

Parent Guide to Fourth Grade

Randolph County School System



English Language Arts

In fourth grade, your child will build stamina and skills to read challenging fiction, nonfiction, and other types of text. Fourth graders will continue to use evidence from the text to support their thinking.

Important goals for the year include:

Reading:

- Describe characters, events, and settings by drawing on specific details in the text.
- Pay close attention to key features of informational books, websites, articles, and videos. These include understanding the main and supporting ideas; being able to compare and contrast information; and explaining how the author uses facts, details, and evidence to support particular points.
- Compare ideas, characters, events, settings, and themes in stories and myths from different cultures.
- Use roots and affixes to read multisyllabic words.
- Explain what a text says using details from the text and what can be implied from the details.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text.
- Describe how a text is structured (cause/effect, comparison, sequential, problem/solution).

Writing:

- Write opinion, informational, and narrative pieces for different purposes and audiences.
- Use technology (including the internet) to produce and publish writing.
- Conduct short research projects independently.
- Use grade-appropriate grammar and spelling including capitals, commas, apostrophes, and quotation marks.
- Create readable documents through legible handwriting (cursive) and/or word processing.

Speaking/Listening:

- Paraphrase and respond to information presented in discussions such as comparing and contrasting ideas and analyzing evidence that speakers use to support particular points.
- Report orally on a topic, text, or story in an organized manner and with appropriate facts and details.

Read more about what your child will learn this year in the parent guides from the NC Department of Public Instruction! [Parent Guide & Parent Guide Booklet](#)

Mathematics

In fourth grade, your child will continue to strengthen math habits such as problem solving, persistence, precision, accuracy, modeling, constructing arguments, and checking to see if the answer makes sense.

Important goals for the year include:

- Use addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division to solve two-step word problems.
- Read, write, and compare multi-digit numbers to 100,000.
- Add and subtract numbers up to 100,000.
- Maintain the memorization of multiplication and division facts.
- Multiply and divide multi-digit numbers using a variety of strategies (e.g., 23×4 , 638×7 , 24×17 , $128 \div 3$).
- Generate and analyze patterns.
- Recognize and generate equivalent fractions.
- Compare the size of fractions.
- Add, subtract, and multiply fractions and solve word problems involving fractions.
- Represent and compare decimal numbers.
- Measure length, mass, and capacity using metric units (centimeter, meter, gram, kilogram, Liter, milliliter).
- Solve word problems involving measurements (length, mass, capacity, time, area, and perimeter).
- Represent and interpret numerical data on tables, bar graphs, and line plots.
- Measure angles and find unknown angle measurements in a diagram.
- Identify, draw, and classify lines, angles, and two-dimensional shapes.
- Identify and draw lines of symmetry.

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Science

As fourth grade students learn about the life, physical, and earth sciences, they will develop skills of observation, actively conduct investigations, have opportunities to use their senses and other tools to gather data, and time to talk about their observations with peers.

Important goals for the year include:

- Explain how forces affect the motion of an object and how magnets, iron, and electrically charged objects may interact.
- Classify, describe, and compare the physical properties of rocks and minerals.
- Recognize basic forms of energy (light, sound, heat, electrical, and magnetic). Explain how light travels.
- Explain the causes of day and night and phases of the moon.
- Compare fossils and explain the processes that change the surface of the Earth.
- Explain the effects of environmental changes, adaptations and behaviors that enable animals to survive in changing habitats.
- Classify substances as food or non-food and explain the benefits of vitamins, minerals, and exercise to the human body.

Social Studies

Fourth grade students will study North Carolina history from pre-colonial times through the present day.

Important goals for the year include:

- Examine North Carolina's role in major United States events. This will lay the foundations necessary for delving into United States history in fifth grade.
- Look at how various groups have contributed to the diversity of North Carolina throughout its history.
- Prepare for their role as responsible and informed citizens by examining the North Carolina Constitution and the separation of powers in state government.
- Address the concept of movement and its impact on people, goods, and ideas in North Carolina.
- Explore the strand of economics, where students will learn how natural resources have influenced economic development in the state.

Resources for Parents

Randolph County School System
www.randolph.k12.nc.us

Parent Resources
www.ed.gov

Today Parenting Guides
www.today.com/parenting-guides

NC Department of Public Instruction & K-12 Standards
www.dpi.nc.gov

National PTA Parent Guides
www.pta.org

NC Department of Public Instruction ELA Parent Guides
<https://ncdpi.instructure.com/courses/914/pages/parent-guides>