



# 4th Grade

## VERITAS ACADEMY GRADE LEVEL PROFILE

Fourth Grade students continue building upon what was learned the previous year by increasing their reading fluency to 140-160 words per minute, mastering both single and multi-letter phonograms and spelling rules, and increasing their speed with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division math facts.

CLASS SECTIONS

3

STUDENTS PER CLASS

16

STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO

16:1

DAYS ON CAMPUS

M/W  
+OPTIONAL FRI

SCHOOL@HOME

T/TH

## Vision of a Veritas Defender

We are committed to growing students towards an ideal of the good, wise, and virtuous young man or woman of faith. The Veritas Valiant reflects one such idealized vision that we hope our students aspire to become, while a Defender reflects the present status, or reality, of all of our students as they are *becoming* Valiant-like.

### PORTRAIT OF A DEFENDER

We desire to cultivate people, particularly students, who:

1. Understand and believe the Gospel, trusting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
2. Are present and active in the worship and life of the local body of Christ.
3. Find joy in the study of Scripture, prayer, and service of Jesus Christ.
4. Read deeply and charitably; reason truthfully, diligently, and earnestly.
5. Speak and write with clarity, wisdom, and eloquence.
6. Engage creation with wonder and respect; pursue beauty and good workmanship.
7. Love Christ the King, following his command to make disciples of all the nations, teaching them to love God and one another.



## Grammar School Overview

### GRAMMAR STAGE

In the Grammar School, basic factual content and rules—the “grammar”—of each subject are mastered. The curricular emphasis during these years is on learning basic facts and figures during the time when children love to memorize (and when they are best at doing so). This is also a time where children are most curious and filled with wonder. Grammar School seeks to capitalize on these tendencies, building the habit of lifelong learning.

### PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The parent’s role in Grammar School is that of a co-teacher. As such, one parent needs to lead in the co-teaching role and become familiar with the grade level’s curriculum and basic teaching techniques to actively engage and implement lessons on School@Home days. There are also ample opportunities for parents to volunteer on-campus and to attend in-class presentations and grade level special events.

### SCHOOL TRADITIONS

Special GS traditions include Chapel, Veritas ROCKS, a winter Daddy-Daughter Dance, Mother-Son Event, and an annual Food Drive.

### COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Opportunities for Grammar School students to connect to the entire community include Defender Family Night, Fall Roundup, and more.

### VERITAS ROCKS

Based on the Biblical concept of building our homes on rock and not on sand, Veritas ROCKS summarizes the standard of behavior that will be promoted at Veritas Academy:

- R – Respect Authority
- O – Others are Important
- C – Correction: Accept it and Learn from it
- K – Keep Yourself Prepared
- S – Seek Excellence

## Special Events

### HISTORY CELEBRATION

As your family wraps up their year of History Study, we will celebrate each of the cultures and time periods studied with a Grammar-Wide Celebration. Games, costumes and food make this event an occasion the whole family will remember and reminisce for years to come.

### READ ALOUD CELEBRATION

Students come together at the end of each At Home GS Read Aloud to celebrate unique aspects of each book, such as a play or puppet show, an on-campus scavenger hunt, pie eating contest, and more.

### FIELD TRIP

GS families are invited to attend one school-sponsored School@Home day field trip.

# 4th Grade

## Core Subjects

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### MATH

This course will cover whole numbers and place value up to 10 million, factors and multiples, estimation in addition/subtraction/multiplication/division, multiplication/division of 4 digit numbers by 1 and 2 digit numbers, addition/subtraction/multiplication of fractions, tables and graphs, geometry, area and perimeter, addition/subtraction/multiplication/division of decimals, conversion between decimals and fractions, division of money and measurement units, and beginning algebraic concepts.

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### HANDWRITING

While no formal review is given, students complete assigned homework practice and are expected to utilize cursive on most assignments.

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### READING

The love of reading is best caught when students read a book that fits them. Students receive individualized instruction by reading through basal readers with a controlled vocabulary. As students are ready, they transition into appropriate chapter books and specified comprehension questions are introduced. On home days, families will read a variety of classics through our assigned Grammar School read aloud. Classes also prepare *A Christmas Carol* for a read-aloud presentation at Christmas.

