

4th Grade Curriculum

Literacy-

The fourth grade reading curriculum nurtures the development of reading as an informational and recreational activity. Different genres of text are explored as the teacher guides students through the development of good fluency and comprehension skills. Independent reading provides opportunities to practice new skills using leveled books that are appropriate for each student. In addition, partner share time provides experience with “book talk” as students delve deeper into inferred meaning. Development of the qualities of good reading is accomplished through teacher led mini-lessons, guided reading, small group strategy sessions, and individual conferences. Students are challenged to appreciate the value of our life as readers.

Writing-

Writer’s Workshop gives children unbelievable power as readers, thinkers, and composers of meaning. Writers Workshop offers students an education that enables them to synthesize, organize, reflect on, and respond to their world. A writing community is created in each classroom, the craft of writing is taught, and every student becomes an author. Throughout the year students will master the 6 step process of prewriting, drafting, revising, conferencing, editing, and publishing. Students will study and write a variety of different genres.

Math

Students will represent and interpret mathematical relationships and quantitative expressions through a greater understanding of properties of basic operations. Common fraction computations are introduced and developed for further understanding. The concept and meaning of decimal usage is introduced. Students will understand the characteristics of geometric figures and planes. Various concepts of measurement will be explored. An emphasis is placed on using mathematical concepts, skills and language in problem solving.

Social Studies

Fourth grade uses a hands on Social Studies program exploring **where** and **why** questions about our country’s history. The lessons bring together history and geography explaining the relationship between people and the land. Students will also be able to name and locate all 50 states and their capitals. Students will learn how to use an Atlas, Maps, and Globes using interactive materials such as activity globes, raised relief maps, activity maps, and map markers. Students will study the Explorers, Colonization, The Revolutionary War, The Movement West, The Civil War, and Modern America. Students will also stay up to date on current events by reading newspapers and reporting on current topics. The year ends with an in depth unit on Georgia.

Science

Students study in-depth units regarding earth science, life science and physical science. Students will be exposed to the scientific investigative process by conducting experiments. All units are reinforced with hands-on activities where investigative skills are practiced. A number of projects will be assigned during the year.

Spanish

Students will demonstrate productive knowledge of themes learned in previous grades as well as telling time, activities outside of school, and personal characteristics. Throughout the year, students will also learn about Hispanic culture and holidays. The language is taught with emphasis on both writing and speaking.

Media Center

Students review library orientation, layout, procedures and rules. Classes come to the Media Center on a weekly basis. Fiction and Non-fiction arrangement are reviewed. Non-fiction arrangement is expanded upon. Students begin to practice research skills using both print and online resources including the library's online catalog. The Newbery Awards as well as other book awards are discussed and students are encouraged to independently read from these award lists as well as a variety of genres for information and pleasure. Students choose a favorite author to research in depth, reading a book or books by this author and preparing a written report as well as an oral presentation.

Technology

Students spend the first quarter using the typing program "Mavis Beacon Typing Tutor". Throughout the year students are introduced to computer basics while using PCs and Apple computers. Students create cross-curriculum projects using a variety of programs. Applications include but are not limited to multimedia, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Publisher. Applications are taught in both the PC and Apple formats.

Band

Students are first introduced to wind instruments and advanced percussion. Each student selects their particular instrument and continues to develop their skills all year. Students perform at least three times each year: Grandparent's Day, Christmas and Night of the Arts. Students do not have to have previous experience on their instrument to be in this class.

Art

Students continue to expand their knowledge of art materials, method, style and vocabulary. Students mix colors to study value, tints, shade and moods of color. They learn to express feeling and emotion through their art. They gain an understanding that many artists express themselves and their cultural identities through their artwork. Students will begin to learn about proportions of the face and human form. Students

develop an understanding of the importance of art in different time periods and cultures. They will identify and practice the styles of famous artists and categorize art as portraits, landscapes, abstracts, still life's or narrative art.

Physical Education

In fourth grade students to continue to master the basic skills of a variety of team sports such as soccer, capture the flag, team handball, basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, and lacrosse. Circuit training is used to master skills such as: jump rope, sit-ups, catching & throwing, dribbling, and kicking. This year students participate in the President's Physical Fitness Challenge and they have the opportunity to win the President's Physical Fitness Award.