

STAAR POWER PORTAL

Grade 5 Power Pack

Reading • Math • Science • STAAR Prep

Study Cheat Sheets • Memory Tricks • Test Day Tips • Victory Certificate

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Reading Cheat Sheet

Key strategies to read smarter and answer with confidence.

Theme

- The theme is the lesson or message the story teaches.
- Look at how characters change from beginning to end.
- Common themes: persistence pays off, be kind, honesty matters.

Point of View

- First person: narrator uses 'I' and 'we' (they are IN the story).
- Third person: narrator uses 'he,' 'she,' 'they' (outside looking in).
- Ask: Who is telling this story and what can they see?

Text Structure

- Problem/Solution: describes a problem then how it's fixed.
- Cause/Effect: one event leads to another.
- Compare/Contrast: shows how things are alike and different.
- Sequence: events in order (first, next, then, finally).

Answering Strategy: S.T.A.R.

- Scan the question first.
- Find Text evidence in the passage.
- Write your Answer clearly.
- Recheck by going back to the text.

Math Cheat Sheet

Key strategies to solve problems step by step.

Decimals

- Line up decimal points when adding or subtracting.
- Count decimal places when multiplying.
- Estimate first to check if your answer is reasonable.

Fractions

- Find common denominators before adding/subtracting.
- Simplify fractions when possible (divide top and bottom by GCF).
- Mixed numbers: whole number + fraction ($2 \frac{1}{2}$).

Volume

- Volume = length x width x height.
- Measured in cubic units (cubic inches, cubic cm).
- Count layers of unit cubes to find volume.

Order of Operations

- PEMDAS: Parentheses, Exponents, Multiply/Divide, Add/Subtract.
- Multiply and divide LEFT to RIGHT (same level).
- Add and subtract LEFT to RIGHT (same level).

Science Cheat Sheet

Grade 5 STAAR Science key concepts.

Matter and Energy

- States of matter: Solid, liquid, gas. Particles move faster as temperature rises.
- Mixtures can be separated; solutions are evenly mixed.
- Physical change = reversible (ice melting). Chemical change = new substance (burning).

Ecosystems

- Food chain: Producer -> Consumer -> Decomposer.
- Adaptations help organisms survive in their environment.
- Inherited traits (eye color) vs. learned behaviors (riding a bike).

Earth and Space

- Water cycle: Evaporation -> Condensation -> Precipitation -> Collection.
- Weather is daily conditions; climate is the long-term pattern.
- Earth's rotation causes day and night (24-hour cycle).

Force and Motion

- Force is a push or pull that changes motion.
- Gravity pulls everything toward Earth's center.
- Friction slows objects down. More friction = harder to slide.
- Speed = distance divided by time.

Memory Tricks

Quick-recall tools to use during study and on test day.

S.T.A.R. (Reading)

Scan • Text evidence • Answer • Recheck

A systematic way to tackle complex reading questions.

R.U.N. (Math)

Read the problem • Underline the target • Number sentence

Turn the story into math. Then solve it.

Test Day Tips

Night Before

- Pack everything you need.
- Do a light review only — no heavy cramming.
- Get solid sleep. Rest wins over last-minute panic.

Morning Of

- Eat protein and drink water.
- Say: "I do one question at a time."
- Arrive calm, not rushed.

During the Test

- If a question feels hard, mark it and move on.
- Use your process, not panic.
- Come back to marked questions with fresh eyes.
- Show all work on math. Annotate while reading.

Mindset

- "I don't need every question to feel easy. I just need to keep thinking."
- Every question you try is progress.
- Trust the work you already put in.

VICTORY CERTIFICATE

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This certifies that the student completed brave,
focused study missions in the **Grade 5 Power Pack**.

Student Name: _____

Date: _____ Badges Earned: _____

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