

What is my child learning in 4th Grade?

These descriptions do not cover all of the standards (there are too many to list here) but give a general picture as to what the sub-category Domains mean.

English Language Arts has 6 sub-categories and a separate grade for effort and citizenship.

→ **Language**

- ✓ Use conventions and grammar correctly in speaking and writing (pronouns, verbs, spelling, punctuation, etc.)
- ✓ Choose appropriate words and punctuation for situations to convey ideas (formal vs. informal)
- ✓ Understand vocabulary and literal and figurative language (metaphors, idioms, adages, etc.)
- ✓ Use reference materials (dictionary, glossary, thesaurus)

→ **Reading: Foundational Skills**

- ✓ Use phonics skills to read and understand unfamiliar words
- ✓ Read grade level text smoothly, accurately and with understanding

→ **Reading: Informational Text (Nonfiction)**

- ✓ Refer to text to ask and answer questions and explain how an author uses evidence
- ✓ Determine the meaning of subject specific words as used in the text
- ✓ Identify and understand features of various types of text (historical documents, charts, graphs, timelines, web pages, etc.)
- ✓ Summarize, infer, compare and contrast, and explain key details and main idea of grade level nonfiction text

→ **Reading: Literature (Fiction)**

- ✓ Identify, compare and contrast, and make connections to, the main idea, characters, setting and theme and summarize text
- ✓ Determine the meaning of words as used in the text
- ✓ Identify features of various types of text (poems, myths, dramas, etc.)
- ✓ Read and understand grade level texts

→ **Speaking and Listening**

- ✓ Participate in informal discussions by listening, asking questions, sharing ideas, and building on the ideas of others
- ✓ Read and study to prepare for a discussion and/or presentation
- ✓ Give a presentation on a topic or tell a story using relevant, organized facts and details to support arguments and opinions

→ **Writing**

- ✓ Organize and write research, opinion, informative, and narrative papers supported with facts and supporting details
- ✓ Write stories with dialogue and descriptions of characters actions, thoughts, feelings, and a clear sequence of events
- ✓ Take notes and organize information from books, articles, and online sources to learn more about a topic
- ✓ With support, plan, revise, edit, and publish written work with clearly organized and expressed ideas

Mathematics has 5 sub-categories in all grades and a separate grade for effort and citizenship.

→ **Operations and Algebraic Thinking**

- ✓ Use the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems.
- ✓ Gain familiarity with factors and multiples.
- ✓ Generate and analyze patterns.

→ **Number and Operations in Base Ten**

- ✓ Round whole numbers to any place value.
- ✓ Compare two multi-digit numbers using $>$, $=$, $<$.
- ✓ Fluently add and subtract within a million using the standard algorithm.
- ✓ Multiply and divide using models (draw 6 groups of 10 or 6 jumps of 10 on a number line.)

→ **Geometry**

- ✓ Draw and identify lines and angles, and classify shapes by properties of their lines and angles.

→ **Number and Operations – Fractions**

- ✓ Create equivalent fractions and order fractions from least to greatest.
- ✓ Add and subtract fractions with a common denominator.
- ✓ Multiply a fraction by a whole number.
- ✓ Understand decimal notation for fractions (0.62 as $\frac{62}{100}$) and compare two decimals to hundredths place with $>$, $=$, $<$.

→ **Measurement and Data**

- ✓ Convert larger units into smaller units (km to m to cm; kg to g; lb. to oz.; l to ml; hr. to min. to sec.) and solve word problems.
- ✓ Create use data from line plots.

Science, Social Studies, Fine Arts, and Health each receive an overall grade plus a separate grade for effort and citizenship.

Music has 6 sub-categories and a separate grade for effort and citizenship.

- History and Culture
- Improvising
- Instrumental
- Listen and Analyze
- Reading and Notating
- Singing

PE has 3 sub-categories and a separate grade for effort and citizenship

- Expressive and Efficient Moving
- Fitness for Lifetime
- Self-Management and Social Behavior

Every school has either a music specialist and/or a PE specialist providing instruction to students.

Many schools have one or the other. The smaller schools may have just one day a week of each class. This means classroom teachers provide instruction when possible in these areas and will most likely not have specific grades for the sub-categories in these specific subjects.

If your child's school does have a music or PE specialist then those teachers are using specific standards to assess their students.

A note from our Music Teachers:

You will see a lot of strands for music on the report card this year. The number of strands assessed throughout the year will depend on your child's frequency of instruction. We are learning a new system and are very excited to show all of the areas we cover throughout the year. You will see: history and culture, improvising, instrumental, listen and analyze, reading and notating, and singing. We, as an elementary music teaching staff, are increasing the rigor of what is being expected in music class. Students are being assessed on skills in addition to citizenship and effort. We are working toward creating tuneful, beatful and artful music students. Please contact your child's music teacher if you have additional questions.

A note from our Physical Education Teachers:

This year's report card is going to look much differently than years previous. We are learning a new grading system, and are excited to give you a more in depth look at your child as a whole in our realm of Physical Education. The amount of standards graded will depend on how often your child receives PE, and standards being taught will vary between the different grade levels. Your child will also be receiving a citizenship and effort grade aside from their standards based grade. As an elementary Physical Education staff, we are dedicated to providing high quality instruction, with the goal of giving your child the tools they need to live and value a healthy, active lifestyle. Please contact your child's Physical Education teacher with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have.