



GRADE 4

Hopes and dreams for this year...

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing.



Social Studies in 4th Grade

In order to build social studies skills, your fourth grader will practice research and presenting research on past and present events (using technology), learn how to explain an opinion, writes essays, read primary and secondary sources, and use and create multiple types of sources including art, film, poetry and fiction to learn and show what he has learned about historical events and the following social studies concepts.

Major Concepts

Geography

- How geography affects a community

Past and Current Events

- Read primary and secondary sources and use technology to research and learn about different events, people, and topics

Government and Civic Responsibility

- Deepen understanding

Economic Principles

- How one's community affects his or her economy and business

Cause and Effect

- Explain and learn why things happen or happened

Resources

Apps

Barefoot World Atlas

Interactive 3D globe

History Today

What happened on this day in history

Kids Planet Discovery

Cultures, animals, music, dress, geography, and more

Geo Walk

Animals, plants, historical events, people and inventions

Stack the States

Capitals, shapes, geographic locations, flags and more

Britannica Kids U.S. Presidents

Meet-and-greet with U.S. presidents

US Geography With Flat Stanley HD

State geographic locations, capitals, flags, spelling

Stack the Countries

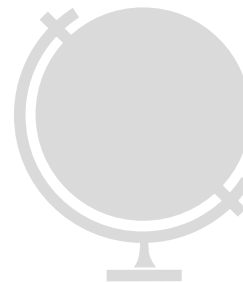
Colorful, dynamic game about countries

BrainPOP Jr. Movie of the Week

Educational weekly animations and activities

Social Studies Friendzy

Social Studies games app



Museums to Help Learn About Social Studies

The Creamery
(315) 658-8307

Erie Canal Museum
(315) 471-0593

Everson Museum of Art
(315) 474-6064

International Mask and Puppet Museum
(315) 476-0466

Jamesville Community Museum
(315) 492-4890

Liverpool Willow Museum
(315) 451-7091

Manlius Historical Society Museum
(315) 682-6660

Museum of Science and Technology (MOST)
(315) 425-0747

Onondaga Historical Association Museum
(315) 428-1864

Salt Museum
(315) 453-6715

Shacksboro School House Museum
(315) 638-2452

The Stickley Museum
(315) 682-5500, ext. 2616

Syracuse Polish Home
(315) 471-9348

Wilcox Octagon House
(315) 488-8997

Practice at Home!

Help your child learn outside of school using these activities.

Current Events

Read local newspapers, magazines, and websites with your child. Look at the pictures and talk about important events or news. Even if your child doesn't read the articles, you can summarize the subjects for them.

Try it

What are some newspapers, magazines or websites you can read with your child?

Example: Scholastic News (Kids Magazine)

Newspaper: _____

Magazine: _____

Website: _____

Regional Heritage

Learn about the impressive heritage of the native people of our region!

Try it

Visit the **Skä•noñh Great Law of Peace Center**. As their website says "The Skä•noñh – Great Law of Peace Center is a Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Heritage Center focused on telling the story of the native peoples of central New York. The history is told through the lens of the Onondaga Nation and covers topics such as Creation, European Contact, The Great Law of Peace, and more."

6680 Onondaga Lake Pkwy
Liverpool, NY 13088
(315) 453-6767

What did you and your child learn?

Local History

Deep your understanding of local and state history by visiting the suggested museums below.

Try it

Visit the **Erie Canal Museum**. A trip to this museum will help your fourth grader learn about the great changes that the canal brought to Syracuse. Syracuse would not exist, in fact, without the canal. As their website says, "The Erie Canal Museum is dedicated to preserving and showcasing the the 1850 National Register Weighlock Building, the last remaining structure of its kind, and to telling the incredible adventure story of the Erie Canal. Come aboard a full size replica canal boat. Explore life in a canal town."

318 Erie Blvd E.
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 471-0593

What did you and your child learn?

Visit the **Onondaga Historical Association**. A trip to this museum will give your fourth grader and you a great understanding of local and state history from the time of Native Americans to the abolitionists to the present day.

321 Montgomery St.
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 428-1864

What did you and your child learn?



ELA in 4th Grade

Students in grades 3-5 should experience a balance of literature (fiction) and informational (non-fiction) texts and have discussions about texts that support language development as well as the building of background knowledge about important topics. Students should be frequently engaged in text-based reading, speaking, and writing tasks. While specific standards vary a bit as students move through grades 3-5, the major concepts remain the same; the biggest difference is that the skills are applied in increasingly more challenging text in each grade.

