



- **Research to Build and Present Knowledge** (find examples from fiction and non-fiction texts to support analysis, reflection, and research)

Speaking and Listening:

- **Comprehension and Collaboration** (paraphrase pieces of a text and identify the reasons and examples/evidence that a speaker gives to make a point)
- **Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas** (know when to use formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and know when informal language (e.g., small-group discussion) is appropriate)

Language:

- **Conventions of Standard English and Knowledge of Language** (use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, and/or listening)
- **Vocabulary Acquisition and Use** (Use common, grade-level Greek and Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of words; use reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses) to find the word and understand the meaning of important words and phrases)

What can you do as a Parent to Help or Support Your Child?

- If you have access to technology at home, encourage your child to practice keyboarding (free websites) a few times per week. Typing skills are an important part of fourth grade and beyond.
- Look for opportunities in everyday situations to point out new words to help build your child's vocabulary.
- Ask your child to provide examples (evidence) to support their opinion (arguments/judgments) about what they are reading, hearing or doing.
- Make writing a natural part of the daily routine. Do things like write notes to one another, write special events on the calendar, add items to the grocery list, write thank you notes for gifts, or write special friends or family a letter informing them about a special event.
- Share what you are reading (for work and enjoyment) with your child and let them know why reading is important in school and in life. Share the joy of reading with your child..



“A great place to learn, contribute and compete.”

This past year, our staff and I have been attending workshops that are helping us to gain a better understanding of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), what our students will need to know to prepare for the 21st century. Below are the Standards for Fourth Grade Math. The greatest message has been deeper experiences, not more. Children need to be able to develop their own thinking, not be told how to think. We need your help. Please become familiar with what your child needs to know and help develop these things at home.

—Terri Portice, Director of Teaching and Learning -

porticet@reeths-puffer.org

For more information: http://www.reeths-puffer.org/Our_District/Departments/Curriculum/curriculum-corner-for-parents/

4th Grade Math Standards

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Use the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) to solve whole number problems
- Gain familiarity with factors and multiples

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Generalize place value and understanding for multi-digit whole numbers
- Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic
- Develop, discuss, and use efficient, accurate, and generalizable methods for solving problems

Number and Operations - Fractions

- Extend understanding of fraction equivalence and ordering of fractions
- Build fractions from unit fractions **and** recognize equivalent fractions
- Understand decimal notation for fractions
- Compare fractions and decimals using symbols of < > or =

Measurement and Data

- Solve problems involving measurement and the conversion of measurements
- Represent and interpret data
- Understand concepts of angle and measure angles

Geometry

- Draw and identify lines and angles, and classify shapes by properties of their lines and angles

What Can You do as a Parent to Help or Support Your Child at Home in the Area of Math?

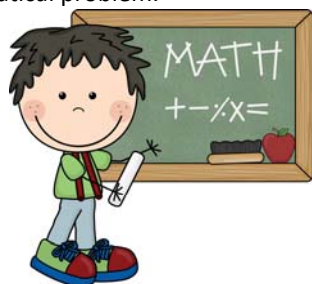
- Involve your child in age appropriate conversations about daily math tasks that are a natural part of day-to-day life. (i.e., cooking, measuring, budgeting, shopping, etc.).
- Survey family and friends about an upcoming event. After data is collected analyze the data (birthday party date, location of activity, cost of the party, etc.) to make decisions.
- Next time you are watching your favorite sport on TV or in person, have your child find the product (number or quantity found by multiplying the two numbers together) of the two players' jerseys.
- When out to eat, have your child figure out the cost of different meal choices. Say that there was only \$15.00 to cover meals for two people what is the total cost of the various meal options? How much change would you receive?
- Allow your child to explore/struggle through the process in order to gain a deeper understanding of “how” and “why” math works. Exploration and self-discovery leads to deeper understanding of the concepts being taught.

Important Terms:

- **Conceptual Understanding:** is the ability to have a visual picture or a deep level of understanding of the why a process works or can see the logical relationships of the given concept.
- **Procedural Knowledge:** is the knowledge of the rules and procedures that are completed to solve a repetitive problem.
- **Problems/Tasks:** is an activity for which the students are not given a prescribed method to solve a problem using memorized facts, or procedures. Rather students are encouraged to find multiple ways to demonstrate how to solve the problem and be able to explain and justify the reasoning behind their approach.

How Does Building Conceptual Understanding Build Mathematical Thinkers?

- Problem solving helps students see the big concepts and makes sense of the mathematical problem.
- Develops positive images in students where they see themselves as capable of making sense of the math around them.
- Problem solving develops “Mathematical Power”.
- It’s fun!



English Language Arts Content Overview

Below are the standards for fourth grade in the area of English Language Arts. The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) require students to dig deeper into the learning experiences with an added emphasis on the application of the skills to everyday life. You will notice that students will be asked to read more challenging texts and will need to refer back to the text to find examples (evidence) to support their answers. The new standards also have an increased emphasis on building stronger writing skills around the various types of writing. Students will be increasing their vocabulary skills to ensure they can read and comprehend the grade level materials and can apply the learning to real life situations. The Reeths-Puffer staff is looking to partner with you to help your child be successful in their educational journey.

The following items outline the major instructional concepts for Fourth Grade students in English Language Arts.

Reading Foundations:

- **Phonics and Word Recognition** (knows and applies grade-level phonics and word analysis skills when reading/decoding words)
- **Fluency** (read with accuracy and fluency to support understanding/comprehension)

Reading Literature and Informational Text:

- **Key Ideas and Details** (use details and examples when explaining what the text says and when making inferences from the text)
- **Craft and Structure** (explain the differences between different types of text, and use the parts of the text when writing or speaking; describe the overall structure of the events, ideas, concepts, and information found in a text)
- **Integration of Knowledge and Ideas** (compare and contrast the themes and patterns of events in stories; integrating information from two texts written on the same topic in order to share information with others)
- **Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity** (read and understand/comprehend literature and informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and other texts)

Writing:

- **Text Types and Purposes** (understand there are different types of writing (narrative, informational, and opinion) and use the different types of writing to complete writing tasks/assignments)
- **Production and Distribution of Writing** (use technology, including the Internet, to create and publish writing as well as to work collaboratively with others; demonstrate keyboarding skills in order to type a minimum of one page in a single sitting)