

Fourth Grade Syllabus

Welcome to Fourth Grade: We are looking forward to a great year with your child. The following contains standards and long-range plans for the year. We have also included some information you might find helpful during the year. Please consult the Lake Forest Student Handbook (located in your child's agenda and on the Lake Forest Website) for additional information not included here.

Weekly Communication

The weekly newsletter (Fourth Grade Features) is emailed on Mondays or sent home for those without an email address. The newsletter contains the spelling list, curriculum information, dates to remember, and teacher contact information.

Report Cards will be sent home at the end of each quarter.

Parent Conferences are required during the first nine weeks to go over standardized testing results. Additional parent conferences may be held if the student is not meeting expectations or as Special Education IEPs dictate.

Grading Scale: A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C: 70-79 D: 60-69 F: 59 and below

Students are given a variety of grades throughout the quarter. Math, Reading, Social Studies, and Science averages include minor grades which count 60% and major tests which count 40% of the final average. ELA scores have minor grades which count 60%, spelling grades which count 10%, and major grades which count 30% of the final average. The lowest minor grade will be dropped each quarter in each subject.

Attendance Policy: Lake Forest follows the attendance policies mandated by The School District of Greenville County and the State Department of Education. Students are dismissed to homeroom at 7:45. We start our day at 8:00. If a student has an excused absence, he/she has 5 days to make up the missed work. Students with more than three tardies a year will not be recognized for Perfect and Prompt Attendance at Awards Day even if the student has not been absent one day. Please limit early dismissals and try to schedule appointments after school.

Homework Policy: Homework is assigned daily. Homework is given as enrichment and review of skills learned in class. Your child is required to write homework assignments in the homework agenda/planner. Please make sure your child is completing his/her homework. You will be notified if your child is not doing his/her homework.

Behavior Policy: Lake Forest follows Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) Pride Expectations. If your child receives a Reflection Sheet, you will be required to sign it and return it the following day. You will be contacted by phone if behaviors do not improve, or if your child is especially disruptive.

Supplies: Please make sure your student comes prepared to school with the necessary materials to ensure maximum academic progress.

Daily Schedules are listed on our classroom websites.

Contact the Fourth Grade Team:

Mrs. Beavin - kbeavin@greenville.k12.sc.us - (864) 355-4034, Room 402

Mrs. Davidson - kdavidso@greenville.k12.sc.us - (864) 355-4020, Room 401

Ms. Greene - pgreene@greenville.k12.sc.us - (864) 355-4031, Room 400

Mrs. Van Tassel - lthudson@greenville.k12.sc.us - (864) 355-4025, Room 403

Pacing Guide for Fourth Grade Language Arts Curriculum

Standards may be viewed at <https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/>

Major Writing Projects for 4th Grade

1st Quarter Narrative Writing/Memoir, Oral History, Poetry

2nd Quarter Opinion Writing/Persuasive Piece, Friendly Letter, Poetry

3rd Quarter Informational Writing/Research

4th Quarter Opinion Writing/Research, Poetry

Major Reading Topics for 4th Grade

1st Quarter - Building a Reading Life/Choosing books, identifying story elements and themes, using phonics and word analysis

2nd Quarter—Closely Reading Complex Texts/Reading Informational text, identifying main ideas and details, finding problems and solutions, cause and effect, sequencing

3rd Quarter—Comparing/Contrasting—Tackling Complex Text, Further practice with story elements; characters, plot, and setting, more complex themes and ideas, determining point of view

4th Quarter—Learning through Reading/Identifying text features and purpose, more practice with text structures, including problem/solution, compare/contrast, cause/effect, question/answer, and sequential events.

Pacing Guide for Fourth Grade Science Curriculum

Standards may be viewed at <https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/>

Science in grade four focuses on providing students with the opportunity to learn concepts and skills in the life, earth, and physical sciences and to acquire scientific attitudes and habits of mind. The students' study of science includes observing, measuring, recording, questioning, analyzing, identifying, and drawing conclusions. Through their explorations, students develop an understanding of and an ability to apply the components of the scientific method. Specifically, fourth graders explore the sciences within the framework of the following topics: "Science and Engineering Practices" (scientific inquiry and science process skills), "Weather and Climate" (water cycle, types of clouds, and severe weather), "Stars and the Solar System" (Earth, Sun, Moon and planets), "Forms of Energy - Light and Sound" (reflection, refraction, pitch, and volume), and "Characteristics and Growth of Organisms" (patterns of behavior and changes in the environment).

First Quarter

Unit: Science and Engineering Practices

Unit Concepts: Scientific process skills, including communication, measurement, quantitative and qualitative data, predicting, drawing conclusions, observation, and making models.

Unit: Forms of Energy - Light and Sound

Unit Concepts: Properties of Light, Reflection, Refraction, Absorption, Transparent, Translucent, and Opaque Materials, Sound, Pitch, Volume

Second Quarter

Unit: Stars and the Solar System

Unit Concepts: Solar System Movements, Moon, Shadows, Tools

Third Quarter

Unit: Weather and Climate

Unit Concepts: Water Cycle, Clouds, Weather Conditions, Severe Weather, Storms, Weather Tools, Weather Predicting

Fourth Quarter

Unit: Characteristics and Growth of Organisms

Unit Concepts: Flowering Plant, Non-flowering plant, Seed, Vertebrate, Invertebrate, Senses, Inherited Behaviors, Acquired Behaviors, Adaptations

Review of Standards Taught/Standardized Testing

Pacing Guide for Fourth Grade Social Studies Curriculum

United States History: First Americans to Reconstruction

Standards may be viewed at <https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/>

First Quarter

Unit 1 Topic: Exploration and Native Americans

Unit 2 Topic: Settlement of the United States

Unit 3 Topic: Colonies Unite

Second Quarter

Conclusion of Unit 3: Colonies Unite

Unit 4 Topic: A Nation Emerges

Unit 5 Topic: Motivations to Expand

Third Quarter

Conclusion of Unit 5 Motivations to Expand

Unit 6 Topic: Effects of Expansion

Unit 7 Topic: A Nation Divided

Fourth Quarter

Conclusion of Unit 7: A Nation Divided

Unit 8 Topic: Rebuilding a Nation

Pacing Guide for Fourth Grade Math Curriculum

Standards may be viewed at <https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/>

Quarter 1

Applying Place Value Concepts in Addition and Subtraction

Exploring Factors and Multiples

Using Multiplication and Division Strategies

Quarter 2

Composing and Decomposing Fractions for Addition and Subtraction

Recognizing and Analyzing Attributes of 2-D Shapes

Understanding Fraction Equivalency and Comparisons

Quarter 3

Angle Measurement

Introduction to Measurement Conversions

Solving Problems Using Multiplicative Comparisons

Solving Measurement Problems Using Operations

Quarter 4

Solving Addition and Subtraction Problems with Fractions

Multiplying Fractions by Whole Numbers

Comparing Decimals and Fractions

Problem Solving with Whole Numbers

Review for Standardized Testing