

4th Grade Handbook



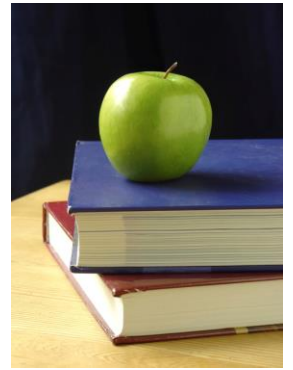
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Literacy Instruction

Reading

"There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world.
Love of books is the best of all."
-Jacqueline Kennedy



Goals:

- Each student will be assessed by their teacher. This will allow the teacher to get an individual reading level and a comprehensive understanding of each child as a reader.
- Students will be instructed to understand the importance of choosing appropriate literature using personal interest, genre, recommendations, and book level.
- Students will focus on comprehension and fluency daily.

Readers' Workshop Includes:

- Mini-lesson - Whole Group Instruction
- Interactive Read Aloud time
- Independent Reading with Individual Conferencing
- Small Group Instruction
- Book Clubs
- Writing Reflection and Sharing

Units of Study:

Interpreting Characters (fiction), Reading the Weather, Reading the World (nonfiction), Reading History (nonfiction), Historical Fiction Book Clubs



Writing



"Be yourself. Above all, let who you are, what you are, what you believe, shine through every sentence you write, every piece you finish."

-John Jakes

Goals:

- Students will develop confidence and self expression through their every day writing.
- Students will understand and create several pieces of writing within a variety of genres.
- Students will explore author's craft to expand their knowledge of writing elements and style.

Writers' Workshop Includes:

- Mini-Lesson - Whole Group Instruction
- Independent Writing with Individual Conferencing
- Sharing and Reflection

Units of Study:

Narrative Fiction, Opinion Essays, Literary Essays, Research and Informational writing

Word Study/Vocabulary



Goals:

- Students will study word patterns to become better spellers within their everyday writing using "Words Their Way."
- Students will study the meaning of new words in context and be given opportunities to engage with new words and tools to learn new words

Math

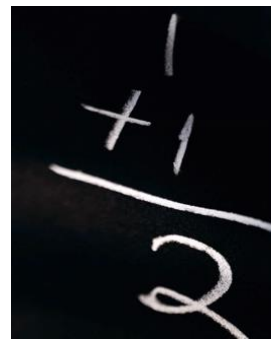
Pure mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas.
-Albert Einstein

Goal:

- Students will use objects, drawings, conceptual language, and real-world situations to help build mathematical strategies and fluency.

Format:

- Whole Group Instruction
- Guided Practice
- Independent Work
- Math Talk
- Fluency Practice



Units of Study:

- Place Value and multi-digit addition and subtraction
- Multiplication of 2, 3, and 4 digit numbers
- Division of multi-digit numbers with a 1 digit divisor
- Using algebraic equations to solve word problems
- Metric and U.S. Customary Measurement including area and perimeter
- Adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers
- Comparing fractions and decimals
- Geometry including lines, angles and shapes

Science

The most remarkable discovery made by scientists is science itself. -Gerard Piel

Units of Study:

- States of Matter
- Organisms In Their Environment
- A View From the Earth

Social Studies

History will be kind to me for I intend to write it.
-Winston Churchill

Units of Study:

- The United States in Spatial Terms
- Our Federal Government
- Exploring Economics
- Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship



Homework



- **Reading Logs**- Reading logs will be given to students in their planners to keep track of their time reading. The expectation is that students will need to read a minimum of 20 minutes a day, 5 times a week (or 100 minutes per week) in their "just right" books.
- **Math** - Students will be given math assignments to practice concepts we have learned that day in class. Sufficient time to complete the work will try to be given at school, but your child will have to take home any work not finished to complete at home. This is the second year in our new curriculum, and the math homework will be on the iPads.
- **Writing** - Please check your child's planner each evening. Writing homework will only be given on an "as needed" basis.
- **Word Study** - Your child will not have weekly word study homework. We are using a program called "Words Their Way."

Discipline

Our classroom environment is centered on the belief that all students are capable of being responsible, respectful and safe. Discipline is providing students with the knowledge and opportunity to make positive choices and allowing students to experience rewards and consequences for their actions. Just as students' talents are unique, so are behaviors. Natural rewards and consequences will be determined individually. We will contact you should there be any problems, but more importantly to celebrate the positive behaviors and achievements of your student!

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