

What Your Child Will Learn in Fourth Grade

Grade 4 Learning Guide

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A guide to the skills typically taught and practiced during fourth grade.

Child's Name: _____

School Year: _____



Reading & Literature

Introduced Practicing Mastered

- Read grade-level texts with fluency and accuracy
- Determine theme and summarize key details
- Identify main idea and supporting details
- Make inferences using text evidence
- Compare and contrast stories, settings, and genres
- Analyze characters and their development
- Identify the author's purpose and point of view
- Interpret text features (headings, captions, diagrams, maps, graphs, etc.)
- Discuss and respond to what they read

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Writing

Introduced Practicing Mastered

- Write clear, organized multi-paragraph pieces
- Write opinion pieces with reasons and evidence
- Write informative/explanatory pieces with facts, definitions, and details
- Write narrative stories with a clear beginning, middle, and end
- Use descriptive words and sensory details
- Organize ideas with an introduction, body, and conclusion
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
- Revise and edit writing for clarity and correctness
- Write neatly with consistent handwriting and spacing

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Phonics & Vocabulary

Introduced Practicing Mastered

- Decode and read multisyllable words
- Use Greek and Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes
- Use context clues to determine word meaning
- Use a dictionary or thesaurus effectively
- Understand and use figurative language (similes, metaphors, idioms, and personification)
- Build and use grade-level academic vocabulary
- Recognize and use word families and spelling patterns
- Use new vocabulary correctly in speaking and writing

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Grammar & Language

Introduced Practicing Mastered

- Identify and use nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositions
- Use subject-verb agreement
- Use complete and compound sentences
- Use *and*, *but*, *or*, *so*, *because* in sentences
- Use prepositions and prepositional phrases
- Use and punctuate quotation marks
- Use commas in a series, in dates and addresses, and with introductory words
- Use and form contractions correctly
- Identify and use correct verb tenses
- Recognize and correct run-on and fragment sentences

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Mathematics

Introduced Practicing Mastered

- Read, write, and compare whole numbers to 1,000,000
- Understand place value and round numbers
- Add and subtract multi-digit numbers (up to 1,000,000)
- Multiply up to 4-digit by 2-digit numbers
- Divide up to 4-digit by 2-digit numbers (with remainders)
- Solve multi-step word problems
- Identify and use factors and multiples
- Understand equivalent and comparable fractions
- Add and subtract fractions with like denominators
- Multiply fractions by whole numbers
- Relate tenths and hundredths to decimals
- Add and subtract decimals to hundredths
- Measure and convert units (length, weight, capacity, time)
- Identify and measure angles using a protractor
- Find area and perimeter of rectangles and irregular shapes
- Interpret and create graphs (line plots, bar graphs, picture graphs)
- Identify and classify lines, angles, and shapes
- Solve real-world problems using math skills

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Science

Introduced Practicing Mastered

- Understand the scientific method
- Explore life science (plants, animals, ecosystems)
- Investigate physical science (matter, energy, forces)
- Learn about Earth and space science (rocks, weather, ecosystems, solar system)
- Make and record observations
- Conduct simple experiments and draw conclusions
- Develop an understanding of how the natural world works

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Social Studies

Introduced Practicing Mastered

- Learn about local, state, and national history
- Understand geography (maps, landforms, regions)
- Explore communities and cultures
- Understand government and citizenship
- Learn about the economy (goods, services, jobs)
- Recognize important people and events in history
- Develop an understanding of how people and places are connected

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We teach for understanding, not speed.



Every new skill rests on a foundation the child can understand and use.

