

GRADE FOUR EXPECTATIONS

Reading and Language Arts

The fourth grade language arts curriculum places an emphasis on the student's ability to read and write well independently. Children are expected to read and summarize in writing what they have read using their own words. In fourth grade, students are expected to reach the language arts goals of the Connecticut Mastery Test.

By the end of grade four, your child will be expected to:

- Read fluently for pleasure and to learn new information. By the time a child enters fourth grade, he or she should be reading to learn new information rather than learning how to read.
- Use strategies to read unfamiliar text and learn from reading. A few strategies are: predicting what will happen next, using context clues for meaning, and checking headings.
- Use the pictures and the organization of a book such as chapters and headings to understand text.
- Use simple graphics such as charts, maps, and drawings to understand non-fictional text.
- Identify important characters, settings, events, and details to show an understanding and appreciation of literature.
- Learn new vocabulary by studying how to read, spell and write root words such as unfriendly, prefixes such as bicycle and tricycle and suffixes such as likely to determine meanings.

- Write an organized and fluent response to a prompt (write about a given subject) that uses specific details and examples (for example: explain how to make something in 2 pages).
- Work in large and small groups to complete a clearly defined task and then report the results.
- Prepare and deliver at least a 1 minute speech to inform about a single topic or event.

Mathematics

The grade four curriculum places emphasis on the student's understanding of problem solving strategies, the meaning of fractions, decimals, probability and estimation.

Grade four students should, by the end of the school year:

- Compare and order whole numbers, fractions and decimals.
- Recognize, extend, and create patterns and clearly state the rule for patterns.
- Using whole numbers, add up to three 4-digit addends with and without regrouping and subtract up to two 4-digit whole numbers.
- Using whole numbers, multiply up to a 4-digit number by a 1-digit number and divide up to a 3-digit dividend by a 1-digit divisor with or without remainders.
- Add or subtract two fractions with like denominators, and add or subtract decimals to the hundredths.
- Estimate then solve a one-step story problem involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division using whole numbers and money amounts.
- Determine, collect, organize, and analyze data needed to solve a story problem, and record such data in tables, charts, or graphs.
- Identify, classify, and draw two and three-dimensional figures such as a square and cube.

- Determine the area and perimeter (the distance around an object) of a square and rectangle.
- Estimate and measure the length, capacity, or weight of an object using customary and metric measures.

Science

Utilizing the fourth grade science curriculum, the students will be able to engage in Scientific Inquiry, Electricity, Magnetism, Motion, the Water Cycle, and Ecosystems.

By the end of grade four, the student will:

- Describe the effects of the strengths of pushes and pulls on the motion of objects.
- Describe the effect of the mass of an object on its motion.
- Describe how animals, directly or indirectly, depend on plants to provide the food and energy they need in order to grow and survive.
- Describe how natural phenomena and some human activities may cause changes to habitats and their inhabitants.
- Describe how the sun's energy impacts the water cycle.
- Describe the role of water in erosion and river formation.
- Describe how batteries and wires can transfer energy to light a light bulb.
- Explain how simple electrical circuits can be used to determine which materials conduct electricity.

Science *(Continued)*

- Describe the properties of magnets, and how they can be used to identify and separate mixtures of solid materials.

Social Studies

In fourth grade social studies, students study the geography, culture and economy of regions in the United States and compare these regions with other regions in the world. Students also begin the study of Connecticut.

By the end of grade four the student will:

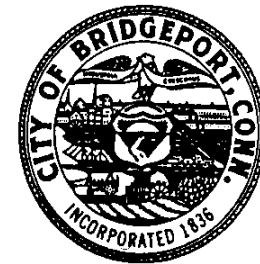
- Understand the unique geography of the world's regions and how it influences the way people live.

- Describe how the United States is divided into 50 states and understand the geographical regions of the United States.
- Explain how people of long ago and people of today have similar needs but meet them in different ways.
- Explain how great individuals, as well as groups, have made an impact on the history of various states.
- Explain how money, work, land, and other resources are used to meet the needs of people.
- Describe how cultural groups develop distinctive foods, clothing styles, and shelters which suit their natural environment.
- Describe how cultural groups learn from each other.
- Explain how American society reflects the contributions of men and women of different races and ethnic groups.
- Identify Connecticut on a map and explain specific geographic and physical features of Connecticut.
- Explain the various Native American and colonial settlements of Connecticut.
- Identify symbols related to Connecticut such as, the state flag, motto, animal, tree, bird and flower.
- Explain hemispheres and lines of latitude and longitude on a map.

To be considered for promotion to grade five, students must demonstrate at least 80% mastery of Bridgeport Public Schools' Grade Four Student Expectations for Learning in reading and math. Mastery will be assessed through portfolios and report card grades.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR LEARNING

Bridgeport Public Schools



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