4th, 5th, and 6th Grade

Descriptors and Rubrics for Content Areas and Learner and Social Qualities

Please Keep for Future Reference

Learner Qualities

Problem Solver	Self-Directed Learner	Collaborative Learner	Quality Worker	Active Listener
A problem solver reasons, makes decisions, and solves problems in many situations, independently and efficiently.	A self-directed learner works independently, uses time effectively, seeks resources when necessary, and is committed to completing the task. A self-directed learner follows routines and instructions independently.	A collaborative learner listens to, acknowledges, and considers differing opinions and willingly works with others. A collaborative worker takes on a variety of roles in group work and consistently works to achieve group goals.	A quality worker follows directions and completes work on time. A quality worker creates a variety of original products that show high standards, puts forth a high degree of effort, and strives to produce superior work.	An active listener proactively contributes by offering ideas and asking thoughtful questions, listening when others speak both in small group and whole class discussions. An active listener builds off the ideas of others.

Social Qualities

Shows Consideration for Others' Needs	Takes Responsibility for Own Actions	Expresses Feelings Positively & Appropriately	Resolves Conflicts Willingly & Appropriately	Takes Responsibility for Own Materials
Cares about and helps others. Is interested in other people and respects their differences. Puts other people's needs before own when necessary; considerate and thoughtful, unselfish.	Controls own behavior and follows school & classroom rules. Recognizes that he/she is the one who controls his/her actions and acts in a positive manner. Will acknowledge and then try to fix a behavior problem while allowing others to do the same.	Shows respect for others' opinions and feelings. Responds to peers and adults in a positive manner.	Can identify a problem calmly, come up with a plan on his or her own or with peers, and is consistently able to independently follow through on the plan.	Comes to school prepared. Keeps materials organized without reminders. Cleans up and puts materials away without reminders.

Reading

Exemplary	Competent	Working Towards
Deep comprehension of the materials read (literary, narrative, factual, informational, and practical)	Thorough comprehension of the materials read (literary, narrative, factual, informational, and practical)	Able to determine the literal meaning of the materials read (literary, narrative, factual, informational, and practical)
Identify main and subordinate ideas, supporting details, and facts	Identify main ideas, supporting details, and facts	Identify major details, but often unable to identify clearly-stated main ideas
Draw valid conclusions and make critical judgements	Draw conclusions and make judgements	Make obvious conclusions
Make sophisticated comparisons, predictions, and inferences	Make comparisons, predictions, and inferences	Extract limited meaning from what they read
Develop meaningful connections between and among ideas and concepts	Develop connections between and among ideas and concepts	
Effectively explain and support inferences and interpretations	Adequately explain and support inferences and interpretations	

Language Arts

Exemplary	Competent	Working Towards
Writing is fluent, fully developed, contains strong details	Writing is moderately developed and fluent	Writing has little or no topic development
Writing has logical organization	Writing is generally focused	Writing has little or no organization
Precise and descriptive vocabulary is used	Acceptable vocabulary is used	Limited or basic vocabulary is used
Writing contains few errors in usage, grammar, and mechanics (spelling and punctuation)	Writing contains some errors in usage, grammar, and mechanics (spelling and punctuation) but they do not interfere with a reader's ability to understand the piece	Writing contains enough errors in usage, grammar, and mechanics (spelling and punctuation) so as to seriously interfere with communication

Mathematics

Exemplary	Competent	Working Towards
Thorough understanding of mathematical concepts and skills in numbers, numeration, operations, and number theory; geometry and measurement; data analysis, statistics, and probability; and functions, relations, and algebra	Overall understanding of mathematical concepts and skills in numbers, numeration, operations, and number theory; geometry and measurement; data analysis, statistics, and probability; and functions, relations, and algebra	Some understanding of mathematical concepts and skills in numbers, numeration, operations, and number theory; geometry and measurement; data analysis, statistics, and probability; and functions, relations, and algebra
Few, if any, errors in computation	Few errors in computation	Numerous errors in computation
Proficiently use estimation to monitor the reasonableness of work	Competently use estimation to monitor the reasonableness of work	Limited use of estimation to monitor reasonableness of work
Mathematical reasoning and problem solving are systematic, direct, and thorough	Mathematical reasoning and problem solving are systematic, direct, and usually thorough	Limited ability to use mathematical knowledge and skills to solve problems.
Explanations of conclusions and problem-solving strategies are clear and concise	Explanations of conclusions and problem-solving strategies are clear	Explanations are generally brief and incomplete.

Science

Exemplary	Competent	Working Towards
Thorough understanding of information, concepts, and skills from the biological, physical, and earth/space sciences	Overall understanding of information, concepts, and skills from the biological, physical, and earth/space sciences	Some understanding of information, concepts, and skills from the biological, physical, and earth/space sciences
Proficiently analyze, synthesize, and interpret data from experiments	Draw conclusions from data	Draw obvious conclusions from data
Proficiently use scientific knowledge and processes to solve problems	Competently use scientific knowledge and processes to solve problems	Limited ability to use scientific knowledge and processes to solve problems
Explanations of conclusions and problem-solving strategies are clear and concise	Explanations of conclusions and problem-solving strategies are clear	Explanations are generally brief and incomplete.

Social Studies

Exemplary	Competent	Working Towards
Thorough understanding of information, concepts, and skills in history, geography, economics, civics and government.	Overall understanding of information, concepts, and skills in history, geography, economics, civics and government.	Rudimentary understanding of information, concepts, and skills in history, geography, economics, civics and government.
Proficiently integrate the use of tools such as maps, globes, graphs, charts, narratives, and timelines to define and address problems	Obtain information from maps, globes, graphs, charts, narratives, and timelines and form conclusions	Obtain some information from maps, globes, graphs, charts, narratives, and timelines and make obvious conclusions
Proficiently interrelate knowledge of the social studies and apply it to the examination of relevant issues	Competently apply knowledge of the social studies to relevant tasks	Limited ability to apply knowledge of the social studies to relevant tasks
Explanations of conclusions are clear and concise	Explanations of conclusions are clear	Explanations are generally brief and incomplete.