

## CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

# GRADE 4

### Lower School



## Reading

**Curriculum:** Literature and skills-based lessons

**Novels:** *Johnny Tremain*,  
*The Witch of Blackbird Pond*,  
*Freedom Train: The Story of*  
*Harriet Tubman*, *By the Great*  
*Horn Spoon*

**Comprehension Strategies:**

Perspective, skimming, point of view, main events, summarizing, reviewing

**Literacy in the Library:** Weekly students have dedicated literacy instruction time to check out books, grow their literacy skills and passion for reading and research.

## Math

**Curriculum:** Saxon, MathFactLab and supplementary resources

**Individualized Placement:**

Typical Level: Math 4  
Advanced Levels: Math 5  
or Math 6 (Go Math as a resource)

*Each student is assessed and placed at the best learning level for his/her current ability.*

## Writing

**Curriculum:** Writing strategies in a workshop approach

**Content:** Research writing, creative writing, poetry writing, historical fiction, editing and publishing

## Science

**Curriculum:** Lab-based science program

**Content:** Birds, sound lab, owl pellet lab, astronomy (moon phases, constellations), water cycle, ocean, ecosystems, circulatory system

## History

**Curriculum:** Story of the World and modern biographies

**Content:** Elizabeth I, explorers, American colonial life, French and Indian War, American Revolution, Civil War, Age of Progress, Early Modern History, US States, US Capitals, US National Park

## Grammar/Vocabulary

**Curriculum:** Shurley Grammar, Wordly Wise

**Content:** Nouns, verbs and helping verbs, pronouns, adverbs, adjectives, direct and indirect objects, linking verbs

## Bible

**Curriculum:** NIV Bible

**Content:** New Testament with an emphasis on the Gospels and Acts, including miracles, Sermon on the Mount, Parables, Easter, Great Commission, and servanthood

## Specialists

Art  
Lab Science  
Language  
Music including recorder  
Physical Education  
Programming & Math  
Foundations

## Field Trips

Birdwatching  
Nutcracker Ballet at McCaw Hall  
State Capitol in Olympia  
Museum of Flight  
Tide Pool Hike

## Highlights

Innovation Lab  
Reading Buddies  
Colonial Christmas at Bear Creek  
Shakespeare Play  
Scholar Dollar  
President and Historical Figure  
Biographical Oral Reports  
Dads 'n Donuts  
Mothers Tea  
Evening of Artists  
Pillow Making