Course Overview

Elementary| | 4th Grade | ELA - *Last Updated on September 18, 2025*

DESCRIPTION

K-12 Content Area | Mission & Philosophy Statement

• Foster a love for literacy across diverse backgrounds and abilities, ensuring equitable access to rich learning experiences, equipping learners with the skills, mindset, and passion to engage actively as informed readers, writers, and communicators throughout their lives.

• Cultivate communicators and critical thinkers, empowering them to inquire, analyze, and create meaningfully from a variety of texts and perspectives, preparing them for the responsibilities of active participation as a citizen in our democracy as well as in an evolving global society.

• Engender collaborative and creative environments where learners innovate, elevate diverse voices and modalities to express themselves effectively and imaginatively.

• Promote a culturally responsive English Language Arts education that honors the identities, cultures, and experiences of all students, integrating diverse texts and voices to promote empathy, understanding, and respect.

Course Description

The 4th Grade English Language Arts program blends the rich, interdisciplinary learning of **Great Minds Arts and Letters** with the structured, evidence-based instruction of the **95 Percent Group Core Phonics Program**. Students continue building their literacy foundation with support from personalized practice through **Lexia Core5.**

The **95 Percent Group Core Phonics Program** provides daily, explicit instruction in;

- Phonics, which is a method for teaching the connections between letters and sounds, as well as the six syllable types.
- Morphology, which is the study of prefixes, suffixes, Latin roots, and Greek Combining Forms appropriate to your child's grade level.
- Fluency, which involves using phonics skills while reading grade-level text based on a variety of topics

Lexia Core5 offers differentiated instruction tailored to each student's learning needs, reinforcing classroom lessons and accelerating reading growth.

Key Features:

- Thematic, arts-integrated ELA instruction
- Daily, structured phonics lessons aligned to the science of reading
- Personalized, adaptive literacy support with Lexia Core5 and Lexia Power Up

- Grammar lessons imbedded throughout
- Emphasis on comprehension, fluency, writing, and creative expression

Outcome:

Upon completion of the Arts & Letters Grade 4 ELA modules, students will demonstrate a strengthened command of reading, writing, speaking, and analytical thinking across a range of content areas. The curriculum builds core literacy skills while encouraging deeper understanding through a knowledge-rich, interdisciplinary approach.

Students will develop strong reading comprehension skills, enabling them to read and analyze complex texts—including both literary and informational materials—with purpose and understanding. They will identify key details, determine main ideas, draw inferences, and evaluate how authors use language to convey meaning and influence readers.

Writing instruction will focus on producing clear, well-structured pieces across multiple genres, including narrative, informational, and opinion writing. Students will learn to plan, revise, and edit their work using proper grammar, vocabulary, and organization to effectively communicate their ideas.

Language development is emphasized through vocabulary building, including the study of figurative language, idioms, adages, proverbs, and word parts such as affixes and roots. Students will also refine their speaking and listening skills by engaging in thoughtful discussions, articulating their ideas clearly, and analyzing information presented in various media formats.

Beyond foundational skills, Arts & Letters promotes critical thinking and knowledge acquisition. Students will explore texts that connect with topics in social studies and science, encouraging them to analyze themes, compare characters and settings, and evaluate the relationships among ideas and events. Additionally, the curriculum supports social-emotional learning by incorporating stories that foster empathy, perspective-taking, and personal reflection. The students gain a deeper understanding of the ways humans seek not only to survive but also to create culture, art, and joy.

This integrated, thoughtful approach prepares students to be confident communicators, reflective thinkers, and engaged learners across all disciplines.

