

Fourth Grade Curriculum

Language Arts—Reading and Writing

Students will develop skills to increase their comprehension and communication abilities. Literature in the basal series is composed of the following genres: fairy tales (multicultural), poetry, non-fiction, fiction, biographies, realistic fiction, folktales, fables, mysteries and fantasy. Comprehension and fluency will improve in reading as students develop and utilize the following strategies/skills:

- Comprehension
 - Main ideas
 - Supporting ideas
 - Making and supporting inferences
 - Predicting outcomes
 - Story mapping
 - Main ideas and supporting ideas
 - Cause and effect
 - Sequencing
 - Recognizing literary genres
 - Problem and solution
 - Drawing conclusions
 - Fact and opinion
 - Author's purpose
- Vocabulary Skills
 - Phonics and decoding
 - Word meaning
 - Context skills
 - Analogies
- Literature structure
 - Characterization
 - Figurative language
 - Narrative point-of-view
 - Mood and tones
 - Dialog
 - Formal and informal language
- Thinking Skills
 - Listening
 - Following directions
 - Self questioning
 - Summarizing and predicting
 - Group discussions
 - Drama/projection
 - Captions/titles/subtitles
 - Skimming/scanning/reading text
- Utilizing various resources
 - Index
 - Encyclopedia/atlas
 - Dictionary/glossary
 - Thesaurus

Students will use the writing process to develop mechanics and fluency for written impressions in various formats.

- Writing conventions
 - Capitalization/punctuation
 - Spelling rules
 - Grammar usage
- Writing process
 - Pre-writing
 - Drafting
 - Editing/revising
 - Publishing
- Writing format
 - Narrative
 - Expository
 - Persuasive
 - Poetry

Math

Scott Foresman enVision Math provides a solid mathematics foundation that is developed through instruction in the following fourth grade skills:

- Problem solving strategies
- Critical thinking skills
- Decision making
- Place value
- Estimation and rounding
- Addition and subtraction with and without regrouping
- Multiply by one and two digit factors
- One and two digit division with and without remainder
- Fractions, decimals, and mixed-number operations
- Geometry
- Graphing and analyzing data
- Measurement

Science

Students are involved in engaged exploration of the following topics:

- Plants and animals
- Recycling
- Electricity
- Embryology
- Scientific method
- Muscular/Skeletal System

Social Studies

The social studies program incorporates a concept-based approach to instruction. Through this approach, students will garner higher-level thinking skills and be introduced to the broad concepts of:

- Regions of the United States: Geography and History
- Regions of the United States: History and Settlement

Physical Education

- Identify characteristics of health-related fitness (e.g., flexibility, muscle strength)
- Engage in sustained physical activity that causes increased heart rate, muscle strength and range of movement
- Describe forms of physical activity and their effect on the body
- Demonstrate manipulative skills through individual and team sports
- Monitor individual heart rate before, during, and after physical activity, with and without the use of technology
- Receive instruction in various forms of rhythm activities, folk or creative movement through dance
- Demonstrate concept of sportsmanship through sports activities

Art

- Understand the proportions of the human face
- Explore human facial expressions
- Recognize and describe the artwork of major abstract and surreal artists
- Demonstrate the use of shapes to create abstract designs and sculpture
- Evaluate the style and materials used in creating a piece of art
- Experiment with the techniques that are necessary to create artwork with pastels
- Use grounds to create a perspective drawing

Music

- Identify the lines and spaces of the treble clef
- Identify and use expressive music terms such as crescendo, decrescendo, forte, piano, accelerando, and ritardando in performance
- Define "phrase" and understand its use in musical expression
- Explore and identify the instruments in the woodwinds, brass, and percussion families
- Compare and contrast the lives and music of various classical composers