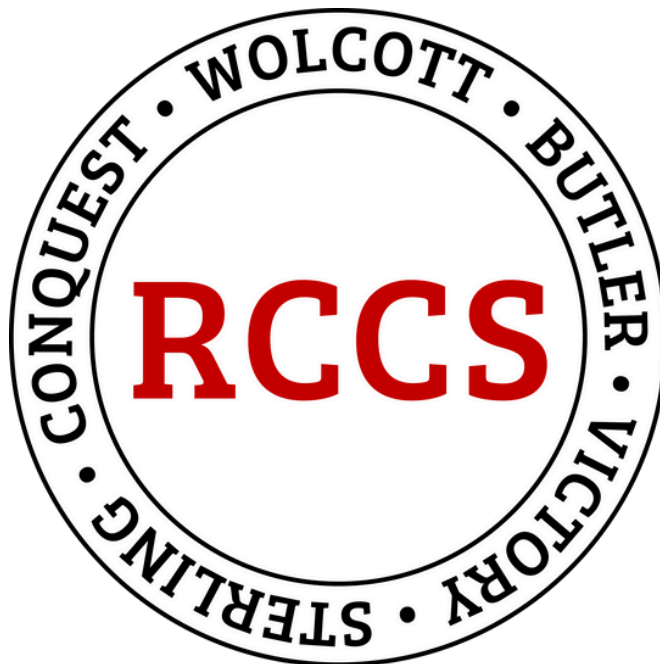


Welcome to Fourth Grade

RCCSD FAMILY GUIDE

2024-2025



The New York State Education Department sets expectations, or standards, for what *every* student will know and be able to do in school. This guide is designed to help you understand these standards and partner with teachers to support your child's learning at home. If you have questions about this information or your child needs extra help, please talk to your child's teacher.

Important Concepts

To learn English Language Arts and Literacy at every grade, your child will:

- Think, write, speak, and listen to understand and to support writing.
- Read often and widely from a range of global and diverse texts.
- Read and write for multiple purposes, including for learning and for pleasure.
- Persevere through challenging, complex texts and writing tasks.
- Enrich personal language, background knowledge, and vocabulary through reading and communicating with others.
- Monitor comprehension and apply reading strategies flexibly.
- Make connections (to self, other texts, ideas, cultures, eras, etc.).
- Strengthen writing by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

To learn social studies at every grade, your child will:

- Develop fundamental civic knowledge including the structure and functioning of the government, law, and democracy at all levels of government.
- Analyze the impact of individual and collective histories in shaping contemporary issues.
- View and analyze history and current issues from multiple perspectives.
- Demonstrate respect for the rights of others in discussion and classroom debates, and how to respectfully disagree with other viewpoints using evidence.
- Analyze and evaluate news, media, social media, and other sources of information for accuracy, bias, reliability, and credibility.

To learn mathematics at every grade, your child will:

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- Model with mathematics.
- Use appropriate tools strategically.
- Attend to precision.
- Look for and make use of patterns and structures.
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

To learn science at every grade, your child will:

- Ask questions and define problems.
- Develop and use models.
- Plan and carry out investigations.
- Analyze and interpret data.
- Use mathematics and computational thinking.
- Construct explanations and design solutions.
- Engage in argument from evidence.
- Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.

Meet Our Team



Mr. Goodwin

Mr. Goodwin has been a special education teacher in Red Creek for 17 years, mostly in 4th and 5th grade. He also coaches Cross Country, Indoor track and Outdoor track at Red Creek. Outside of school, Mr. Goodwin enjoys playing guitar, watching the Buffalo Bills, and going to his children's sporting events.



Mrs. Howell

Mrs. Howell has been teaching in Red Creek since 1992! She has mostly taught 3rd and 4th grades, but her first year was spent in Kindergarten. She is a Lead Teacher, and has recently been guiding staff in some professional development as well. She loves spending time with her family, reading, and writing. She's also an avid traveler, and loves to cook as a way to travel when she cannot get away.



