

Course Description:

In fourth grade language arts, students learn about informational texts, including those that are historical, scientific, and technical. They analyze the author's purpose, message, and perspective in each type of text, and they learn about the different text features and text structures and their contribution to meaning.

Students discover the main ideas, key details, supporting details, reasons, evidence, and inferences in informational texts, and they compare and contrast texts. Learning to interpret visual, quantitative, and oral information is part of this course, as are summary, paraphrase, and avoiding plagiarism.

Students write an informative text, and they construct a research presentation in the course. Strategies for determining word meaning, vocabulary practice, and grammar are part of this course as well.

Course Objectives:

- Find the meaning of words using context, root words, affixes, reference works, figurative language, and word relationships.
- Write and revise sentences with correct wording, spelling, and grammar by comparative and superlative adjectives, coordinating conjunctions, punctuation marks, and helping verbs.
- Read words and sentences correctly with accuracy, with expression, and at a good rate using knowledge of letters and sounds, syllables, and context.
- Report what you learned from a text by talking about important details, key ideas, and evidence, and using visuals.
- Explain how the type of text, its structure, text features, and details support main ideas, and the author's perspective and purpose in a text.
- Read various types of text for purpose and understanding while making connections to self, society, and other texts and ideas.
- Find and cite reasons and evidence from texts to support a summary, an inference, or a claim about a text or topic.
- Research a topic for understanding and to gather information from sources.
- Write over various timelines for different tasks, purposes, and audiences.
- Use technology to plan, write, and publish texts with appropriate information, formatting, and multimedia.
- Share your opinion in a clear way, using an introduction, a conclusion, precise vocabulary, and details connected to reasons for your opinion.

Required Materials:

Required:

- notebook paper
- pencils

Optional:

- dictionary

Course Overview:

This course is made up of 12 units. Each unit has five lessons. Lessons are made up of activities that include these types of learning:

- **Warm-Ups** allow for practice of skills or concepts taught in previous lessons. These are graded activities.
- **Direct Instructions** provide modeling of new skills and concepts. These are not graded activities.
- **Guided Practices** allow for practice of a skill with support. These are graded activities only on a completion basis.
- **Independent Practices** allow for practice of a skill without support. These are graded activities.
- **Checkpoints** test mastery of skills from lessons. These are graded activities.
- **Unit Reviews** allow for practice of skills prior to taking unit exams. These are not graded activities.
- **Unit Exams** test mastery of skills from the unit. These are graded activities.
- **Projects** provide an opportunity for practice of more complex skills across several activities or lessons within a unit. These activities require a final submission, which is graded.