

Fourth Grade

In fourth grade, students work towards becoming more independent learners. They strengthen critical thinking skills, writing strategies, reading for information 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 Fourth grade is filled with opportunities to connect with the historical content through projects, field trips, and hands-on experiences.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 lives and culture.

Fast Facts

- 22 student maximum class size
- 5 field trips
- 6 enrichment classes per week: PE, Music, Art, Spanish, Computers and Library
- 2 musical presentations per year: Christmas Musical and Spring Performance
- Study of CA History

Field Trips

- Museum of the San Ramon Valley
- Sonoma State Historic Park
- Sacramento Railroad Museum, Sutter's Fort and the Capitol
- Columbia - Gold Rush Town
- USS Hornet

Highlights

- California Salt Maps
- Galleon Simulation Game
- California Missions Projects
- Gold Rush Simulation Game
- Kindergarten Buddy Activities

Homework Expectations

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

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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 – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt ([HMH Journeys: California Excursions](#))

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. Students gain success in writing and spelling through note taking, outlining, and editing. Students write for the purpose of describing, informing, persuading, and entertaining.

Literature: *Island of the Blue Dolphins, By the Great Horn Spoon, The Iron Dragon Never Sleeps, Esperanza Rising, Mr. Blue Jeans, Riding Freedom*

Math - Big Ideas Math: Modeling Real Life ([Big Ideas Math](#))

This rigorous program balances conceptual understanding with math procedures and application. Each lesson offers digital math tools, modeling, differentiation and real life application. 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, and the 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 – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt [HMH Reflections: California a Changing State](#)

Students learn about California's history and cover topics including Early Californians, the 21 missions, and the Gold Rush. Students create and use timelines, graphs, charts, and maps to interpret historical data and to complete projects. The field trips add to the richness of this social studies year.