Miss Nodine

Miss Nodine has been teaching at Red Creek for the past two years. Before that, she was an adjunct professor and tutor at Onondaga Community College. For several years prior to that, she was a substitute and long-term substitute teacher for many districts in the area. Miss Nodine enjoys traveling, spending time with her family (and four pets), and going for walks in nice weather.



Mrs. Pitcher

Mrs. Pitcher has been teaching at Red Creek since 2019. She taught 6th grade for the first 2 years and then moved to 4th where she has been ever since. Since moving to the elementary school, one of her favorite things to do is to coach Battle of the Books. Mrs. Pitcher loves spending time with her family, cooking and reading when she is not at school.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

NYS ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS LEARNING STANDARDS



NEW LEARNINGS & FOCUS AREAS:

- Reading and comprehension of complex texts across several subject areas
- Process writing in the narrative, informative, and research-based forms.
- Compare and contrast stories from different cultures and stories told from different points of view: for example, first-person and third-person
- Explain the meaning of figurative language (like metaphors and similes) in speech and writing: for example, the boy ran as fast as a horse or the room was as cold as ice.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

- What do you enjoy reading, and why?
- What do you enjoy writing, and why?
- What are some vocabulary words that are being used in your classes?

BY THE END OF THE YEAR, STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Read fourth grade level text with purpose, fluency, and understanding.
- Be able to respond in writing to text dependent questions, using key details to support answers.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases based on how they are used in a text.
- Participate in class discussions, while building on others ideas, and expressing their own ideas clearly and respectfully.
- Write fluently, and by the end of the year, type at least one page on the computer.
- Use technology to research, and provide a list of sources used.
- Read aloud smoothly, paying attention to punctuation marks.
- At the end of a class discussion, review the ideas and information people shared.
- Provide a list of sources they used when doing research.

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER:

- What content is being covered in your ELA classes?
- How can I support my child with reading and writing at home?
- How your child participates in class discussions.
- Appropriate books for your child to read independently



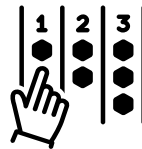
MATHEMATICS

NYS MATH LEARNING STANDARDS



NEW LEARNINGS & FOCUS AREAS:

- Work focuses on multiplication and division with larger numbers
- Students will solve multi-step word problems using multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction.
- Students will understand, use, and compare equivalent fractions and unit fractions
- In geometry, students will describe, analyze, compare, and classify shapes using types of lines and angles.



QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

- How fluent are you with your addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division FACTS?
- How can we practice those together?
- We need a half a cup of water for this recipe. How many times should we fill the $\frac{1}{4}$ cup measure with water?

BY THE END OF THE YEAR, STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Understand place value up to millions
- Fluently add and subtract up to millions
- Fluently multiply and divide multi-digit whole numbers
- Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers
- Describe how decimals and fractions are related
- Solve multi step word problems using all four operations; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.
- Use mathematical formulas for determining area and perimeter of rectangles.

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER:

- What are the modules that are covered in 4th grade math?
- How can I support my child's mastery of facts?
- Which multiplication and division strategies work best for your child





SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NYS SCIENCE LEARNING STANDARDS



NEW LEARNINGS & FOCUS AREAS:

- Students learn about features of the Earth's landscape over time
- Students will study patterns of light and sound, both visible and invisible.
- Students will study different types of energy and how energy moves and changes. Students will learn about energy use in New York State.
- Students will study electricity and magnetism through making electrical circuits.
- Students will explore plant growth and animal behavior in New York State.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

- Tell me about the experiments you have been doing in science.
- What happens to make the lights turn on when we flip the light switch?



