

# FAMILY LEARNING GUIDE



**DAVENPORT**  
Community Schools  
GROWING EXCELLENCE



A Parent's Guide to Fourth Grade

**BY THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, WE EXPECT THAT A FOURTH GRADE STUDENT CAN: LEARNING ACTIVITIES YOU CAN DO AT HOME AND IN THE COMMUNITY**

LANGUAGE ARTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read and comprehend grade-level texts</li> <li>Describe characters, settings, or events in a text</li> <li>Summarize texts and determine the theme from details</li> <li>Determine the main idea and key details in texts</li> <li>Learn and use a rich vocabulary</li> <li>Read accurately and at a rate that supports comprehension</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decode words using phonics and word analysis skills</li> <li>Write for a variety of purposes (narratives, opinion, informative)</li> <li>Adapt speech to a variety of tasks and purposes</li> <li>Take part in class discussions expressing ideas and collaborating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read with your child each day</li> <li>Talk about books that your child is reading (ask questions)</li> <li>Read from a variety of children's books (different genres)</li> <li>Create a quiet, special place for your child to read, write, and draw</li> <li>Take books and writing materials with you wherever you go</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write stories together about real or imagined events</li> <li>Reread your child's favorite stories often</li> <li>Encourage your child to write every day</li> <li>Review and practice spelling and vocabulary words</li> <li>Discuss new words to help build your child's vocabulary</li> <li>Visit a Davenport Public Library branch</li> </ul>
MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use addition, subtraction, multiplication and division to solve problems with whole numbers</li> <li>Generalize place value understanding for whole numbers up to 1,000,000</li> <li>Add and subtract multi-digit whole numbers up to 1,000,000 using an algorithm</li> <li>Compare and order fractions</li> <li>Multiply a unit fraction (<math>1/x</math>) by a whole number</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write a fraction with a denominator of 10 as an equivalent fraction with a denominator of 100</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When given a large, multi-digit number, ask your child what each digit represents (e.g. "What does the 4 mean in 34,000?" Answer: 4,000)</li> <li>Continue practicing multiplication facts with 100 (facts from 0 to 10)</li> <li>Find real-world opportunities to talk about fractions while you are baking / cooking, exercising, eating pizza, playing sports, building/constructing, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Join a math summer camp at places like the Putnam Museum, area colleges, and the Family Museum</li> </ul>
SCIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how animals receive different types of information through their senses, process the information in their brain, and respond to the information in different ways</li> <li>Develop solutions to reduce the impacts of natural Earth processes on humans</li> <li>Study patterns in rock formations and fossils in rock layers to support an explanation for</li> </ul>	<p>changes in a landscape over time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design, test, and refine a device that converts energy from one form to another</li> <li>Investigate changes in energy that occur when objects collide.</li> <li>Describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hike in the Maquoketa caves, visit the Mines of Spain in Dubuque, or visit an area rock quarry</li> <li>Investigate how the flooding of the Mississippi River and the lock and dam system have reshaped the land</li> <li>Talk about electrical safety within the home (electrical boxes, fuse breakers, etc.)</li> <li>Watch weather forecasts to determine patterns of weather for each season</li> </ul>	
SOCIAL STUDIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study how society has changed and stayed the same over time</li> <li>Understand that change always happens</li> <li>Learn about the patterns and consequences of change across different historical eras</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take your student to a museum and compare things from history to today, or show pictures from things long ago and compare them to things today; discuss how societies have changed</li> <li>Take your child to vote with you, attend a City Council meeting, or a School Board meeting;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>discuss the importance of a government and how to be civically engaged</li> <li>Discuss how and why the prices of goods and services change</li> </ul>

**Fourth graders experience a broad range of instruction that supports and enriches academic learning and understanding.**

### **Arts Education**

- Line, shape, color, form, space, texture, pattern, proportion, unity, variety, balance
- Drawing, painting, designing, mask-making, assembling
- Share portfolio with family (end of year)

### **Music Education**

- Perform by responding accurately to conductor cues
- Continue learning standard music symbols
- Identify instrument families
- Attend Symphony Day Concert
- String program begins

### **Successful Learner**

- Communicate with others
- Recognize different roles and expectations in the classroom
- Show leadership
- Show responsibility
- Develop independence
- Stay on task
- Accept responsibility

### **Health/Physical Education**

- Develop motor skills through participation in a variety of team sports
- Develop manipulative skills such as dribbling with hands or feet, throwing, and catching
- Be exposed to fitness concepts and be introduced to fitness assessment
- Practice interpersonal skills and communication skills through participation in small and large group activities
- Visit parks for family fun and exercise or join the YMCA for family fitness

### **Social Emotional Learning**

#### **Self-Awareness**

- Identifying emotions
- Accurate self-perception
- Self-confidence

#### **Self-Management**

- Impulse control
- Stress management
- Self-discipline and self-motivation
- Goal setting
- Organizational skills

#### **Social Awareness**

- Perspective taking and empathy
- Appreciating diversity and respect for others
- Civic engagement

#### **Relationship Skills**

- Communication
- Social engagement
- Relationship building
- Teamwork

#### **Responsible Decision-Making**

- Identifying problems
- Analyzing situations and solving problems
- Evaluating and reflecting
- Ethical responsibility

### **TALK WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER**

Academic targets provide a great opportunity for you to talk with teachers about what your child is learning in school and how you can support that learning at home. Be sure to ask about:

- Learning targets
- Your child's progress
- Ways you can support learning



**Useful links can be found at [davenportschools.org](https://davenportschools.org)**



For more information, please contact your child's school or call the Learning and Results Department at 563-336-7460.

This series of resource guides is designed to provide additional information and resources to assist parents and community members in their work with elementary-aged students from Kindergarten through 5th Grade.

The Davenport Community School District mission celebrates the role of parents and community partners in supporting and extending learning beyond the school day. Our district goals align with the statewide efforts of the Iowa Core, dedicated to improving teaching and learning for each and every student.



<https://iowacore.gov/>