

Rising 4th Graders - Summer Learning!

As you prepare your child to enter 4th grade, we've put together a list of skills that are important to practice over the summer months to ensure a smooth transition. We have provided suggestions that make learning fun and active along with resources that can help you with other ideas.

Skills to Practice

- Review basic grammar/parts of speech - nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs
 - Mad Libs - a phrasal template word game where one player prompts the others for a list of words to substitute for blanks in a story before reading aloud. Can be found online or purchased in stores.
 - Parts of Speech Scavenger Hunt - As you read together, challenge your child to pick out different parts of speech. You can make the game more interesting by asking for adjectives that are colors, verbs that end with -ing, etc.
- Fluency
 - Ask your child to read a small excerpt aloud to you. Be sure they're using appropriate pacing (pausing at commas and end of sentences), using appropriate inflection (excited tone when they see an exclamation point), and reading smoothly. Read through the same excerpt of text several times to improve accuracy, quickness, and expression.
- Comprehension & Main Idea
 - While reading with your child, ask a variety of questions about the text and discuss the story. (See suggested list)
 - After reading, discuss the main idea of the text.
- Context Clues & Inference
 - While reading, use the text to help determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.
 - Ask students to make inferences from photographs found in magazines.
- Point of View
 - While reading, be able to describe the author's point of view. Find articles on the same topic but with different points of view. Ask your child to compare and contrast the texts.
- Writing - Compose a complete sentence (capital letter, punctuation) and a cohesive paragraph.
 - Give your child simple writing prompts such as describing their favorite summer activity, explaining the steps to complete a task, writing a note to a friend - remind your child to use their best handwriting (spend time practicing both print and cursive).
 - Keep a daily journal
 - Expand your child's vocabulary by giving them a new word/definition each day. Vocabulary.com offers a "Word of the Day." Encourage your child to use their new word in conversation and in their writing.
 - Pay careful attention to easily confused words (to/too, your/you're, their/there/they're).

Helpful Websites, Apps, & Resources

Achieve- access through Clever.com. Your child's username and password is their 7 digit ID number.

MyOn Virtual Library - Thousands of books for your child tailored to their reading level. Access through Clever.com.

ABCYA.com - Learning games and apps by grade level

Suggested Reading - Encourage your child to read all summer for at least twenty minutes per day. Engaging in a variety of books will help students increase their vocabulary. The following is a great list to get you started!

- The Indian in the Cupboard by Lynne Reid Banks
- Superfudge by Judy Blume
- The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis
- Frecklejuice by Judy Blume
- Harry Potter by J.K. Rowling
- Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
- The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo
- Holes by Louis Sachar
- Little House in the Big Woods by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies
- Wonder by R.J. Palacio
- Bunnica by Deborah Howe
- Beezue and Ramona by Beverly Cleary
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney

Comprehension Questions - Ask children to point to specific evidence from the story when answering questions.

- Who is this story about? Describe him/her. Do they have a problem in this story? How is the problem solved?
- When and where does the story take place?
- What is the story about? Retell the story.
- Could this story really happen? Explain why/why not.
- Would you like to be a character in this story? Why or why not?
- Would you recommend this story to a friend? Why or why not?

Social Studies: Social Studies is more than learning about the past. It is about building knowledge of the world and understanding how interconnected our world is. Its history, citizenship, and maps, along with expressing ideas, critical thinking, and becoming a productive citizen.

Topics for Exploration Include: *Contributions of Benjamin Franklin *The Declaration of Independence - What is its historical and present day significance? *The Basic Principles Embedded in the U.S. Constitution *Causes and Course of the Civil War

This is a very short list from the numerous topics students will explore next year. To see the complete list of standards (topics), visit: [TN Academic Standards for Social Studies](#)