

Fourth Grade

English Language Arts & Literacy

A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 4th Grade . . .

- Describing the basic elements of stories — such as characters, events, and settings — by drawing on specific details in the text
- Paying close attention to key features of informational books and articles: these include understanding the main and supporting ideas; being able to compare and contrast information, and explaining how the author uses facts, details and evidence to support particular points
- Comparing ideas, characters, events, and settings in stories and myths from different cultures
- Writing summaries or opinions about topics supported with a set of well-organized facts, details, and examples
- Independently conducting short research projects on different aspects of a topic using evidence from books and the Internet
- Paraphrasing and responding to information presented in discussions, such as comparing and contrasting ideas and analyzing evidence that speakers use to support particular points
- Reporting orally on a topic or telling a story with enough facts and details

Help Your Child Learn At Home

- ◆ Urge your child to use logical arguments to defend his or her opinion. If your child wants a raise in allowance, ask him or her to research common sense allowance systems. Based on that research, have them explain their reasons why, supported by facts and details.
- ◆ Talk about the news together. Pick one story in the news, read it together, and discuss with your child what it means.
- ◆ Keep books, magazines, and newspapers at home. Make sure your child sees you reading.

College and Career Ready

By implementing the Utah Core Standards, Tooele schools have committed to devoting more time and resources to preparing your child for college and the real world. The rigorous, research-based, and internationally benchmarked standards are designed to:

- Align with the expectations of colleges and the modern workforce
- Build upon states' decades-long efforts to craft high-quality education standards
- Provide a clear understanding of what students should know and be able to do at each grade level
- Give parents and teachers tools to help students stay on the college- and career-ready path

Utah Core/Common Core Links & Information

Here are a few links containing additional information, including details on what each child will be expected to know and do in each grade, as well as tips for parents:

- www.corestandards.org
- www.schools.utah.gov/core
- www.pta.org/parentsguide

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Utah Core State Standards



Every Student
College and Career
Ready

TOOELE COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fourth Grade

Frequently Asked Questions

WHEN WILL MY CHILD START LEARNING UNDER THE UTAH CORE STANDARDS?

The Tooele County School District Board of Education approved the following implementation timeline:



Math

- 2011-2012: Grades K-2, 6-8, and 9
- 2012-2013: Grades 3-5, and 10
- 2013-2014: Grade 11

Language Arts

- 2011-2012: Grades K-5, and 7-12
- 2012-2013: Grade 6



HOW WILL THE STANDARDS CHANGE WHAT MY CHILD IS LEARNING?

Utah standards have sometimes been characterized as being “a mile wide and an inch deep”; meaning, many topics are introduced to students without opportunities for in-depth application. The Utah Core Standards focus instruction on critical thinking to better prepare students for real-world challenges. They specify what students need to know and do at each grade level. They allow for deeper instruction, give students more time to master each skill, and introduce each skill in sequence to lead naturally to higher-level thinking and analysis.

WILL MY CHILD BE ABLE TO TAKE ALGEBRA AND GEOMETRY?

Absolutely – starting in kindergarten. Higher-level math concepts are embedded in K-12 instruction. While math courses offered in secondary schools will no longer carry names to which we’ve become accustomed to, such as algebra or geometry, they will expand upon geometric and algebraic concepts students have been learning all along.

WILL THE STANDARDS BE TOO RIGOROUS FOR MY CHILD WHO IS STRUGGLING?

No. Teachers will receive ongoing training and support so they can quickly identify students who need additional attention. The standards are few and more in-depth; therefore, teachers will be better able to prevent students from falling behind.

HOW WILL THE STANDARDS FURTHER MY ADVANCED STUDENT’S PROGRESS?

All Tooele secondary schools will continue to offer Advanced Placement, Concurrent Enrollment, and Honors courses. In elementary school, teachers will receive ongoing training and support to help them tailor instruction to meet the needs of all students and provide greater depth and complexity to advanced learners.

ARE THE STANDARDS A NATIONAL CURRICULUM?

No. The standards specify what students need to know and be able to do at each grade level to become college- and career-ready. They articulate expectations and results, not the manner in which content is taught.



TCSD is committed to providing educational opportunities to students without regard to race, color, sex, national origin or disability. If you have questions, please contact the Title IX Coordinator @ (435) 833-1900.

Fourth Grade Math

A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 4th Grade . . .

- Using whole-number arithmetic to solve word problems, including problems with remainders and problems with measurements
- Adding and subtracting whole numbers quickly and accurately (numbers up to 1 million)
- Multiplying and dividing multi-digit numbers in simple cases (e.g., multiplying $1,638 \times 7$ or 24×17 , and dividing 6,966 by 6)
- Understanding and applying equivalent fractions (e.g., recognizing that $\frac{1}{4}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$ because $\frac{2}{8}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$)
- Adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions in simple cases (such as $2\frac{3}{4} - 1\frac{1}{4}$ or $3 \times \frac{5}{8}$), and solving related word problems
- Understanding simple decimals in terms of fractions (e.g., rewriting 0.62 as $\frac{62}{100}$)
- Measuring angles and finding unknown angles in a diagram

Help Your Child Learn At Home

Look for “word problems” in real life. An example might include:

- ♦ Ask your child to compare numbers using phrases like “times as much.” For example, if the family cat weighs 8 lbs. and the family dog weighs 56 lbs., how many times as much does the dog weigh?

The proceeding was an abridged version of National PTA’s Parents’ Guide to Student Success. Read it in full at www.pta.org/parentsguide

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