



A PARENT'S GUIDE TO FOURTH GRADE

*Curriculum Department
Lee's Summit R-7 School District*



Fourth Graders will...

Literacy

- Develop vocabulary and determine the meaning of words and phrases in texts
- Read grade level text with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension
- Use comprehension strategies to understand a variety of grade level texts
 - Ask and answer questions
 - Determine important ideas
 - Analyze text structure
 - Make inferences
- Use the writing process to develop and strengthen writing
- Write narratives based on real or imagined experiences/events using details to develop the story and provide a conclusion or ending
- Write informational texts that include a well-developed topic, group information logically, use vocabulary specific to the topic, and include a conclusion.
- Write opinion pieces supporting a point of view with supporting reasons and evidence, and provide a conclusion.
- Apply conventions of standard English grammar and usage in writing
- Speak and listen effectively in multiple contexts

Ways to Help at Home

- *Encourage your child to read daily (30+minutes).*
- *Read to and with your child, listen to audio books.*
- *Visit the library and check out books regularly.*
- *Share family stories and memories.*
- *Encourage your child to retell stories and facts they've read.*
- *Ask questions when reading with your child to support their understanding.*
- *Encourage all forms of reading: graphic novels, comics, picture books, mysteries, articles, biographies, any kind of nonfiction.*
- *Play word games.*
- *Write stories, letters, thank you notes, lists, recipes.*
- *Write letters to a pen pal who lives far away.*
- *Keep a journal. (Could be a daily journal or gratitude journal, fitness journal, food journal)*
- *Model reading and writing behavior you want to see from your child.*
- *Enjoy conversation with your child, talk to them about school, books, friends, interests, sports.*

Mathematics

- Understand place value for whole numbers up to one million
- Fluently add and subtract whole numbers up to one million
- Solve multi-step word problems, including problems involving time, volume, weight, money, area, perimeter and converting measurements (larger to smaller)
- Multiply and divide multi-digit whole numbers
- Build fractions from smaller fractions ($\frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$)
- Create equivalent fractions
- Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator (digit below the fraction bar)
- Connect addition and subtraction of whole numbers to multiplying fractions by whole numbers
- Connect the concepts of fractions and decimals by converting fractions (with denominators of 10 or 100) into decimals and decimals into fractions
- Compare fractions and decimals
- Measure angles and classify shapes using lines and angles.
- Represent and analyze data
- Generate and analyze number patterns

Ways to Help at Home

- *Play math games:*
 - *Using a deck of cards, deal 2 cards and ask your child to multiply the numbers as fast as they can.*
- *Challenge your child to solve problems in everyday situations at home.*
- *Practice telling time and solving problems involving elapsed time:*
 - *What time is it now? What time will it be in 28 minutes?*
 - *Soccer practice starts in 30 minutes. What time does soccer practice start?*
 - *The bus comes at 7:28. It takes me 40 minutes to get ready for school. What time should I get up?*
- *Have your child help with cooking when fractional measurements are used:*
 - *Measure $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of flour. Measure $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of sugar. Which is more?*
 - *See how many times you have to refill a $\frac{1}{4}$ cup measure to make a $\frac{1}{2}$ cup measure*
 - *How much is $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of flour measured 3 times? ($3 \times \frac{1}{2}$)*

Fourth Graders will...

Science

- Design and test an object to solve a problem under constraints. Redesign the object created based on testing outcomes
- Identify evidence from patterns in rock formations and fossils in rock layers to support an explanation for changes in the land
- Provide evidence of how weathering and erosion shape Earth's surface
- Determine how the motion of an object is changed by an applied force or the mass of the object, and provide evidence that a pattern can be used to predict future motion
- Investigate the effects of balanced and unbalanced forces on the motion of an object
- Compare and contrast the forces required to overcome friction when an object moves over different surfaces
- Explain how the speed of an object relates to the energy of that object
- Construct an explanation of an energy transformation
- Design a device that converts energy from one form to another
- Understand plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior
- Use a model to describe how animals use their senses, process the information, and respond to the information in different ways
- Describe wave patterns in terms of amplitude or wavelength and how waves can cause objects to move
- Show how objects can be seen only when light is reflected off them or when they produce their own light

Ways to Help at Home

- *Have your child draw an invention that would help mankind.*
- *Read an age appropriate book on the history of Earth.*
- *Ask your child to bounce a ball in different directions, then see if they can repeat the last bounce. Use terms like force, speed and direction.*
- *Use a ramp to slide different objects down. Notice the difference between slick and rough objects.*
- *Walk outside and look for plants and animals. Talk about what they do to prepare for the weather.*
- *Play with water waves, talking about the size and speed of the waves.*
- *Point out different kinds of lights at night and how they make objects look different.*

Social Studies

- Engage in the study of events early in United States history ranging from indigenous peoples here prior to colonization through the American Revolution
- Analyze and evaluate a variety of documents, sources, and perspectives
- Generate and research compelling questions such as:
 - Why do people migrate from one place to another?
 - What factors influence conflict past and present?
 - How did the founders balance freedom with rule of law?

Ways to Help at Home

- *Talk to your child about important historical events and celebrations that are a part of Early American History.*
- *Look for opportunities to highlight the diverse groups of people who have been a part of forming our country.*
- *Discuss with your child why there has been conflict in American History and how those conflicts may or may not have been resolved.*
- *Talk about why people move and what may have caused them to do so.*
- *Discuss how and why we have laws and how these laws protect our freedoms.*
- *Encourage your child to ask questions and find answers to their questions.*

Helping Your Child Learn

- Provide a quiet place for your child to study.
- Show interest in your child's school activities.
- Make school a first priority for your child.
- Read with your child.
- Children learn from example. Let your child see you reading and figuring out real life problems.
- Help your child with assignments.
- Encourage your child to engage in challenging tasks and persevere in completing them.
- Talk with your child. Ask your child what they like and dislike about school. Find out if your child is excited or disappointed about their day.
- Talk with your child's teacher about your child's academic and social/emotional progress.
- Limit the amount of time your child spends on video games, the internet, and television.