Assessments

STAR Assessment: STAR Assessments are short tests taken in the Fall, Winter and Spring that provide teachers with information on your child's skills in relation to grade level standards and other students in the same grade.

- Teachers analyze the results to learn what students already know and what they are ready to learn next, to monitor student growth, and to determine which students may need additional help. STAR Assessments are heavily researched and scientifically proven to help teachers guide each student on his or her unique path to mastery.

ANet Assessment: ANet assessments, taken 3 times a year, measure what your child has or hasn't learned through classroom instruction and what they might need additional exposure to or practice with.

Tips to prepare for any assessment:

- Get a good night's rest (The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends 9-12 hours of sleep every night for 6-12 year olds)
- Have a healthy breakfast

STAR Assessments

	Fall	Winter	Spring
Test Date			
Score			

ANet Assessments

Test Date			
Score			

Major Concepts

Reading

- Ask and answer questions to determine key ideas in a text
- Identify a theme or central idea and support with details
- Understand point of view
- Explain how illustrations or graphics contribute to meaning in a text

Foundational Skills

- Apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills to read words
- Read grade level text with accuracy and appropriate rate and expression

Writing

- Write an argument to state a claim and use reasons and evidence to support it
- Write informative/explanatory texts to give information about a topic
- Write stories to develop real or imagined experiences or events

Speaking and Listening

- Participate in discussions with peers, expressing ideas clearly and building on the ideas of others
- Determine central ideas and details from information presented in a variety of texts and formats (speeches, data/graphs, artwork, videos, etc.)
- Ask and answer questions to evaluate a speaker's point of view
- Report on a topic, speaking clearly, and with appropriate facts and details

Language

- Understand the conventions of spoken and written English (pauses, punctuation, etc.)
- Determine the meaning of unknown words and phrases by using text clues or word parts

Practice at Home!

Help your child learn outside of school using these activities.

Reading

Provide time and space for your child to read independently. This time should be free from distractions such as television, electronics and cell phones.

Try it

Make it a routine! When and where will your child read?

Day (s): _____

Time (s): _____

Where: _____

Ask your child what topics, events, or activities he or she likes. Then look for books, magazines, or other materials about those topics that would motivate your child to read.

Try it

What topics, events or activities interest your child?

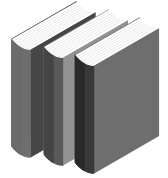
Write down a few book or magazine ideas.

It is also helpful when your child sees other people reading at home. You could share what you have read.

Try it

What are some books you'd like to read this year?

Start a family book club. Let different members of the family pick the book. This could be a good way to enjoy quality family time while experiencing the joy of reading together!



Try it

Write down a few ideas for books your family might enjoy!

Be sure your child has a library card. Children should select books or magazines they are interested in to develop a passion for reading. Many libraries have family activities that make reading fun for the entire family.

Try it

Which library is nearest you? Go to www.onlib.org for information on the Onondaga County Public Libraries.

My library is: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Use technology to help build your child's interest in reading. There are several websites where students can read books or articles online. The computer will help with words the student cannot read independently. Libraries also have computers students can use to access those sites. Feel free to ask a librarian or teacher for suggestions.

Try it

List any suggestions you may receive throughout the year.



Major Concepts

Multiplication

- Develop understanding and fluency with multi-digit multiplication

Division

- Develop understanding of dividing to find quotients involving multi-digit dividends

Fractions

- Fraction equivalence
- Addition and subtraction of fractions with like denominators
- Multiplication of fractions by whole numbers

Place Value

- Quickly and accurately add and subtract numbers through 1,000,000 using knowledge of place value

Geometry

- Geometric properties such as parallel sides, perpendicular sides, angle measures, and symmetry

Assessments

STAR Assessment: The STAR Assessment is taken in the Fall, Winter and Spring.

- **STAR Assessments** are given district-wide three times per year. Some students' progress is being monitored more often.

Ask to see your child's STAR Early Numeracy and/or STAR Math scores and ask the teacher to explain what the scores mean.

Unit assessments are given at the end of each module/topic of study.

- Ask to see what a unit assessment looks like and how your child has been performing on these assessments.