BY THE END OF THE YEAR, STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Demonstrate an understanding of concepts covered in Science
- Show an understanding of geography tools and the geography of New York State
- Describe the properties of waves including amplitude, wavelength, and energy.
- Explore how waves move objects and transmit information for both sound and light.
- Describe the effects of weathering and erosion that can be observed and measured.
- Analyze maps to describe patterns of Earth's features.
- Explore ideas such as speed, collisions, and energy conversions.
- Model how different animals process information received by their senses and how they react to this information.
- Conduct investigations to produce evidence that internal and external structures work together to support the survival, growth, and reproduction of plants.

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER:

- What are some ways we can "do some science" at home?
- Ways to reinforce science learning in your community.





SOCIAL STUDIES

NYS SOCIAL STUDIES FRAMEWORK



NEW LEARNINGS & FOCUS AREAS:

- Geography of New York State including the state's diverse geography and the variety of maps that can be used to represent and examine the geography of the state
- Haudenosaunee and Native Groups that inhabited the region that is now New York State.
- Colonial and Revolutionary War Period in New York including how European exploration led to the colonization of the region that is now New York State.
- Levels of government in the United States and New York State including the purpose of government to protect the rights of citizens and to promote the common good.
- The rights, freedoms, and responsibilities of citizens of New York State.
- Westward Movement/Industrialization and the Erie Canal

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

- What do you find interesting about time in history you are studying?
- What are some ways you can participate in government to make the world a better place?



BY THE END OF THE YEAR, STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Demonstrate an understanding of concepts covered in Social Studies
- Demonstrates skill in inquiry based investigations
- Identify and map New York State's major physical features, including mountains, plateaus, rivers, lakes, and large bodies of water.
- Examine New York State climate and vegetation maps in relation to a NYS physical map
- Create a map of the political features of New York State that includes the capital city and the five most populous cities
- Examine the locations of early Native American groups in relation to geographic features, noting how certain physical features are more likely to support settlement and larger populations.
- Describe how Native Americans such as the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) and the Algonquian-speaking peoples adapted to and modified their environment to meet their needs and wants.
- Examine issues of political and economic rights that led to the American Revolution.

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER:

- Where are some places nearby that I can take my child to dig deeper into things you are studying in social studies?
- How can I expose my child to local history and government to help them understand the concepts they are learning about in school?





SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

NYS SEL BENCHMARKS



NEW LEARNINGS & FOCUS AREAS:

- We focus on strategies for preventing, managing, or navigating interpersonal conflicts.
- We practice working cooperatively; even when someone is not a close friend, we can still work together.
- We stress personal responsibility in fourth grade. For example, “Mom didn’t forget to sign your permission slip, you forgot to have mom sign your permission slip.
- Students will develop self-awareness that nurtures and affirms a strong sense of identity, informs decisions about personal actions, and builds a sense of agency.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

- Who are your friends, and why are they good friends for you?
- What are some of your strengths, what are some of your weaknesses?
- How do you stand up for yourself? For others?

BY THE END OF THE YEAR, STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Set a short term goal and begin working toward it.
- Use strategies to advocate for themselves.
- Identify and practice self-regulation skills and coping strategies that help them to express their emotions.
- Set a short-term goal and begin working toward it including identifying steps in working toward that goal.
- Communicate perceived understanding of the expressed feelings and perspectives of others.
- Identify contributions of individuals and social and cultural groups across lines of difference.
- Identify ways to respond when they experience or witness bullying and/or aggression, such as seeking support of a trusted adult, or demonstrating courage in speaking up for themselves or peers.
- Practice approaches for developing and maintaining supportive relationships, including ways to respond to peer pressure.
- Engage in strategies to work effectively and cooperatively across lines of difference.

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD’S TEACHER:

- How are my child’s friendships?
- Is my child mindful of their work and responsibilities?
- How well does my child manage his or her emotions when faced with challenging situations?



M.W. Cuyler Elementary School

6624 South Street
PO Box 190
Red Creek, NY 13143
(315) 754-2100

Dennis C. Taylor, Principal

