



FOURTH GRADE CURRICULUM 2008-2009

LANGUAGE ARTS

In reading the children will be involved in small group work, individualized activities, and whole class activities to develop reading skills. We will explore the different types of genre. It is important that the children read as much as possible. They need to read 20-30 minutes each evening.

In English the children will practice their grammar skills through writing workshop, small and whole group instruction, and speaking.

Handwriting will be a review of the cursive alphabet. The children need to write in cursive for all their work unless asked to use manuscript.

In spelling the children will be doing word study. They will be studying and analyzing words and patterns. They will practice their words through various activities.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Fourth graders study the regions of the United States. Students will be involved in learning in a variety of ways including: textbook work, literature, hands-on projects, discussions, games, movies, worksheets, maps, reports and tests.

RELIGION

Students will be involved in learning in a variety of ways: small and large group discussion, worksheets, service projects, prayer, Prayer Services, Mass, art projects, Bible stories, literature, songs, etc. Fourth graders will learn how to make the world a more peaceful place to live.

Students are being asked to broaden their awareness of issues confronting the world and ways in which we can work together to solve these problems. Participation is very important in class as we learn to discuss and solve problems in a peaceful manner. Peace Education is an integral part of our curriculum.

SCIENCE

Physical Science topics include heat and electricity, comparing states of matter, and magnetic forces. The Life Science unit focuses on life requirements of plants and animals, food chains, and food webs. Characteristics and movement of objects in the sky, as well as a look at fossils make up the Earth Science unit.

MATH

Along with reviewing multi-digit addition and subtraction, the 4th graders will be using various types of problem solving skills. Multi-digit multiplication, long division, fractions, place value, percent, decimals, graphs, measurement, and geometry are just a few of the things we will be exploring.

COMPUTER

Fourth Grade students will be introduced to Excel and Publisher this year. Now that the students are proficient in the mechanics of Word, Paint and PowerPoint, there will be an increased emphasis on the content of their computer projects. Keyboarding will be an important part of this year's curriculum, as well as issues of Internet safety and being a responsible citizen of "Cyberspace."

ART

The fourth grade will be exploring the basic elements of art: color, line, shape, texture, form (3-D), perspective, movement and landscapes. They will be using a variety of media, including painting, drawing, pastel and collage.

SPANISH

The students will be building their vocabulary in Spanish. Vocabulary includes basic numbers, colors, familiar locations, people and greetings. Introduction of simple verbs will come at the end of the year. We will also explore cultures and countries.

MUSIC

The fourth grade will play recorders, boomwackers, and Orff instruments as well as their voices to create music. Students will explore and create music using skills in rhythm, melody, form and the expressive qualities of music.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We will be focusing on good teamwork, sportsmanship, and skills that we will use in various sports and games. It's very important that your student wears gym shoes and clothes that they will be able to move and play in.