Tips to prepare for any assessment:

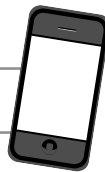
- Get a good night's rest (The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends 9-12 hours of sleep every night for 6-12 year olds)
- Have a healthy breakfast

Resources

Digital Tools

Ask your child's teacher if they are using digital content in school and if so, what program (ST Math, Dreambox, etc..)

Ask how you can access that content on a device from home.



Web

www.xtramath.org
www.coolmath4kids.com
www.funbrain.com
www.mathplayground.com/wordproblems.html
www.mathstories.com

STAR Assessments



	Fall	Winter	Spring
Test Date			
Score			

Practice at Home!

Help your child learn outside of school using these activities.

Multiplication and Division

Help your child to know and memorize the basic multiplication and division facts.

Try it

Use flash cards, dice, etc. and look for opportunities for your child to practice multiplication and division as it occurs in everyday life (counting, buying multiple items, sharing items, etc.).

What are some examples you can use?

Example: How much would 13 ice cream cones at \$2 each cost?

Equivalent Fractions

You will need: fraction strips, journal/ paper.

- Find all the ways to make $\frac{1}{2}$ using your fraction strips.
- Record your work and label your fractions.

$\frac{1}{2}$	
$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$

- Repeat the same steps for the following fractions:

$$\frac{1}{3} \quad \frac{1}{4} \quad \frac{3}{4} \quad \frac{1}{5} \quad \frac{2}{6} \quad \frac{4}{6}$$

- What conclusions can you make?

- Determine a rule for finding equivalent fractions.

Sharing Cherry Pie

You will need: fraction strips

- Lauren and Morgan are sharing a cherry pie. The pie is cut into 8 equal slices. If they put the slices into two containers to eat later, what fraction of the pie could be in each container?
 - Draw three different models and write matching equations to show how the pie could be shared.

Container 1: _____ Container 2: _____

Container 1: _____ Container 2: _____

Container 1: _____ Container 2: _____



Science in 4th Grade

Our 4th grade students are learning science through FOSS (Full Option Science System). This program has three modules that each student will have the opportunity to experience.

Major Concepts

Energy

- Focuses on the concepts that energy is present whenever there is motion, electric current, sound, light, or heat, and that energy can transfer from one place to other
- Students investigate electricity and magnetism!

Soils, Rocks, and Landforms

- Provides students with firsthand experiences with soils and rocks and modeling experiences using tools such as topographic maps and stream tables to study changes to rocks and landforms at Earth's surface
- Students focus on the concepts that weathering by water, ice, wind, living organisms, and gravity breaks rocks into smaller pieces

Environments

- Focuses on the concepts that organisms have structures and behaviors, including senses, that serve functions in growth, survival and reproduction, and living organisms depend on one another and on their environment for their survival

Assessments

NYS Science Assessment: The NYS Science assessment is given in 4th grade. It is a K-4 assessment, which means materials taught at each grade level K-4, can be included on the exam. This test consists of 30 multiple choice questions, 15 short answer questions, and a performance test which contains three stations.

Tips to prepare for any assessment:

- Get a good night's rest (The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends 9-12 hours of sleep every night for 6-12 year olds)
- Have a healthy breakfast

Resources

Books

Natural Disasters

by Claire Watts and Trevor Day

The New 50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth

by EarthWorks Group

One Minute Mysteries

by Eric Yoder and Natalie Yoder

The Everything Kids' Science Experiments Book: Boil Ice, Float Water, Measure Gravity-Challenge the World Around You!

by J. Elizabeth Mills



Apps

Brain Builders in Science

Enriching, interactive activities

Brain POP

Movies, quizzes and related interactive materials

Google Earth

Explore the globe with a swipe of your finger

ITooch

Educational activities based on Common Core



Explore Science Locally

Baltimore Woods

(315) 673-1350

Beaver Lake Nature Center

(315) 638-2519

Bricks 4 Kidz

(315) 632-8592

Clark's Reservation

(315) 492-1590

The Museum of Science and Technology (MOST)

(315) 425-9068

Rosamond Gifford Zoo

(315) 435-8511

Wonderworks

(315) 466-7700

Practice at Home!

Help your child learn outside of school using these activities.

Experiment

Find a science topic that interests your child. You could study weather, growth of plants, motion, or electricity.

Try it

Have your child write down observations on their selected topic in a science journal. Have them work on questions such as:

What did you study?

