

Fourth Grade Teachers

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Grade Four Web News

In Integrated Language Arts, fourth graders work extensively on reading and writing strategies. Students read a variety of text, fiction and nonfiction, many of which are connected to the content areas which gives their reading a specific purpose. For example, while studying electricity in science, children read about Ben Franklin and Thomas Edison. Fourth graders also use the Houghton Mifflin Leveled Reading Series. Students learn and use strategies to understand, interpret, and evaluate text. Writing is broken down into six traits that help students learn, identify and develop better writing skills.

In fourth grade, students begin to refine their math skills. New concepts are presented with concrete materials to help students become more successful in understanding the more abstract concepts. "I hear, and I forget. I see and I remember. I do, and I understand" -Chinese Proverb. Creating this foundation is supported by the Maryland Standards for Mathematics and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Standards. Topics will include number relationships and computation, measurement, algebra patterns and functions, probability, reasoning, statistics, communication, geometry and problem solving. Being able to recall basic math facts will support learning these new concepts.

Science units are motivating and hands on. They include Water Quality, Electricity, Energy, Adaptations, Force and Motion, and Light and Sound.

Our health curriculum, presented by the health special area teacher, includes Personal Safety, Substance Abuse, and Disability Awareness. In the spring, students are introduced to "Growing Up and Liking It". A parent preview will be scheduled prior to this program.

In Social Studies fourth graders learn Geography and Map Skills, Native Americans, Explorers, Colonization, Slavery pre 1750, Economics and Life in the 1700's. Maryland is imbedded in each of these units.

Fourth graders take the MSA test in the spring. Instrumental and chorus are highlights of fourth grade, as well as cultural programs that enrich our curriculum. We will take a field trip to Piney Run Park to take part in the Lake Study Class.

In May look forward to our Spring Instrumental and Vocal Music Concerts.