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### SPELLING

Students begin learning about the encoding of language through learning the sounds and spellings of phonograms. Students continue to build their knowledge of single and multi-letter phonograms with a pattern-based approach while also learning and applying spelling rules.

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### MEMORY WORK

With the desire that families would memorize Scripture together, all GS students memorize a passage of Scripture along with the rest of the school. "Thinking Points" are provided to facilitate meaningful discussion around the dinner table.

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## Daily Schedule 8:10am-3:30pm

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Bible - 20 minutes

Lunch - 25 minutes

Latin - 20 minutes

Morning Meeting - 20 minutes

Recess - 25 minutes

Literature - 40 minutes

Math - 75 minutes

Spelling - 30 minutes

Independent Reading - 20 minutes

Science/History - 45 minutes

Grammar - 30 minutes

Specials Wheel - 60 minutes

In Grammar School, courses are combined into one core block and teachers structure the school day to include instruction of all subjects. This daily schedule is a general guide of a typical school day.

## School@Home Day generally 5-6 hours per day

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To prepare for each week, co-teachers will access and download homework from Family Portal, our online school management system. Co-teachers will then guide their student through the homework provided by the classroom teacher and can expect to spend approximately 2-2.5 hours on Language Arts, 1-1.5 hours on Math, and 30-40 minutes on Science/History per day.

### Presentations & Projects

In order to provide ample opportunities for students to become comfortable and confident in their public speaking skills, Fourth Graders have two major presentations during the school year. Rhetoric skills learned in Grammar and Logic schools build toward the capstone Senior Thesis, a 20-minute memorized speech that students present and defend in the spring of their Senior year.

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL**  
**LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM**  
**POETRY CAFÉ**

### A Note on History & Science

#### History

Students in Grades 1-4 will be introduced to a sweeping view of history from Creation through modern times as they study and learn together family style. Each year, the curriculum will highlight specific historical times and events in order to make Biblical connections, examine culture and arts, read rich literature, and participate in living history events.

#### Science

From Creation to Marie Curie, students follow science as it unfolds in history. Throughout their Grammar School career, students will be exposed to a variety of scientific topics, including medicine, physiology, biology, chemistry, geology, electricity, magnetism, heat, light, and sound waves, as well as the famous men and women behind the different scientific fields and discoveries.

## Sample Lesson Plans

Lesson Plans are written by classroom teachers for on-campus instruction.

### LANGUAGE ARTS

#### MATERIALS

Independent Reading Program (IRP) Books  
Read Alouds  
Handwriting Manual  
First Language Lessons (FLL) Manual  
Memory Book  
All About Spelling

#### OBJECTIVES (THE LEARNER WILL)

TLW identify music by various composers in history.  
TLW complete work related to their Individualized Reading Plan (IRP) book.  
TLW all review phonograms and spelling rules.  
TLW identify when to use the DGE phonogram.  
TLW identify the central theme in a selection and write original sentences.  
TLW practice Latin vocabulary.  
TLW listen to a historical reading.

#### ACTIVITIES

##### 1. Welcome, Prayer, Pledge, Devotional:

##### 2. Art/Music Appreciation:

- Listen to *Witches' Dance* by Edward MacDowell.

##### 3. Independent Reading:

- Answer PLORE question in PLORE spiral.

##### 4. Spelling:

- Complete "Review" section for Lesson 3 (TM, pg 58):
  - » Phonogram cards (pull selection from all phonogram cards), Rule cards (keep in mind the wording may be new), Word cards
- Complete "New Teaching" (TM, pgs 59-62)
  - » Display teacher copy of DGE poster as you build words
  - » Add words to class copy of Silent E Book
- Build Words Cards 11-17 (TM, pg 62)

##### 5. Memory:

- Read Scripture: Psalm 19:1-14
- Recite *Ozymandias*
- Review the Familiar Saying: "Can't hold a candle to"

##### 6. Grammar:

- Sing through Grammar Chants
- Complete First Language Lessons (FLL) Lesson 10

##### 5. Latin:

- Introduce chapter 17 vocabulary.
- Sing Chapter songs.
- Complete p. 120-121.

##### 5. History Read Aloud:

- Read aloud from *A Slave Boy in Judea*.
- Complete narration or dictation from teacher's guide.

