

PVSchools Parents' Guide to Student Success: Fourth Grade

Help Your Child Learn at Home

In fourth grade, your child will build stamina to read challenging materials, develop deeper vocabulary in content areas, and gain the ability to explain orally and in writing explicit details. Your child will do arithmetic and solve word problems with multi-digit numbers and fractions.

Key ideas to support your child's learning:

- Provide time and space for your child to read independently. This time should be free from distractions such as television.
- Use technology to help build your child's interest in reading.
- Talk with your child about topics they are reading. Model how to develop and support these topics with facts, details, and reasons.
- Involve your child in scheduling his/her own time, such as homework, TV, etc.
- Help your child seek information using a variety of resources. (Looking at a map for directions, following multi-step directions in a recipe or manual, and using the Internet).
- Have your child participate in monetary activities such as shopping and managing an allowance.

Arizona State Standards

The Arizona State Standards are a state-led effort designed to improve educational outcomes for students.

- are aligned with college and work expectations
- are clear, understandable, and consistent;
- include rigorous content and application of knowledge
- build on strengths and lessons of current state standards
- prepares students to succeed in a global economy and society
- are evidence-based

Key Shifts for Students

English Language Arts (ELA) / Literacy

1. Read as much non-fiction as fiction
2. Learn about the world by reading
3. Read more challenging material closely
4. Discuss reading using evidence
5. Write non-fiction using evidence
6. Increase academic vocabulary

Mathematics

1. **Focus:** Building on foundational skills that matter most to understanding arithmetic
2. **Coherence:** Making math make sense by building onto foundational skills from grade to grade
3. **Rigor:** With equal intensity apply conceptual understanding, procedural skills, and fluency

Resources

Arizona Department of Education

<http://www.azed.gov/>

Arizona K-12 Academic Standards

<http://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/>

English Language Learners

<http://www.azed.gov/english-language-learners/>

Common Core State Standards Initiative

<http://www.corestandards.org/>

Parent Roadmaps to Common Core Standards

<http://cgcs.schoolwires.net/domain/36>

National Parent Teacher Association

<http://www.pta.org/>

Expect More Arizona

<http://www.expectmorearizona.org/>

Educational Student Websites

ConnectED: <https://learn.pvschools.net/>

FROST: PVSchools Tutoring, frost@pvschools.net
PVSchools Tutoring, # 602-449-2399

Kahn Academy: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

ABCYA: <http://www.abcya.com/>

IXL: <https://www.ixl.com/>

PBS: <http://www.pbs.org/>

Reading Rockets: <http://www.readingrockets.org/>

Starfall: <http://www.starfall.com/>

Key Boarding:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/>

Cursive:

<http://donnayoung.org/penmanship/cursive-animations.htm>

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English Language Arts / Literacy

A sample of ELA standards includes:

Reading Literature

- By the end of the year, read and comprehend increasingly complex text in the grade 4-5 text complexity band.
- Describing the basic elements of stories by drawing on specific details in the text.
- Compare/contrast points of view from different stories including first/third person.

Reading Informational Text

- Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- Interpret information presented visually, orally or quantitatively (e.g., charts, graphs, or interactive webpages).

Reading Foundations

- Know and apply grade level phonics and combine syllabication patterns to read accurately.

Writing

- Writing summaries or opinions about topics supported with a set of well-organized facts, details, and examples.
- With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, and using technology and keyboarding skills to produce a min. of one page in a single setting.

Speaking and Listening

- Paraphrasing and responding to information presented in discussions, such as comparing and contrasting ideas and analyzing evidence that speakers use to support particular events.

Language

- Use standard English and usage with writing or speaking and producing complete sentences.

Mathematics

A sample of math standards includes:

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Solve multi-step word problems using the four operations and a letter for the unknown quantity

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Fluently add and subtract multi-digit whole numbers
- Use place value and the properties of operations to: multiply a whole number up to four digits, multiply two two-digit numbers, find whole number quotients and remainders

Number and Operations - Fractions

- Compare two fractions with different numerators and different denominators
- Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions using models & equations

Measurement and Data

- Use the four operations to solve word problems involving distances, intervals of time, liquid volumes, masses of objects, and money
- Solve addition/subtraction problems to find unknown angles

Geometry

- Draw points, lines, line segments, rays, angles, and perpendicular and parallel lines; identify these in two-dimensional figures

Social Studies

Fourth graders will cover such topics as Arizona's history, state symbols and monuments, branches of state government. Other topics include the study of cultures of the Southwest, the Aztec and Incan empires; learn the characteristics of maps, how geographical features change over time, and discuss foundational economic concepts.

Science

A sample of science standards includes:

- Inquiry processes, observations, and hypothesis
- History & Nature of Science
- Science in Personal & Social Perspectives
- Life Science
- Physical Science
- Earth & Space Science

FOSS (Full Option Science System) Kits

- Energy
- Soils, Rocks, and Landforms
- Water and Climate

Transitioning to 5th Grade

In fifth grade your child will be expected to work and learn more independently. The standards continue to build on previous years standards.

- Communicate with your child's 4th grade teacher to identify skills needed for success in fifth grade.
- Fifth graders will need to read more challenging texts and must show evidence in every day discussions/disagreements about the text.
- Students will draw on information from multiple print or digital resources, demonstrating ability to locate an answer to a question quickly.