

Parent Curriculum Guide
Hinckley-Big Rock Elementary
School
4th Grade



This curriculum guide provides an overview of what your child will learn by the end of 4th grade in mathematics and English language arts/literacy. While this is an overview, your child's actual experience may differ from this guide depending on your child's individual needs. This guide focuses on the key skills your child will learn, which will build a strong foundation for success in other subjects and in future learning opportunities. If your child is meeting the expectations outlined in this curriculum guide, he or she will be well prepared for 5th grade.

How can I help?

You should use this guide as a resource to gain an understanding of the key skills that will be introduced and/or mastered by your child this year. This will help promote a better understanding, as well as allow for a strong relationship to be developed with your child's teacher. Regular ongoing dialogue about teaching and learning, beyond parent-teacher conferences, is expected and desired.

At home, you play an important role in setting and reinforcing high expectations for your child, while providing support for your child in meeting them. If your child needs additional help or wants to learn more about a topic, work with his or her teacher to identify opportunities for support or to find additional resources to supplement the learning. High expectations do not just surround the content being learned. Your conveyed expectations should also surround the development and use of the following soft skills: effective time-management, persistence and perseverance, self-confidence, growth mindset, productive use of constructive criticism, thinking critically, exhibiting independence, and being motivated.

English Language Arts/Literacy

Students in 4th grade, through whole class, read aloud, small group, and individual instruction, will use a variety of strategies with fiction and non-fiction texts to improve their reading comprehension, accuracy, fluency, and expand their vocabulary.



In addition to reading, students will learn and use the 6+1 traits writing method of instruction, which include ideas, organization, fluency, voice, conventions, word choice, and presentation, to produce clear, concise, easily readable, fiction and non-fiction pieces of writing.

A sample of skills to be gained:

- Identify key ideas and details, draw inferences, determine the theme, summarize the text, and identify the characters, setting, and plot in fiction and non-fiction texts
- Determine the difference between first and third person point of view in various texts
- Explain major differences and structural elements between poems, drama, and prose
- Compare and contrast themes, topics, and patterns of events in stories, myths, and traditional literature
- Describe the overall structure in a text, such as sequence, compare and contrast, cause and effect, and problem and solution, and use those to improve comprehension
- Use charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, and/or web pages to interpret information and increase understanding of a text
- Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text
- Use information from two texts on the same topic to write or speak about subject knowledgeably
- Create various fiction and non-fiction pieces of writing and oral presentations using a variety of strategies and resources
- Use prefixes and suffixes to learn new words, and use them correctly in reading and writing

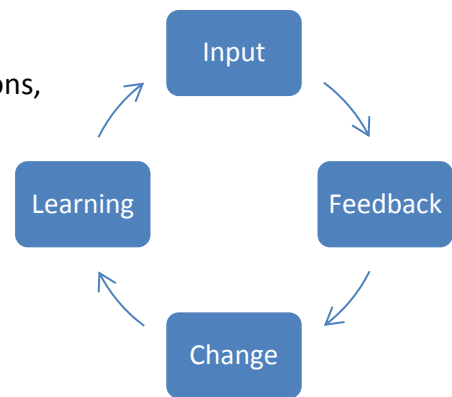
List of primary sources for learning:

- Reading Street
- Prefixes and Suffixes by Trisha Callella
- Words Their Way

Mathematics

Students in 4th grade, through whole class and small group lessons, will master the skills and strategies in the following areas:

- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions
- Measurement
- Angles
- Lines
- Geometric Shapes



In addition to the lessons, the students' learning will be supplemented by practice sets, homework, hands-on games, computer games, videos, manipulatives, and projects.

A sample of skills to be gained:

- Fluently add and subtract multi-digit numbers
- Identify and create equations
- Understand and apply different multiplication and division strategies
- Solve various word problems using different strategies
- Add, subtract, multiply, compare, and identify equivalent fractions using a variety of strategies and fraction models
- Interpret and analyze data from line plots and graphs
- Use and interpret the U.S. customary and metric system to find area and perimeter of rectangles, and convert between different units of measure
- Use a protractor to create, identify, measure, and understand angles
- Identify, draw, and sort various lines and geometric shapes

List of primary sources for learning:

- Khanacademy.org
- Learnzillion.com
- Mobymax.com
- Fluency practice sheets

Help your child learn at home

As you invest in your child in many different ways each day, take the following things into consideration as you invest in his or her learning. These strategies will have a direct impact on the learning of your child at home.

- Create a suitable place for learning at home to be completed.
- Create a daily routine and stick to it as much as possible.
- Work with your child on their homework on a regular basis. Have them start the homework on their own and then provide assistance when asked. When they ask for help, try utilizing the following prompts to help them think through their learning.
 - What do you remember from the learning activities in school?
 - Is there a place that you can reference that will help you?
 - What do you think would help?
 - Explain to me what you are struggling with.
 - What do you think you should do next?

It is important to help your child work through the answer, not just provide them with the answer. This process is extremely important in helping your child develop strategies that can be used whether he or she is with you or not.

Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

English Language Arts & Literacy

- Read to or with your child
- Set aside time to read at least 20 minutes a day
- Mobymax.com
- Ask questions about what your child is reading
- Go to the library
- Practice weekly word building activities

Mathematics

- Flash cards
- Mobymax.com
- Finish fluency sheets
- Check homework
- Khanacademy.org
- Purchase a protractor, ruler, and calculator for home
- Point out real-life uses of math when presented

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