed they are getting skimpier. If your child wants a colored one, they are often on sale at this time of year.
- ☐ one or two black roller or gel pens: We use them for final drafts and illustrating.
- ☐ one or two pencil boxes to contain the above items in their desk



That's it for supplies. I hope the lists make sense. I know I sound rather picky. The truth is I am rather picky (my children would tell you I am), but when you have 20 or more students each year using these items, you get a pretty good sense of what works or not.

Below are some answers to **FAQ (frequently asked questions)**.



ARRIVAL: 5th graders are expected to arrive at 7:50 a.m. We start morning meeting each day at 8:00 sharp. When students have time to unpack, greet everyone and complete the morning message before 8:00 it creates a calmer day.

SNACK: I have found that 5th graders get hungry a lot. I would rather students listen to each other and to me rather than to their stomachs reminding them it's snack time. Thus, I ask students come to school each day with at least one healthy snack (no soda or candy) that doesn't need a fork or a microwave to eat.

HOMEWORK: 5th graders are given *around* one hour of homework Monday-Thursday. We try to make homework interesting and effective. If your child gets overwhelmed, or is speeding through, we can adjust things. We believe in a work hard- no stress policy. Less can be more.

STAYING INFORMED: In early October, there will be an open house where you can get a fuller picture of life in the 5th grade. I will also post information on our web page that will explain our classroom procedures, curriculum, up and coming events, photos and many other items that will help you feel fully informed. If you don't have access to the internet, please let me know and I can send home hard copies of all information.

INFORMAL CONFERENCE: Last, but not least, I have been finding it helpful to have an informal conference early in the year. This is not a required parent conference; it's just a brief meeting so we can meet and you can share information about your child. There are 15-minute slots available starting the 2nd week of school. I will send home a sign up sheet on Friday, September 2nd. That's it for now. The 5th grade team is looking forward to many adventures. Enjoy the remaining days of summer.

Sincerely,
Francesca Stark and Douglas Plante