What did you see?

What questions do you have about your experiments?

Hypothesize

There are several ways in which you can help your child make predictions, or hypothesize why something may or may not happen. Ask questions while you cook, or do other basic activities around the house. Ask him/her to explain why something may or may not happen.

Try it

What can you hypothesize about around the house?

Example: If you add an ice cube to a glass of water and allow it to melt completely, what do you think will happen to the water level?

Investigate How Something Works

Choose a technology or household machine (i.e. cell phone, DVD player, television, satellite dish, etc.) and do some research on it!

Try it

Use books, online resources, or have your child bring home information from their school library. Have students create some sort of model, drawing, or diagram which demonstrates how it works. Use the chart below to keep track of your research.

Technology/ Item:

Book(s)

Website(s)

Model, Drawing or Diagram?



Arts in 4th Grade

The arts are an important part of a complete education, allowing students to develop artistic skills in the four artistic processes of creating, presenting/performing, responding, and connecting. In Fourth Grade, students will begin to use their knowledge and skills as artists and musicians.

Starting in the Fourth Grade, students are able to start instruction on an orchestral or band instrument.

Major Concepts

Drawing, painting, printmaking and clay work skills previously learned and:

- Balance
- Perspective
- Value and shading

Singing and playing classroom instruments skills previously learned and:

- More complex rhythmic notation
- Pitch syllables for the entire scale
- Partner songs

Resources

Art Apps

Sketchbook
PixPop Art
DoInk
ArtSet Pro
Making Emoji
Art Project



Music Apps

GarageBand
MonkeyDrum
Note Perfect
Ear Trainer
Note for Little Drummers

Dance Apps

QDancer
Kids Dance
Pirate Sessa
GoNoodle

Theater Apps

The Complete Fairytale
Play Theater
Kids' Theatre Works

Keep up with
SCSD Arts events
with the Fine Arts
calendar!



Art Exhibit



Date	Location

Music Concerts



Date	Location

Arts in the Syracuse Community

Everson Museum of Art
ArtRage Gallery
Community Folk Art Center
Open Hand Theater/
International Puppet Museum

Stone Quarry Hill Art Park
Corning Museum of Glass
Syracuse Stage
The Redhouse Arts Center

Gifford Family Theater
Famous Artists Broadway
Series
Symphoria

Syracuse Children's Chorus
Syracuse Children's Theatre
CNY Jazz

Practice at Home!

Help your child learn outside of school using these activities.

Art at Home

Discuss historic events and the artwork connected to them, visit museums or art shows and discuss the work seen.

Try it

List books and museums you and your child can discuss or visit.

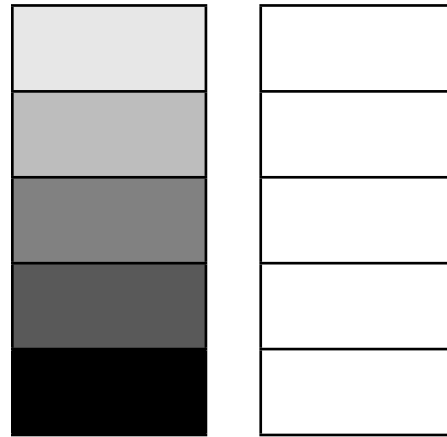
Perspective

Value

When an artist uses value, they are deciding to use a variety of shades to make their artwork look more realistic and enhance the composition with more dimension.

Try it

Have your child use a pencil to create a value scale on the right (completed value scale on the left).

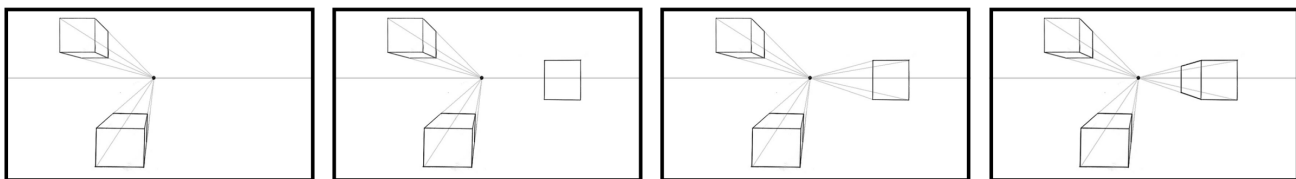


One Point Perspective Cubes

This exercise explains how to draw a cube in one point perspective and takes you through the task of drawing three simple blocks that are positioned above, below and in line with the horizon line.

