

Springing into Grade 4

Nuuanu
Elementary
School

In grade 4, students are able to read fluently with few mistakes. When encountering unknown words, fourth graders should be able to figure out the pronunciation and meaning by looking at prefixes and suffixes for clues as well the context of the sentence or passage.

They continue to become familiar with various genre such as mythology and literature from other countries. Attention to details and examples in a text is important as the students are asked more complex questions such as, “How do you know this would happen?, Where do you think that message came from? “ Being able to explain key ideas in a story or the problem and solution is a learning goal for fourth graders. When reading non-fiction passages, students focus on the vocabulary of the topic and explain concepts and important information using these terms. When thinking about the information, fourth graders connect ideas and come to a conclusion, which is communicated through oral or written reports. Research, including the analysis of data through charts, diagrams, or interactive elements on Web pages, is part of the reading, writing and speaking process as students are encouraged to collaborate with peers and use media as a source of information gathering.

In writing, grade 4 students focus on composing an opinion paper. Here, they support a point of view with reason and information. Skills include introduction of the topic, stating a viewpoint, supporting the viewpoint with facts and details and providing a conclusion. A clear sense of organization is a target for all students and provides clarity for the reader or audience.

Appropriate grammar and usage is demonstrated when writing or speaking. Students are taught the use of pronouns and adverbs, verb tenses, adjectives and prepositional phrases.

You may want to review the list that follows to see if you would like to teach your child before those first few days of school.



- ☻ Have your child read books from favorite authors
- ☻ Ask them to tell you about the characters, events and setting including at least 2 details for each one
- ☻ Encourage your child to read non-fiction books on a topic of their interest
- ☻ Ask them to share with you a new fact that they think you would be interested in
- ☻ Watch a segment of the news together and ask your child his/her opinion and why they believe in that point of view
- ☻ Ask your child to compare a similar experience to that of one of the characters in the story
- ☻ Search through magazines for synonyms and antonyms
- ☻ Challenge your child to use these words in conversations

Have your child read daily. Support your local library and take advantage of the summer reading

Books to Read This Summer

FICTION TITLES

Eggs by Jerry Spinelli
Fablehaven by Brandon Mull
The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman
Jimmy's Stars by Mary Ann Rodman
Keeping Score by Linda Sue Park

NON-FICTION TITLES

The Down to Earth Guide to Global Warming by Laurie David and Cambria Gordan
Friends: making Them and Keeping Them by Patty Kelley Criswell
Owen and Mzee: The Language of Friendship by Isabella and Craig Hatkoff and Paula Kuhumbu
Oh, Rats! The Story of Rats and People by Albert Marrin

Mathematics

Grade 4 Math

Students in grade 4 will be involved in numerous math activities surrounding calculations in word problems, measurement, fractions, and decimals.

By the end of grade 4, students should solidly know the basic facts. Adding and subtracting whole numbers quickly and accurately for numbers up to a million is one of the learning goals. Children will be expected to perform multi-digit multiplication and division such as $1,5403 \times 7$ or 9876 divided by 12 .

Students work on understanding and applying equivalent fractions. Recognizing that $\frac{1}{4}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$ because $\frac{2}{8}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$ are examples of this standard. Adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions are introduced and found in word problems. As students work with fractions, they are also introduced to the concept of decimals and shown how one relates to the other. They use symbols such as $<$, $>$, and $=$ to compare fractions and decimals.

In geometry, students explore concepts of angles, sides, plane figures, etc. They solve problems involving measurement and learn to convert larger units into smaller ones and vice-versa. Angles are classified according to their measurement. Here, the terminology, right, acute, obtuse and straight are introduced and used to identify similarities and differences between sets of angles. Protractors become the principle tool for measuring these angles and figures.



Activities to Try in the Summer



Mathematical Practices

*MAKING SENSE OF PROBLEMS AND
*PERSEVERE IN SOLVING THEM
*REASON ABSTRACTLY AND QUANTITATIVELY
*CONSTRUCT VIABLE ARGUMENTS AND CRITIQUE THE REASONING OF OTHERS
*MODEL WITH MATHEMATICS
*USE APPROPRIATE TOOLS STRATEGICALLY
*ATTEND TO PRECISION
*LOOK FOR AND MAKE USE OF STRUCTURE
*LOOK FOR AND EXPRESS REGULARITY IN REPEATED REASONING

- Review all addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts daily
- Ask your child to help with recipes that you have to double
- Measure ingredients for a dinner dish
- Practice adding and subtracting with decimals
- Have your child pay at the store and check the change he receives
- Cut out ads from the newspaper that shows a percentage off items and show your child how to compute the savings
- Compare items from two stores and have your child decide which offers a better savings
- Practice using a protractor
- Open a bank account for your child and have him fill out the deposit and/or withdrawal slips
- Have your child draw 5 cards from a deck and have him arrange the cards so that it represents the largest number

