

Dear 5th Grade Teacher,

The Florida Retired Educators Association is again sponsoring our Annual 5th Grade Essay Contest and would welcome your participation. We ask the students to describe an experience with a grandparent or an older adult who has had an impact on their life in a positive way.

We hope you will be able to work our contest into your busy schedule and encourage your students to remember a special time in their life. The contest rules are attached, and your local contact is listed below.

Thank you for your consideration and happy writing.

Local FREA Unit
Local FREA Unit Contact
Phone #
Email

January 2025

FLORIDA RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
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FREA 5th Grade Essay Contest

5th Grade Teacher Guidelines

1. Essay should be a maximum of 500 words, excluding a, an, and the.
2. The student must describe experience or experiences with a grandparent or an older adult who has impacted their life in a positive way.
3. The essay must reflect the ideas, vocabulary, and efforts of the student acting alone.
4. Adult participation is limited to proofreading and typing the final product. In-class writing is suggested.
5. The essay must have a detachable cover listing items in this order: 1. Title, 2. Name of student, 3. Name of teacher, 4. Name of school, 5. Name of county, 6. Number of words in essay.
6. Essay will be judged on originality, adherence to the assigned topic, development of theme, and correctness of grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
7. One essay, from those submitted by all 5th grade classes in each of the local school districts participating, will be selected and sent on to the FREA District Chairman. The District Chairmen (10 Districts) will each select one winning essay to be sent on to the State Volunteer Services Chairman to be judged by the FREA State 5th Grade Essay Judging Committee.
8. A first, second and third place winner will be selected. Units will be notified, and the State Winners will receive \$150, \$100 and \$50 respectively. The 1st Place Essay will be read at our Annual FREA Convention and receive a full color worthy of framing copy of their essay with their check.