4th Grade RLA Syllabus

Course Description

In 4th Grade Reading Language Arts (RLA), students will engage with a variety of texts and writing genres to build comprehension, critical thinking, and written expression. Instruction emphasizes reading strategies, literary analysis, research skills, and conventions of standard English. Students will explore fiction, informational texts, poetry, drama, argumentative texts, traditional literature, and extended novels. The curriculum is aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and supports rigorous reading and writing development.

Curriculum Overview

Unit 1: Fiction & Novel Study	August 14 – September 26
Unit 2: Informational Text	September 29 – November 7
Unit 3: Argumentative Text & Drama	November 10 – December 19
Unit 4: Informational Text & Poetry	January 6 – February 6
Unit 5: Paired Texts (Biographies & Paired Selections)	February 9 – March 12
Unit 6: Traditional Literature & STAAR Review	March 23 – April 24
Unit 7: Novel Study	April 27 – May 21

Skills & Standards

Reading Comprehension & Literary Analysis

- Make inferences and use text evidence
- Analyze character development, plot, theme, and author's purpose
- Compare and synthesize across genres
- Summarize fiction and informational texts
- Explore figurative language and sensory imagery
- Understand genre characteristics and text structure

Phonics & Word Study

- Decode multisyllabic words, prefixes/suffixes, roots
- Apply syllable division strategies and spelling patterns
- Spell high-frequency words and homophones

Written Expression & Composition

- Compose literary, informational, argumentative, and poetic texts
- Develop drafts with introductions, transitions, and conclusions
- Organize and revise for coherence, clarity, and elaboration
- Craft written responses citing text evidence

Grammar & Conventions

- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, and sentence structure
- Apply parts of speech: nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs
- Construct compound and complex sentences
- Edit for subject-verb agreement, run-ons, and fragments

Grading

See Forney ISD Grading Guidelines