

# Fourth Grade

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In fourth grade, students work towards becoming more independent learners. They strengthen critical thinking skills, writing strategies, and apply them to all subject areas. Fourth grade is filled with opportunities to connect with the historical content through projects, field trips, and hands-on experiences. These activities provide students with opportunities to explore and enjoy California. As students learn about California history, they make connections to their own life and culture.

## Fast Facts

- 22 student maximum class size
- 40-60 minutes of homework per night
- 5-7 field trips
- 6 enrichment classes per week: PE, Music, Art, Spanish, Computers and Library
- 2 musical presentations per year: Christmas Musical and Spring Performance

## Field Trips

- Danville Native American Museum
- Sonoma State Historic Park
- Sacramento Railroad Museum, Sutter's Fort and the Capitol
- Columbia Gold Rush Town
- San Francisco California Academy of Sciences  
San Francisco Alcatraz
- USS Hornet

## Highlights

- California Salt Box Maps
- Spanish Exploration Simulation Game
- California Missions' Projects
- Gold Rush Simulation Game
- Buddy parties with buddy class

## Homework Expectations

- 40-60 minutes each night
- 300-400 pages per quarter of nightly reading
- Mastered multiplication facts upon entering grade level



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## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum

- Bible: Bob Jones
- Language Arts: Harcourt: *Journeys: California Excursions*
- Literature: *Island of the Blue Dolphins, By the Great Horn Spoon, The Iron Dragon Never Sleeps, Esperanza Rising*
- Math: Saxon
- Science: Bob Jones
- Social Studies: Harcourt, *Reflections: California a Changing State*

## Curriculum Outlines

### **Bible and Christian Leadership - Bob Jones (bjupress.com)**

Fourth grade Bible gives students tools for Bible study and addresses traditional doctrinal subjects. Some topics include the attributes of God, Bible study and prayer, faithfulness, victory, contentment, love, and eternal promises. Students gain an understanding of these doctrines and how the doctrine applies to them personally.

### **Language Arts – Harcourt, *Journeys: California Excursions* (<https://www.hmhco.com/programs>)**

The language arts program in fourth grade utilizes many outstanding historical fiction selections that align with the study of California history. The reading program produces independent readers and writers, building growth in areas of comprehension and vocabulary acquisition. Fourth grade grammar teaches foundational parts of speech through use of rhythm, repetition, song, and teacher/student interaction. Students gain success in writing and spelling through note taking, outlining, and editing. Students write for the purpose of describing, informing, persuading, and entertaining.

### **Math - Saxon Math (<https://www.hmhco.com/programs/saxon-math>)**

Students learn to apply basic math skills to more complex concepts. Students understand large number place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. They describe and compare simple fractions and decimals. Students understand the properties of, and the relationships between plane geometric figures. They collect, represent, and analyze data to answer questions and solve basic algebraic equations.

### **Science - Bob Jones (bjupress.com)**

Fourth grade science students study God's Creation in the form of insects and plants, forces and energy, moon and oceans, erosion, human body. Science lessons are taught from a Christian creationist's point of view. Topics of study include: living things, insects, plants, electricity, forces, light, weathering/erosion, bones/muscles.

### **Social Studies – Harcourt, *Reflections: California a Changing State* (<https://www.hmhco.com/programs/into-social-studies/overview>)**

Students learn about California's history and cover topics including Native Americans, the 21 missions, and the gold rush. Students make and use timelines, graphs, charts, and maps to interpret historical data and to complete projects.

