



FOURTH GRADE NEWS SPOTLIGHTING ACADEMIC STANDARDS



Standards-Based Focus on Reading/LA Standards

Our Literacy Place Unit for the second quarter is entitled "What an Idea."

As a culminating activity for this unit will be an invention project for all fourth grade students to participate in.

Our fourth grade classes are also doing "Literature Circles" to discuss trade books that go along with our Literacy Place unit.

Our writing activities will focus on "descriptive" writing for this quarter.

Our standards that we will focus on this quarter for Reading/Language Arts will be: E1b, E1c, E1d,

E1d.2 and E1d.3, E2d, E3b, and E4a., E4b and E5a.

These standards will cover Reading, Grammar, and Writing.



How does the AR program Support the Reading/LA stan- dards?

Check the PES Newsletter for the next planned AR Night. This is our way of supporting AR here at Patch.

Review and discuss your child's AR Student Record Report, which lists all of the book titles that your child has chosen to test on. It is important to celebrate your child's successes (all scores above 80% within the student's targeted reading level). If you are not sure about your child's independent reading level, please check

with your child's teacher. Encourage your child to select books from a wide spectrum of literary genres matched to his/her reading level.

If you see scores below 80%, then your child may be reading books that are too difficult or taking tests on books that have not been read in their entirety.

Class time is provided for independent reading and the checking out of appropriate AR books. Parents are also welcome in the school's Information Center, and may check out an additional five

books under their name.

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"Readers make the best leaders!"

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Math Standards

Students will be study Division and Fractions for the Second Quarter.

It is important that students continue to practice multiplication facts since this is one of the steps in long division.

Standard M1a.3 helps students judge fractions in relation to benchmarks: 0, 1/2, 1. M1b.1 helps students look at model division problems and explore the meaning of remainders. M1c.1 helps students to develop and

apply strategies and methods for division of two-digit whole numbers by one-digit divisors. M1b.2 will allow students to use models, benchmarks, and equivalence to add and subtract fractions with like denominators.

The Hands On Equations is one activity used to help students solve simple algebra problems.



Health: Nutrition Standard

Health Standards Spotlight:

The student understands how healthful nutrition and physical activity contribute to growth and energy and help prevent chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes. The student will distinguish the nutritional concepts of variety, balance, moderation and serving quantity (HE3a), create a balanced personal one-day menu (HE3b), and explain the relationship between nutrients and

calories in healthful eating (HE3c).

Our fourth graders will be working on designing healthy food pyramids that not only meet nutritional standards for healthy eating but also appeal to their own individual taste palettes. We will be discussing recent health problems that are emerging due to poor diet and an over reliance on foods that are high in fats and sugars.

Home School/Connection: According

to the USDA, poor nutrition-including eating too much fat, sugar and sodium and not eating enough fruits and vegetables-affects students' performance in school. Encourage your child to eat at least five different fresh fruits and vegetables during the day. If your child brings a snack to school, remind them to make a healthy choice. Fresh fruits, vegetables, cheeses and whole wheat crackers are examples of healthy snacks.

during the year.

Home School/Connection:

Encourage your child to start a picture file (from old magazines) for each of the regions of the United States. These pictures will be used to develop a collage that will enhance each student's U. S. Regions booklet. The Northeast & Southeast will be the regions that are focused on during this second quarter.

When taking family trips abroad, pull out the map in the student's agenda planner and point out destinations. Discuss important landmarks, capital cities, bordering coun-

Social Studies Standards Spotlight

Social Studies Standards Spotlight:

The students will use a variety of geographic tools, (e.g. maps, globes, charts, graphs, technology, map keys, and symbols) to gather and interpret data and draw conclusions about physical patterns (SS4a). Students will use the geographic concepts of location, place, human-environment interactions, movement and regions

(SS4a).

As our classes delve into this year's social studies program, we will begin by clarifying key geographical concepts (e.g. city, state, country, border, continent, region). Students will work on applying the use of maps, charts, keys and symbols by constructing a U.S. Regions booklet that will serve to introduce and summarize the five regions of the United States as they are studied

Science

Our main focus for Science this quarter will be on Water on Earth. Standard S7 helps students to develop an understanding of the importance of water as an earth material. It also allows students to identify major sources of water on earth. It verifies that water can be found underground, on the surface of the earth and in the atmosphere. It explains that water on earth exist in different states. It investigates conditions associated with change in the states of water.

Our study trip during this quarter will be to the Water Treatment Plant in Stuttgart where students are able to see the complete treatment of water and participate in experiments to reinforce what happens to water from the time it reaches the plant until it is provided in our homes for drinking.

** Please check the website for an updated version of our new Science Standards.

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