

# FOURTH GRADE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The grade four program includes the classes below. Elective courses that can be added are detailed in our [course catalog](#).

## CORE CLASSES

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Fourth grade learners continue to practice and develop their fluency and vocabulary skills through a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts. Learners write narrative, explanatory/informative and opinion pieces that encourage creativity and engage the learner with authentic assignments like writing a biographical sketch, creating an infographic and developing a tall tale.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

Learners explore digital citizenship, social science, regions of the United States and all about Pennsylvania. Learners explore the many regions of the United States via a virtual tour, and they learn about Pennsylvania's geography, economy, history and government.

### SCIENCE

A study of earth, life and physical science will expose learners to type of energy waves, relationships in ecosystems, plant and animal structures, and severe weather hazards. The course examines three science careers: an animal tracker, a dog whisperer and a crisis mapper. Experiments include exploring wavelengths, experimenting with light, replicating erosion and making a volcano.

### MATH

Fourth grade math focuses on place value, adding and subtracting whole numbers and fractions, multiplying and dividing whole numbers and fractions, multi-step problems, measurement and classifying two-dimensional shapes.

## SPECIALS

### ART

Learners explore and create art inspired by famous artists such as da Vinci, Hokusai, van Gogh, and Gauguin. They also learn how narrative and setting are used in art. Learners discover key elements and principles of design, including shadow, distance, value, highlight and positive and negative space, and use them to create their own unique works of art.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Learners develop the motor skills for healthy physical development and growth. Learners continue to develop healthy bodies and minds by studying skills for sports and games, physical fitness, creating an exercise program, nutrition, disease prevention and safety.

### MUSIC

The course focuses on the elements of music: timbre, rhythm, melody, expression, form and texture. Each of the units engages learners in listening, reading, composing, arranging, performing, analyzing and describing music. Learners experience various musical genres, composers and performances from around the world.

### SUCCESS SKILLS FOR LEARNERS

Learners build academic, social and emotional skills through a variety of learner-focused videos, stories, discussions, games and activities. Each unit introduces essential life skills, such as managing emotions, building empathy, self-exploration or problem-solving. Each unit also includes early explorations for college and career readiness.



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