

# Parent Guide to Grade 4 Standards



MILWAUKEE  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## WRITING

### What should my child learn in Grade 4?

#### Write Widely and Often

- Write for various reasons for different tasks, purposes, and audiences.
- Write clear, organized opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and evidence.
- Write expository texts to inform someone about or explain a topic, using supporting facts.
- Write an interesting story with a beginning, middle, and end about something that has happened or is made up, using narrative techniques like dialogue and description.
- Compose different kinds of sentences, varying the length for stylistic purposes.
- Learn new ideas and topics by doing research, which means gathering information from digital and print sources, taking notes about the topic, sorting the information into logical categories, and going through the writing process to compose a piece of text that incorporates evidence (e.g., quotes, detail, and information).

#### Language and Vocabulary

- Show growth in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and sentence and paragraph expansion.
- Write collaboratively with peers and with teacher guidance. This includes coming up with topics and ideas with help from classmates.
- Use words and phrases that are most effective based on the audience and purpose of the writing task.
- Use new, grade-level appropriate words and phrases.

### How Can I Help My Child Learn at Home?



- Provide time and space for your child to practice writing (free from distractions such as television).
- Write books together about your child's interests. The child completes a page and the parent completes a page. Create an "About the Authors" page.
- Write a comic book with your child about your child's favorite superhero or one he or she invents.
- Practice writing a user's guide about something your child knows a lot about. Show him or her a user's guide as an example.
- Use technology to help build your child's interest in writing. There are several websites where students can "publish" online writing.



#### Infinite Campus Parent Portal

*Get real-time updates and alerts right on your phone!*

Get 24-hour access to view your child's academics, attendance, and resources to support achievement. Go to your child's school to sign up for an account and bring photo identification. Once registered, access your account online at [mpsmke.com/parentportal](https://mpsmke.com/parentportal).

The MPS Ambitious Instruction Plan strengthens core instruction and builds a strong foundation across academic areas with a focus on mastery of **reading, writing, and mathematics** skills.

For more information, contact your child's teacher, school leader, or the MPS Office of Academics at (414) 777-7806 or [mpsmke.com/academics](https://mpsmke.com/academics).