

Reading, Language, Writing, Speaking and Listening Expectations for 4th Grade

Building the stamina and skills to read challenging fiction, nonfiction, and other materials is fundamental in 4th grade. Your child will continue to learn about the world as well as build vocabulary skills by reading more complicated stories and poems from different cultures and a range of books on history, science, art, and music. Fourth grade students also will make important strides in their ability to explain plainly and in detail what a book says — both explicitly and what is implied from its details. By 4th grade, your child will be writing effective summaries, book reports, and descriptions of characters or events that use correct grammar and punctuation.

Reading Expectations

READING STANDARDS: FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

Phonics and Word Recognition

By the end of fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Decode multi-syllable words in and out of context (syllabication patterns, roots and affixes)

Fluency

By the end of fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Read 4th grade level text with understanding
- ✓ Read 4th grade level text and poetry with fluency and expression
- ✓ Use context clues to understand text

READING STANDARDS FOR LITERATURE

Key Ideas and Details

By the end of fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Use details, examples, and inferences to explain what is happening in a text
- ✓ Identify the main ideas and supporting details of a text
- ✓ Determine the theme of a story, drama, or poem
- ✓ Summarize a text
- ✓ Use details to describe the characters, settings, or events in a story or drama

Craft and Structure

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Use context clues to determine the meanings of words and phrases in a text (including characters in mythology)
- ✓ Explain the differences between the parts of poems (verse, rhythm, meter), dramas (casts of characters, settings, descriptions, dialogue, and stage directions), and prose when writing or speaking about text
- ✓ Compare and contrast the authors' points of view in different stories (including 1st and 3rd person)

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Make connections between a story and a movie or play of the same story
- ✓ Compare and contrast similar themes, topics, and patterns of events in stories and myths from different cultures

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Read and comprehend literature including stories, dramas, and poetry at a fourth grade level

READING STANDARDS FOR INFORMATIONAL TEXT

Key Ideas and Details

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Use details, examples, and inferences to explain what is happening in informational text
- ✓ Identify the main ideas and supporting details of informational text
- ✓ Summarize informational text
- ✓ Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text

Craft and Structure

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Tell the meaning of words and phrases in informational text across the curriculum
- ✓ Describe the overall structure of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text (e.g. chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution)

Craft and Structure Continued...

- ✓ Compare and contrast the firsthand and secondhand accounts of the same event or topic

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Use other information on the page such as pictures, charts, graphs, or time lines to help understand a text
- ✓ Explain how an author uses reasons and facts to support particular points in a text
- ✓ Use information from two texts on the same topic to write or speak about the subject (e.g. state reports)

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Read and comprehend informational text at a fourth grade level across the curriculum.

Language Expectations

Conventions of Standard English

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Use standard English grammar when writing or speaking
- ✓ Use pronouns, adverbs, verb tenses, adjectives, prepositional phrases, homophones, and complete sentences
- ✓ Use correct capitalization when writing
- ✓ Use commas and quotation marks to mark direct speech and quotations
- ✓ Use a comma before a conjunction in a compound sentence
- ✓ Spell grade appropriate words correctly

Knowledge of Language

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely
- ✓ Choose punctuation for effect
- ✓ Use both formal and informal English in the proper situation

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Use context clues to determine the meaning of a word or phrase
- ✓ Use common Greek and Latin affixes and roots as clues to word meanings
- ✓ Use dictionaries, glossaries, and thesauruses to find the pronunciation and meanings of words
- ✓ Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings
- ✓ Explain the meaning of similes, metaphors, idioms, adages, and proverbs
- ✓ Demonstrate understanding of words by relating them to their antonyms and synonyms
- ✓ Use content specific vocabulary across the curriculum

Writing Expectations

Text types and Purposes

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Write their opinion of a topic or text by supporting a point of view with reasons and information
 - Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion
 - Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details
 - Link opinions and reasons
 - Provide a concluding statement
- ✓ Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly
 - Introduce a topic
 - Organize in paragraph form
 - Develop topics with facts, definitions, quotations, or other examples
 - Link ideas
 - Use content specific vocabulary to explain the topic
 - Provide a concluding statement or section
- ✓ Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences
 - Use a narrator and/or characters
 - Sequence events using transitional words
 - Use dialogue and description
 - Provide a conclusion

Production and Distribution of Writing

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Produce writing that is clear, coherent, and organized
- ✓ Plan, revise, and edit their writing
- ✓ Use technology, including the internet to produce and publish writing
- ✓ Use keyboarding skills to type a minimum of one page in a single sitting

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Complete a short research project
- ✓ Gather information, take notes, and provide a list of sources
- ✓ Draw evidence from various sources to support their research

Range of Writing

BY the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Write regularly across the curriculum

Speaking and Listening Expectations

Comprehension and Collaboration

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Participate in group discussions by building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly
- ✓ Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied the required material
- ✓ Follow rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles
- ✓ Paraphrase portions of a text read
- ✓ Identify reasons and evidence to support particular points

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

By the end of the fourth grade your student should be able to:

- ✓ Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner
- ✓ Use facts and descriptive details to support main ideas
- ✓ Speak clearly at an understandable pace
- ✓ Add audio recordings and visual displays to presentations
- ✓ Differentiate between situations requiring formal or informal English