ATTACHMENTS

AL_L4_ModuleSynopsesLevel4__1_.pdf

STANDARDS

Pennsylvania - Grade 4 - English Language Arts ELA

CC.1.1.4.D | CC.1.1.4.E | CC.1.2.4.A | CC.1.2.4.B | CC.1.2.5.B | CC.1.2.4.C | CC.1.2.4.D

CC.1.2.4.E CC.1.2.4.F CC.1.2.4.G CC.1.2.4.H CC.1.2.4.I CC.1.2.4.J CC.1.2.4.K

CC.1.2.4.L CC.1.3.4.A CC.1.3.4.C CC.1.3.4.D CC.1.3.4.E CC.1.3.4.F CC.1.3.4.G

CC.1.3.4.H CC.1.4.4.A CC.1.3.4.K CC.1.3.4.J CC.1.4.4.B CC.1.4.4.C CC.1.4.4.D

CC.1.4.4.E CC.1.4.4.F CC.1.4.4.G CC.1.4.4.H CC.1.4.4.I CC.1.4.4.J CC.1.4.4.M

CC.1.4.4.L CC.1.4.4.K CC.1.4.4.N CC.1.4.4.P CC.1.4.4.O CC.1.4.4.Q CC.1.4.4.R

CC.1.4.4.S CC.1.4.4.T CC.1.4.4.U CC.1.4.4.V CC.1.4.4.W CC.1.4.4.X CC.1.5.4.A

CC.1.5.4.B CC.1.5.4.C CC.1.5.4.D CC.1.5.4.E CC.1.5.4.F

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Specific objectives for this course are aligned to the Pennsylvania Core Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and the Common Core State Standards for ELA as outlined in the Scope and Sequence for Grade 4.

ATTACHMENTS

4th_Grade_Scope_and_Squence_.pdf

AL_L4_ModuleSynopsesLevel4__1_.pdf

ASSESSMENT TYPES

Forms of Assessment to Measure Course Objectives:

- Diagnostic Assessments
- Formative Assessments
- Summative Assessments
- Criterion-Referenced
- Norm-Referenced

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SUGGESTED METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- **Systematic and Explicit Phonics Instruction:** Direct, sequential teaching of the connections between letters and sounds, as well as the six syllable types. (95 Percent Group Core Phonics, Lexia Core5/Power Up).
- **Phonemic Awareness and Word Study:** Activities targeting prefixes, suffixes, Latin roots, and Greek Combining Forms and syllable types to build strong decoding and vocabulary skills (95 Percent Group Core Phonics, Lexia Core5/Power Up).
- **Decodable Text Practice:** Use of decodable text aligned to phonics instruction to apply decoding skills and build fluency through repeated and teacher lead reading instruction (95 Percent Group Core Phonics).
- **Multisensory Engagement:** Visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning experiences, including letter formation, tapping sounds, interactive digital activities, and manipulatives to reinforce phonics and language concepts (all programs).
- **Targeted Small Group and Individualized Instruction:** Instructional support driven by continuous assessment data and personalized learning platforms to meet diverse student needs (95 Percent Group Core Phonics, Lexia Core5/ Power Up).
- **Thematic, Knowledge-Building Lessons:** Integration of rich, content-focused themes to develop background knowledge, vocabulary, and comprehension (Great Minds Arts & Letters).
- **Integrated Literacy Experiences:** Connected reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities, including writing workshops with explicit guidance on sentence structure, spelling, and expression (Great Minds Arts & Letters).
- **Shared Reading and Read-Alouds:** Teacher modeling fluent reading to enhance vocabulary, comprehension, and engagement with texts (Great Minds Arts & Letters).
- **Close Reading and Critical Thinking:** Teaching students to analyze text meaning, language, and structure through close reading strategies (Great Minds Arts & Letters, 95 Percent Group Core Phonics).
- **Adaptive, Personalized Digital Practice:** Use of Lexia Core5's/ Power Up interactive, data-driven platform for individualized phonics and literacy skill reinforcement, with motivational supports to keep students engaged.

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RESOURCES

District Approved Program Resources	District Approved Supplemental Resources	District Approved Technology Resources
• Great Minds PBC. (2025). *Arts & Letters: Fourth Grade English language arts curriculum*. • 95 Percent Group LLC. (2022). *95 Phonics Core Program™, Fourth Grade*. 95 Percent Group LLC.	Great Minds PBC. (2025). *Inside Geodes® Level 4* [Teacher guide]. Great Minds PBC.	Lexia Learning Systems, LLC. (2025, April 16). *Lexia Core5 Reading* (Version 5.3.5) [Educational software]. Lexia Learning Systems, LLC. https://www.lexialearning.com/core5