

# FOURTH GRADE CURRICULUM

## Balanced Literacy

The School District of Fort Atkinson offers a balanced literacy approach to teaching reading, writing and spelling. In a balanced literacy program, how you teach is as important as what you teach. Students are taught at their instructional level insuring that all students progress and learn. Reading, writing and spelling are continuously integrated to develop all language arts skills.

### READING

By the end of fourth grade, we expect students to have the following reading skills:

- Reads aloud with fluency and expression
- Uses a variety of word-solving strategies including letter sound relationships, word structure and context clues
- Makes inferences based on text information
- Applies reading strategies to process and comprehend text at a variety of type and length
- Self-corrects and self-monitors applying problem solving strategies as needed while reading
- Summarizes or retells a variety of texts or materials orally and in written form
- Identifies the setting, characters and plot of a story
- Makes connections to literature
- Reads a variety of materials for enjoyment and information at an independent level
- Uses a variety of research skills

### SPELLING

By the end of fourth grade, we expect students to have the following spelling skills:

- Applies spelling patterns to spell unfamiliar words
- Uses conventional spelling in all writing
- Spells high frequency words correctly in all writing

### WRITING

Our district uses a Writer's Workshop approach to writing instruction. Daily, students write about self-selected topics and then conference and share their writing with peers and the teacher.

By the end of fourth grade, the students will demonstrate the following writing skills:

- Prewrites using grade-appropriate strategies
- Creates draft from prewriting ideas that makes sense and utilizes a genre
- Conferences with teacher and peers and reflects to improve writing
- Revises own writing by adding, subtracting, rearranging and rewording text based on conference and self-assessment
- Self-assesses and applies the 6 Traits
- Edits writing for capitalization, spelling, punctuation and grammar according to grade-level expectation
- Publishes for a variety of audiences in a variety of genres
- Identifies and uses craft from published authors in own writing
- Uses cursive writing when requested
- Handwriting is neat and legible
- Uses Writer's Workshop effectively

## Mathematics

By the end of fourth grade, we expect students to have the following math skills:

- Recognizes/names numbers through millions
- Adds and subtracts numbers with multiple digits including decimals
- Knows basic multiplication facts (0 through 12)
- Multiplies numbers with multiple digits
- Knows basic division facts (divisors of 9)
- Divides numbers with multiple digits (2x1 digit)
- Adds and subtracts fractions with like denominators
- Understands and uses mixed numbers
- Begins to use variables and balance equations
- Collects, organizes, records and interprets data using graphs, tables and charts
- Describes data using range, mode and median
- Describes 2D and 3D figures by naming, comparing and sorting as well as finding symmetry, congruence and similarity
- Identifies locations using a coordinate grid
- Determines elapsed time with a calendar and tells time to the 1 minute interval
- Determines value of a group of coins and bills
- Counts and makes change to \$20.00
- Recognizes and describes the attributes of length and weight and chooses the correct unit to measure them
- Finds perimeter and area
- Recognizes and predicts outcomes/events
- Communicates problem solving strategies and works with accuracy



## Social Studies

Fourth grade social studies is taught in thematic units designed to help students learn more about the United States Regions as well as the State of Wisconsin. Essential understandings or social studies “big ideas” are presented along with geography and map skills, vocabulary and a selection of key historical figures, events and symbols.

During fourth grade, students will experience the following social studies units:

- Map and Globe Skills
- Land and Climate of the United States Regions
- United States Resources and Economy
- People of the United States: Native Americans and Immigrants
- The United States Government

The program also includes District Geography Map Assessments which focus on key locations of the following geographic areas:

- The World Continents
- North America
- Physical Map of the United States
- Political Map of the World
- United States—Selected States and Cities

## Science

During fourth grade science, students discover and learn about the universe, the world and their own environment.

During fourth grade, students will experience the following science units:

- World of Living Things
- Ecosystems
- Earth’s Surface
- Matter and Energy
- Cycles on Earth and in Space
- Forces and Motion

# Allied Arts

## ART

By the end of fourth grade, we expect students to have the following art skills:

- Displays creativity in work
- Reflects pride and enthusiasm in art work
- Employs original ideas
- Demonstrates craftsmanship
- Respects efforts of peers and working artists

## HEALTH

During fourth grade, students will learn age-appropriate concepts related to the following areas:

- Safety and Accident Prevention
- Nutrition
- Personal Health
- Mental and Social Health
- Family Life Education
- Substance Use and Abuse
- Prevention and Control of Disease
- Consumer Health



## MUSIC

By the end of fourth grade, we expect students to have the following music skills:

- Sings independently using pitch and rhythm
- Plays instruments including the recorder
- Composes a piece using recognizable form
- Reads and write rhythmic and pitch notation
- Describes musical elements
- Identifies instrument through sound and sight

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

By the end of fourth grade, students will have experienced and enhanced the following physical education skills:

Locomotor Skills	Ball Handling	Personal Fitness	Apparatus/Tumbling
Rhythm and Dance	Use of Manipulatives	Cooperative Activities and Adventures	Good Sportsmanship