

The North Shore
Grammar &
Mechanics Guidebook
Grades K-5
2011-2012



*Based on New York State Common Core Learning
Standards (CCLS)*

The North Shore Grammar and Mechanics Guidebook was created
by the district's English Department during the summer of 2011.

**Pat: Could you please insert the Viking logo here?

*This book belongs
to*

*For more information about any of the
grammar terms or principles in this booklet,
please go to any of the websites below.*

Great for adults:

Grammar Bytes

(<http://chompchomp.com/>)

Grammar Girl

(<http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/>)

Great for kids:

Kids' Place Houghton Mifflin English

(http://www.eduplace.com/kids/hme/k_5/)

**Practicing
Grammar,
Mechanics and Writing at
Home**



- ◆ Make cards for special occasions
- ◆ Make lists (groceries, chores, favorite things)
- ◆ Play board games
- ◆ Read together
- ◆ Speak in complete sentences
- ◆ Talk about books
- ◆ Visit the library or bookstore (age-appropriate storytimes are often available)

Fun Learning Websites:

- ◆ <http://www.spellingcity.com/>
- ◆ <http://www.starfall.com/>
- ◆ <http://abcya.com/>
- ◆ <http://storylineonline.net/>



Grade 5

Punctuation

- Commas
 - Separate items in a series
 - After *yes* and *no*
 - Set off a tag question from the rest of the sentence
 - Indicate direct address

Grammar

- Conjunctions
- Correlative conjunctions (e.g., *either/or*, *neither/nor*)
- Interjections
- Prepositions
- Perfect Tenses
- Spelling

Sentence Style/Composing and Revising

- Compose complete sentences, correct fragments and run-ons
- Convey ideas precisely
- Correct inappropriate shifts in verb tense
- Expand, combine and reduce sentences for meaning, interest and style
- Figurative language
 - Similes and metaphors
 - Idioms, adages and proverbs
 - Synonyms and antonyms
 - Homographs
- Vocabulary building

How To Use This Guidebook

The purpose of this guide is to outline the aspects of punctuation, grammar and writing that will be emphasized at each grade level and built upon in each succeeding year. Developed to reflect both the Common Core Learning Standards and the North Shore Language Arts Curriculum, the guide will be used by students, teachers and parents to ensure that students are incrementally taught the conventions and complexities of writing.

For each grade there is a list of learning expectations, and at the back of the booklet are suggestions for continued learning at home.

Grade 4

Punctuation

- Capitalization
- Commas and quotation marks (for direct speech and quotations from text)

Grammar

- Modal auxiliaries (e.g., *can, may, must*)
- Order of cumulative adjectives
- Parts of speech
- Prefixes and suffixes
- Prepositional phrases
- Progressive verb tenses
- Relative adverbs and pronouns
- Spelling

Sentence Style/Composing and Revising

- Compose complete sentences, correct fragments and run-ons
- Convey ideas precisely
- Correct use of homonyms
- Figurative language
 - Similes and metaphors
 - Idioms
 - Adages and proverbs
 - Synonyms and antonyms
- Use punctuation for effect
- Vocabulary building
 - Context clues
 - Greek and Latin roots

Grade 3

Punctuation

- Capitalization of words in titles
- Commas (in addresses, with quotation marks in dialogue)
- Possessive apostrophe

Grammar

- Parts of speech
 - Nouns (abstract, regular and irregular plural)
 - Pronouns
 - Verbs (regular and irregular, simple tenses)
 - Adjectives and Adverbs (comparative, superlative)
 - Prepositions
 - Articles
 - Conjunctions (coordinating, subordinating)
 - Pronoun-antecedent agreement
 - Spelling (patterns and generalizations)
 - Subject-verb agreement

Sentence Style/Composing and Revising

- Choose words and phrases for effect
- Conventions of spoken and written standard English
- Produce simple, compound and complex sentences
- Vocabulary building
 - Affixes (e.g., *dis-*, *un-*, *-less*, *pre-*), roots
 - Literal and non-literal meanings, shades of meaning
 - Words that signal spatial and temporal relationships (e.g., *after*, *beside*)

Kindergarten

Punctuation

- Capitalization (first word in a sentence, pronoun *I*)
- End punctuation (recognize ending)

Grammar (*when writing or speaking*)

- Interrogatives
- Nouns (singular and regular plural)
- Prepositions
- Spelling (phonetically, simple words)
- Verbs

Sentence Style/ Composing and Revising (*when writing or speaking*)

- Print upper- and lowercase letters
- Produce and expand complete sentences in shared language activities
- Phonemes (written)
- Spaces between words
- Print upper- and lowercase letters
- Vocabulary building
 - Antonyms (as keys to word meaning)
 - Affixes and inflections as clues to unknown words
 - Identify new meanings for familiar words and apply them accurately
 - Real-life connections between words and their use
 - Shades of meaning (acting out synonymous verbs, e.g., *walk*, *prance*)
 - Sorting and defining words by category

Grade 1

Punctuation

- Capitalization (dates and names of people)
- End punctuation
- Commas (in dates and series)

Grammar

- Adjectives
- Conjunctions
- Determiners
- Match singular and plural nouns to verbs (e.g., *He hops; We hop*).
- Nouns (common, proper, possessive)
- Prepositions
- Pronouns (personal, possessive, indefinite)
- Spelling (using common patterns and phonetically)
- Verbs (past, present, future)

Sentence Style/ Composing and Revising

- Print upper- and lowercase letters
- Produce and expand complete, simple, compound, declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory sentences in response to prompts
- Vocabulary building
 - Affixes
 - Context clues
 - Real-life connections between words and their use
 - Roots
 - Shades of meaning (verbs and adjectives)
 - Sorting and defining words by category

Grade 2

Punctuation

- Capitalization (holidays, product names and geographic names)
- Commas (in greetings and letter closings)
- Apostrophe (in contractions and possessives)

Grammar

- Adjectives versus adverbs
- Nouns (collective, irregular plural)
- Pronouns (reflexive)
- Spelling (generalized learned spelling patterns)
- Verbs (past tense of common irregular)

Sentence Style/Composing and Revising

- Formal and informal standard English
- Produce, expand and rearrange complete, simple and compound sentences
- Vocabulary building
 - Context clues
 - Prefixes
 - Real-life connections between words and their use
 - Roots
 - Predict meaning of compound words from roots
 - Shades of meaning (verbs and adjectives)