

2025-2026 ELA 4th Grade Pacing Guide

AT-A-GLANCE

[4th Grade Benchmark Checklist](#)

Unit Strategies and Skills with Benchmarks (Spotlight)	Unit Essential Question
Quarter 1: August 11- October 10, 2025	
Review and establish Routines in Benchmark mini-lessons	
Unit 2 R.1.1 Draw inferences- make connections between characters R.1.2 Explain a theme and how it develops R.1.2 Explain how characters contribute to plot R.3.2 Summarize to include plot and theme C.1.3 Argumentative writing- write an opinion essay C.3.1 Use pronouns and conjunctions correctly C.3.1 Use principal modals C.3.1 Explain subject-verb agreement with intervening phrases and clauses V.1.3 Use context clues to determine meaning	Unit 2: Character's Actions and Reactions <i>How do we reveal ourselves to others?</i>
Unit 1 R.2.2 Identify the central idea R.1.3 Explain the narrator's point of view and character's perspectives R.2.2 Explain how relevant details support central idea in an informational text R.2.3 Explain the development of author's purpose in an informational text R.3.1 Identify and explain metaphors, personification and hyperbole in texts R.3.1 Interpreting Figurative Language to determine meaning C.1.4 Write an expository text C.3.1 Produce complete sentences V.1.1 Use figurative language to determine meaning	Unit 1 : Observing Nature <i>How do we respond to nature?</i>
Quarter 2: October 13 - December 19, 2025	
Unit 3 R.1.1 Explain how characters contribute to the plot R.2.1 Identify text structure R.2.2 Explain how text structure contributes to plot R.2.2 Central idea-explain how relevant details support the central idea R.3.2 Summarize a text to enhance comprehension C.1.4 Write expository essays C.3.1 Use verbals including gerunds, infinitives and principal phrases C.3.1 Recognize and correct shifts in verb tense and number V.1.3 Use context clues to determine meaning	Unit 3: Government in Action <i>How can government influence the way we live?</i>
Unit 4 R.1.2 Explain a theme and how it develops R.1.3 Identify narrator's point of view R.3.1 Interpreting Figurative Language to determine meaning R.3.2 Paraphrasing and Summarizing to include plot and theme in a literary text C.1.2 Write a narrative essay C.3.1 Form and use progressive verb tenses C.3.1 Use subject-verb agreement with intervening clauses and phrases C.3.1 Use pronouns correctly V.1.1 Use figurative language to determine meaning V.1.1 Use context clues to develop meaning	Unit 4: Understanding Different Points of View <i>What do we learn when we look at the world through the eyes of others?</i>
Quarter 3: January 5 - March 13, 2026	
Unit 5 R.2.1 Distinguish between important and unimportant information R.2.2 Explain how text features contribute to overall meaning R.2.4 Explain an author's claims, reasons and evidence	Unit 5: Technology for Tomorrow <i>How do we make decisions about developing new technology?</i>

R.3.2 Summarize a text to include central idea and relevant details C.1.3 Argumentative- Write opinion essays C.3.1 Use verbals C.3.1 Use appositives, Main clauses and subordinate clauses C.3.1 Use conjunctions to join words and phrases C.3.1 Form and use progressive verb tenses V.1.1 Academic Vocabulary- use context clues to determine meaning	
Unit 6 R.1.1 Make connections R.1.1 Summarize and synthesize: include central idea and details R.1.2 Explain a stated theme or implied theme and how it develops R.1.2 Explain how setting, events, conflict, and character development contribute to plot R.3.2 Paraphrasing and Summarizing including theme and plot C.1.3 Write to a text based opinion prompt C.3.1 Use principal modals C.3.1 Use subordinate clauses F.1.3 Use adjective suffixes ful, ous, ible, able some correctly F.1.3 Use adverb suffixes ly, ily, ways, wise correctly V.1.1 Use context clues, figurative language, word relationships and reference materials to determine meaning	Unit 6: Confronting Challenges <i>How do we overcome obstacles?</i>
Unit 7 R.2.1 Explain how text features contribute to overall meaning: identify text structure R.2.4 Explain an author's claims, reasons and evidence R.3.3 Compare and contrast accounts of the same event using primary and secondary sources C.1.2 Write a narrative essay C.3.1 Use correct capitalization C.3.1 Use conjunctions C.3.1 Use quotation marks with dialogue and direct quotations V.1.1 Use context clues to determine meaning F.1.3 Use prefixes trans, pro, sub, super, inter correctly	Unit 7: The Transcontinental Railroad <i>How do communities evolve?</i>
Quarter 4: March 23 - May 29, 2026	
Unit 7 R.2.1 Explain how text features contribute to overall meaning: identify text structure R.2.4 Explain an author's claims, reasons and evidence R.3.3 Compare and contrast accounts of the same event using primary and secondary sources C.1.2 Write a narrative essay C.3.1 Use correct capitalization C.3.1 Use conjunctions C.3.1 Use quotation marks with dialogue and direct quotations V.1.1 Use context clues to determine meaning F.1.3 Use prefixes trans, pro, sub, super, inter correctly	Unit 7: The Transcontinental Railroad <i>How do communities evolve?</i>
Unit 8 R.2.1 Explain how text features contribute to overall meaning: identify text structure R.3.2 Summarize and synthesize: include central idea and details R.3.3 Compare and contrast accounts of the same event using primary and secondary sources R.2.3 Explain an author's perspective toward a topic C.1.4 Write a research project C.3.1 Use prepositions and prepositional phrases C.3.1 Recognize and correct inappropriate fragments and run-ons C.3.1 Use commas and conjunctions F.1.3 Use negative prefixes de, un, in, im, dis correctly	Unit 8: Earth Changes <i>How do earth's natural processes impact our lives?</i>

<p>F.1.3 Understand and use Greek and Latin roots geo, arche, rupt correctly</p> <p>V.1.1 Use context clues to determine meaning</p>	
<p>Unit 10</p> <p>R.2.1 Explain how text features contribute to overall meaning</p> <p>R.2.2 Explain how relevant details support the central idea, implied or explicit</p> <p>R.3.2 Summarize and synthesize: include central idea and details</p> <p>R.2.3 Explain an author's perspective toward a topic in informational text</p> <p>C.1.2 Write poetry (Cinquains)</p> <p>C.3.1 Form and use progressive verb tenses</p> <p>C.3.1 Use simple modifiers</p> <p>V.1.1 Use context clues to determine meaning</p> <p>F.1.3 Understand Latin and Greek roots ven (come), migr (move), graph (write), mit (send), aud (hear)</p>	<p>Unit 10: The Power of Electricity</p> <p><i>Where do scientific discoveries lead us?</i></p>