### MATH

#### MATERIALS

Saxon Math 4 Student Workbook & Teacher's Edition  
Worksheets for lesson

#### OBJECTIVE (THE LEARNER WILL)

TLW solve by dividing to find remainders.  
TLW recognize division patterns with 2, 5, and 10.  
TLW demonstrate mastery of math concepts in class.

#### ACTIVITIES

1. Complete Rapid Recall: Multiplication Track 4, Day 1.
2. Complete lesson 21: Problems About Equal Groups.
3. Complete lesson 22: One-Digit Division with a Remainder.
4. Math Vocabulary Test: Lessons 1-19.

### HISTORY

#### MATERIALS

*Story of the World (SOW)*  
*Aesop's Fables*

#### OBJECTIVE (THE LEARNER WILL)

TLW hear about how the Greeks transition from barbarians to a civilized culture.

TLW understand what a myth is and listen to several of *Aesop's Fables*.

#### ACTIVITIES

1. Sing/Chat through History Pegs
2. Read *Story of the World (SOW)* Ch. 20 - Greece Gets an Alphabet.
  - a. Have several students narrate the chapter, one sentence each.
3. Students will write their names using Greek letters.
4. Read two of *Aesop's Fables*, noting he was a famous Greek storyteller.

### HISTORY

*In First through Fourth Grade, history and science tend to alternate days. During most weeks, classes will receive science lessons on Monday and Tuesday and history lessons on Wednesday and Thursday.*

# 4th Grade

## Sample Homework

Homework is written by classroom teachers.

### HOMework

#### READING (45 MINUTES)

1. Student will read assigned reading in IRP book and answer PLORE questions.
2. Sign TUESDAY reading log.

#### SPELLING (20-25 MINUTES)

1. Read "Before You Begin" for Lesson 3 (TM, pg 57)
2. Complete "Review" section for Lesson 3 (TM, pg 58)
  - Phonogram Cards, Rule Card, Word Cards
3. Review "New Teaching" (TM, pgs 59-62)
  - Complete Activity Sheet: "Fudge Time" from Twist into Spelling activity book
  - Add Silent E words to Silent E Book (TM, pg 62)
    - Store Silent E Book in Spelling Binder and keep at home.
  - Discuss DGE Rule Poster (keep out as you build More Words then store in Spelling Binder)
4. Build 10-15 "More Words" (TM, pg 64)

#### HANDWRITING (10 MINUTES)

1. Complete Ss and Tt page.
2. Co-teacher initials work.

#### READ ALOUD (20 MINUTES)

1. As a family, read Chapter 13-14 of *Pinocchio* and discuss. Throughout the week complete the designated writing assignments from the Read Aloud Reading Guide.

#### GRAMMAR (45 MINUTES)

1. Review Lesson 13: Adjectives.
2. Review definition of a sentence, verb, and adjective.
3. Complete Exercises 8 and 9.
4. Complete Adjective worksheet.

#### MEMORIZATION (ALL WEEK, 20 MINUTES)

1. Practice scripture verse for the week.
2. Oral recitation: sing *America the Beautiful*.
3. Review "Can't hold a candle to."

#### LATIN (20 MINUTES)

1. Introduce Song School Latin Chapter 17 vocabulary ("Words to Learn"); use the spiral bound notecard booklet to make a flash card for each new word/phrase. Write the Latin word on the front of the card and the English word on the back.
2. Review all flash cards.
3. Listen to/sing chapter 17 "Chapter Song."
4. Complete all other activities in Chapter 17.
5. Watch chapter 17 on the Song School Latin DVD.

#### MATH (90 MINUTES)

1. Complete Rapid Recall - Multiplication: Track 4, Day 2.
2. Review Lessons 21 and 22.
3. Complete Mixed Practice 22 to review for Test 3.

### HOMework (CONTINUED)

#### SCIENCE (45 MINUTES)

Scholé History/Science Explorers students will complete this on Friday.

1. Read page 187 of Science in the Industrial Age.
2. Read and explore Making a Process Better on page 187.
3. Read explanation on p. 188-189.
4. Set up Entry Page. Have student illustrate their experiment and answer the End of the Chapter questions in complete sentences.

### FRIDAY FLEX DAY OR SCHOLÉ

#### READING:

1. Read assigned IRP story/pages.
2. Answer assigned PLORE questions.

#### RAPID RECALL:

1. Complete Track 4, Day 5.

Complete any unfinished work from the week or spend additional time on project work.