KEY POINTS:

- Objects above the horizon line are drawn as if you are looking up at them (you see the bottom of the object)
- Objects below the horizon line are drawn as if you are looking down on them (you see the top of the object)
- Objects that are in line with the horizon line are drawn as if they are at eye level (you see neither the top or the bottom of the object)



www.studentartguide.com

Music

Discuss different styles of music and note similarities and differences, listen to and discuss music from other cultures, practice music from school at home. Review notes and rests using the activity below.

Try it

1. Circle the quarter note.



2. Circle the half note.



3. Circle the whole note.



4. Circle the eighth notes.



5. Circle the dotted half note.



6. Circle the quarter rest.



7. Circle the half rest.



8. Write any notes or rests of 4 beats in each measure (2 measures).

4



bethsnotes.com



Physical Education in 4th Grade

In fourth grade, we will be working on building more muscle strength and developing greater coordination, balance, and stamina. These abilities are developed through activities such as throwing, catching, and hitting balls, riding a bike, and climbing on playground equipment. Physical activity at this age should include games and sports that focus on these fundamental skills. Unstructured playtime remains important, but as your child's ability to run and jump and throw, kick, and catch a ball with accuracy improves, organized sports such as baseball or soccer may be worth exploring. Other activities to consider include dance, swimming, and gymnastics.

What Your Child Might Be Learning

- Understands that you need to move 60 minutes every day
- Understands that physical activity helps you learn
- Your child should be able to combine different kinds of movements with ease, like jumping to catch a ball and then running with it
- Your child should be able to do several sit-ups at a time
- Your child should be able to do several push-ups at a time, lifting only their chest off the ground
- Your child should be able to kick a ball with accuracy at a target 10 to 15 feet away
- Your child should be able to catch a small ball with their hands, without holding it against their body
- Your child should be able to put together a tumbling routine including stunts such as rolls, balances, and cartwheels
- Your child should be able to jump rope with a rope they are holding for more than 20 seconds
- Recognizes that healthy food provides you with energy

What Does My Child Need for Physical Education Class?

Students are expected to come to the gym prepared for a class full of learning and DOING

- Safe and secure gym shoes with a non-marking sole.
- Comfortable clothing so kids are free to run, roll, and scoot.
- A positive attitude and lots of energy.

Proper nutrition, adequate sleep, and physical activity can all impact academic performance and overall mental and physical wellness. Support healthy behaviors at any age.

What days does my child have PE class?

--

Grades by Quarter

2 nd Quarter	4 th Quarter

Resources

Web

SHAPE: Society of Health and Physical Educator
www.shapeamerica.org

Fuel Up To Play 60
www.futp60.com

Onondaga Health Department
healthyliving.ongov.net

Cornell Cooperative Extension
cceaonondaga.org/nutrition-health

American Heart Association
healthyforgood.heart.org

Movement and Mindfulness
www.gonoodle.com

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation
www.healthiergeneration.org/live_healthier/get_moving/increase_physical_activity

Practice at Home!

Help your child learn outside of school using these activities.

Staying Active

Make time to encourage your child to participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity per day. Walking, jogging, biking, swimming or playground play is appropriate activities for you to engage your child.

Try it!

What activities can your student incorporate into their weekly schedule?

It is also helpful when your child sees other people doing physical activity at home. As a parent/guardian you are the role model. You can get involved in your child's physical activities. Something as simple as a walk in the morning or evening is enough to impact a child and push him or her to stay active.

Exploring Interests

Try it!

Ask your child what sports, events, or activities he or she likes. Then look for books, magazines, or other materials about those topics that would motivate your child to read about the activity.

Make time for conversation at home. Discuss current events, shared interests, and future aspirations for education and career. Visit recreation centers, pools, parks, walking/jogging paths, and other physical activity places to help increase your child's exposure to new activities.

Try it!

Where can you visit to increase your child's exposure to new activities?

Technology

Use technology to help build your child's interest in physical activity. There are several websites where students can read books or articles online. The computer will help with words the student cannot read independently. Libraries also have computers students can use to access those sites. Feel free to ask a librarian or teacher for suggestions

Try it!

Go to www.onlib.org for information on the Onondaga County Public Libraries.

My local County Library Branch is:

My Local Parks and Recs Department is:
