

READING

Using both historical and contemporary novels, students continue to understand and enjoy literature. They are also analyzing and critiquing information from a variety of sources, including newspapers, magazines, and books.

Your child will...

- Apply skills when reading and discuss reading strategies (working out unknown words, self-correcting, and re-reading)
- Expand vocabulary through prefixes, suffixes, roots, multi-meaning words
- Easily manage complex sentences, adjust reading speed for purpose, and skim to locate information
- Use and compare story elements and structure including plot and point of view
- Use text features (titles, headings, chapter sub-headings, glossary, and index) when reading non-fiction
- Make, confirm, and revise predictions and inferences based on reading the text
- Organize information, take notes from reading material, and summarize in own words

LANGUAGE ARTS

Fourth graders write complex sentences, organizing them into paragraphs, and creating various reports. They continue to write in a variety of forms for a variety of audiences and purposes.

Your child will...

- Use multiple paragraphs to organize his/her writing to support a central theme
- Provide a clear lead and conclusion with transitions to construct logical order
- Use a variety of simple, compound, and complex sentences
- Use a variety of vocabulary words, including some figurative language
- Revise own work with input from others and edit work for a final copy
- Writes in a variety of forms, personal (narrative), subject writing (exploratory), and stories (fictional narrative)
- Write for a variety of purposes (eg. Respond to questions, to entertain, to request, persuade, or reflect)

MATHEMATICS

Fourth graders continue to deepen their understanding of number, algebraic and geometric sense as they apply problem-solving skills. They are explaining their thinking through writing as well as broadening their knowledge of measurement and probability and statistics.

Your child will...

- Identify, compare, and order common fractions
- Round numbers to the nearest tens, hundreds, and thousands
- Use models to show the relationship between fractions and decimals
- Solve multiplication problems with two digits and divided by 10s and 100s
- Write number sentences involving a combination of two operations
- Use concepts to solve problems related to units of measurement including metric system

- Develop spatial sense and geometric vocabulary such as parallel, symmetric, congruent, similar, and perpendicular
- Take surveys, construct/interpret graphs, charts, and tables, and describe mean, median, and mode
- Apply a variety of problem solving strategies, explaining the thinking behind them

SCIENCE

Students understand their environment by studying the geology of the Northwest and investigating the properties of light.

Your child will...

- Observe and investigate the human skeletal and muscle systems
- Understand the formation and properties of rocks and classify them based on description and characteristics
- Perform simple measurement tests and record data on his/her rocks
- Use the scientific thinking processes to conduct investigations and build explanations

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students will study the physical environment of Washington in science and learn about the geography and history of the state. They will broaden their understanding of civics as they explore the nature of state government.

Your child will...

- Use a variety of maps to learn about Washington's geographic regions (beach, coastal range, Puget Sound lowlands, mountains, Columbia plateau)
- Identify ways in which people use their environment to meet basic needs
- Name important groups (fur traders, missionaries, loggers, etc.) and explorers who settled in Washington and why
- Understand the role Chinese and Japanese people played in the early settlement days and recognize the influence of Asia today
- Identify the three branches of government (Executive, Legislative, and Judicial), understand the importance of voting and elections, and the similarities among local, state, and federal forms of government

PE/HEALTH

Your child will...

- Learn about abuse prevention, first aid, human growth and development
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic health and fitness concepts
- Develop teamwork skills by participating in games and activities
- Practice movement skills, assess levels of fitness, and understand safety issues

MUSIC/VISUAL ARTS

Your child will...

- Begin to learn music notation and melodic direction
- Identify various instruments by sound and classify by instrument family
- Read/perform simple melodies using choral literature and sing 3-part rounds
- Continue to refine knowledge of essential elements of art such as line/shape/value/composition

TECHNOLOGY AND LIBRARY

Your child will...

- Develop the necessary skills to gather, organize, evaluate, and communicate information in developmentally appropriate ways
- Acquire skills to use available technology
- Gain understanding and appreciation for literature