

Fourth Grade

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Course Description

Fourth grade students will explore concepts in Math, English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies in the general education setting. They will take district-wide, quarterly benchmark assessments in each of these subjects and TCAP assessments in math, ELA, and science.

Tennessee State Curriculum Standards

Standards for each grade level and subject may be found on the Tennessee Department of Education website.

[Link to Tennessee State Standards](#)

Units of Study

Social Studies: Fourth grade students will learn about the early development of democratic institutions, including the ideas and events that led to the independence of the Thirteen Colonies, the American Revolution, and the formation of a national government under the Constitution. Students will continue their studies with the development and growth of the United States through Manifest Destiny and the division of the country. Finally, students will explore the causes and effects of the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will utilize primary source documents, geographic tools, analysis, and critical thinking within this concentrated study of early U.S. history. Curriculum: Gallopade Social Studies

Science: By the end of fourth grade, students develop an understanding how plants, animals, and nonliving things in an ecosystem interact with each other. They analyze temporary and permanent changes caused by weather and living things on Earth's land and water, and they investigate how the placements of certain landforms create a predictable pattern. Students examine various types of energy transfer, including sound, light, heat, and electric currents, and model how energy transforms with added speed or in a collision. They create models to explain how waves travel and how waves of light become visible to humans.

Curriculum: McGraw-Hill Inspire Science

ELA: Literacy is a multi-faceted, complex relationship of interrelated skills. The ultimate goal of literacy instruction is for students to become proficient readers and writers. Fourth grade students will continue to develop skills in foundational literacy, language, reading across genres, writing informative, narrative, and opinion essays, speaking, and listening. Curriculum: Benchmark Advance

Math: Fourth grade students develop approaches, practices, and habits of mind that need to be in place in order to develop mathematical fluency, procedural skills, and conceptual understanding in the areas of Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Number and Operations in Base Ten and Fractions, Measurement, Data, and Geometry. Curriculum: Savaas EnVision Mathematics

Classroom Library of Books: Follow the link to a list of our classroom books. <https://www.libib.com/u/bader>

Course Materials/Supply List

- 3 composition books (black and white marbled, wide ruled, sewn cloth binding)
- 1 pack of colored pencils
- yellow #2 pencils (approximately 24)
- 1 pair of durable earbuds or headphones
- 1 reusable, spill-proof water bottle
- 4 glue sticks
- 1 roll of paper towels
- 1 box of tissues
- For related arts teachers: 1 container of disinfectant wipes
- For art class: sharpies, tape, disinfectant wipes (any amount)
- Optional: card stock (any color), colored paper, wide ruled notebook paper, dry erase markers, band-aids

Classroom Procedures and Expectations

Water Bottles: Students should bring a refillable water bottle daily, preferably one that is not metal and has a spill-proof, pop-top lid. Please do not allow students to bring anything but plain water in their water bottles.

Snack: Since fourth grade students eat lunch at 10:30, please send a healthy snack to be eaten in the afternoon. Students must provide their own snacks. Due to allergy concerns, I do not keep extra snacks on hand, and students may not share food.

Restroom: Fourth grade students may go to the restroom independently as needed throughout the school day as long as this is handled responsibly.

Leaving Class: Students must receive permission and sign out / in when leaving and returning to the classroom for any reason.

Phones / Smart Watches / Devices: Fourth grade students must keep personal phones, smart watches, and devices silenced in their backpacks throughout the school day. They may not access them without permission, except in the event of an emergency.

Attendance: Students receive new instruction every day. It is very difficult to “catch up” after missing instruction. Please make every effort to have excellent attendance. Since we begin school right at 8:00, it is important to arrive at least several minutes early, so students have time to get settled before starting their school day. If your child will be absent for any reason, please contact the school office.

Planners / Homework: Students will be given a planner where they will record homework assignments and other reminders. Please sign the planner each evening, and have your child return it to school every day.

Communication / Bloomz / Blue Folders: Classroom communication will be through the Bloomz app and blue folders. *Please ensure that every guardian is on Bloomz.* In addition, families should check blue folders each evening for student work and communication from the school.

Conferences: It is very important that we work together to ensure that your child has a successful year. Parent/ Teacher Conferences will be held during the first quarter, but I am happy to meet with you at any time throughout the school year. Because I have a busy schedule and household, I do ask that you contact me ahead of time to schedule a conference. I apologize that I will not be able to talk with you during the carline. My attention will solely be on student safety at that time.

Dismissal / Carline: Fourth grade students are picked up from the side entrance. Please ensure that anyone picking your child up is on the pick-up list. If your child is being picked up in a vehicle, the car tag must be displayed in the front window. If you need extra car tags, please contact Dr. Kelli Barnett at barnettk@etsu.edu. If there is a pick-up change, you must call the front office. I do not always receive emails or Bloomz messages in time, so this must be done through the front office.

Grading: Please check PowerSchool regularly for updated grades and attendance information. Contact the school office to get connected to PowerSchool.

University School Grading Scale

Total Points	Grade
100 – 90	A
89 - 80	B
79 - 70	C
69 - 60	D
59 - Below	F

Missing/Late Work Policy: Missing and late work will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. In general, students are given one day per day absent to complete and return missing work. Late work will receive a reduced grade.

Corrections: Students will be expected to make corrections on some assignments, quizzes, and tests. This will usually take place in class but will occasionally need to be completed at home. I typically do *not* adjust students' grades for making corrections, so it is important that they prepare ahead of time and put forth their best effort the first time. After scoring student work, if I conclude that it was particularly challenging or unfair, then I will award points back for making corrections or offer a participation / completion grade instead.

Testing Days: Testing days will be announced by the school in the weekly S'more newsletter.

Verification and 4th Grade Checklist: Please follow the link to the 4th Grade Back-to-School Checklist to verify that you've read our policies and procedures.

[4th Grade Checklist](#) Google Form