Parent Guide to Learning in MCCSC

FOURTH GRADE

A summary of what children should know and be able to do and ways for families to increase learning at home.
Each quarter, students will learn new skills and build upon skills from earlier in the year. Below are some areas students will focus on each quarter.

**LANGUAGE ARTS**

- Read grade level text with expression
- Use details to explicitly explain, and when inferring from, a fictional text
- Use details to retell the main idea and theme of a fictional text
- Compare and contrast point of view
- Describe elements of a fictional story
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling
- Write informative compositions using the writing process

- Determine main idea and details of a nonfiction text
- Describe the structure of a nonfiction text
- Use details to explicitly explain, and when inferring from, a nonfiction text
- Write persuasive and narrative compositions using the writing process

- Identify fact and opinion with evidence
- Use context clues and text features to determine the meaning of unknown words
- Use known words, roots, prefixes, and suffixes to determine the meaning of an unknown word
- Understand a variety of figurative language phrases

- Describe the organizational structure of a text
- Combine information from two texts on the same topic to show understanding
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling
- Write persuasive, informative, and narrative compositions using the writing process

**MATH**

- Add and subtract multi-digit real-world problems using drawings and equations
- Add and subtract different ways, including using the standard algorithm
- Solve real-world problems that include multiplication comparisons
- Multiply within 100 with different strategies accurately
- Divide with and without remainders using different strategies
- Solve whole number addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division problems involving distance, time, volume, mass, and money
- Apply the area and perimeter formulas for rectangles to solve math problems

- Split apart numbers by place value to multiply big numbers and be able to switch factors in a multiplication problem
- Divide with and without remainders using different strategies
- Write whole numbers as fractions.
- Name and write mixed numbers using objects and pictures as improper fractions and vice versa
- Compare two fractions with different numerators and denominators
- Compare decimals to the hundredths
- Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers with common denominators
- Use place value to round numbers
- Collect, represent, and interpret data using tables, line plots, and bar graphs

- Multiply up to four digits by a one-digit whole number and multiply two two-digit numbers using different strategies
- Divide with and without remainders using different strategies
- Identify, describe, and draw rays, angles, and perpendicular and parallel lines
- Write tenths and hundredths as fractions in all forms (especially halves and fourths)
- Solve real-world problems using addition and subtraction of fractions with common denominators
- Collect, represent, and interpret data using tables, line plots, and bar graphs

- Multiply and divide using different strategies and be able to describe and explain one strategy used
- Identify, describe, and draw rays, angles, and perpendicular and parallel lines alone and in 2D shapes
- Collect, represent, and interpret data using tables, line plots, and bar graphs
SCIENCE
Students learn about science through hands-on exploration. In fourth grade, students learn about environments, soils, rocks, and landforms, and energy.

MUSIC
In music, students learn to read, perform, and write expanding rhythm and pitch patterns using notation and identify the letter names of the notes on the treble clef staff. Students will also label musical form, and describe tempo, dynamics, articulation, and rhythmic and melodic elements through movement, writing, or illustration.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION
In PE, students demonstrate motor skills and movement patterns and concepts, exhibit respectful and responsible personal and social behavior, and learn the value of physical activity. They also achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness.

SOCIAL STUDIES
Fourth graders learn about United States and Indiana history and geography, the economy, and government during social studies instruction.

ART
In art class, students brainstorm multiple approaches to a creative art or design problem, utilize and care for materials, tools, and equipment in a safe manner, and analyze components in visual imagery that convey messages.

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING
MCCSC is using the Second Step curriculum with our elementary school students. Second Step lessons build on students’ K–3 skills, including skills for learning, and provide a bridge to middle school. Students will strengthen their empathy, emotion-management, and problem-solving skills while learning to use them in social and academic settings.
WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME

• Build a routine that allows for homework and studying time and enough sleep to help your child establish a healthy balance.

• Read the same book as your child independently, together, or a combination of both. Talk about the book as you read it, reviewing main ideas and plots and expressing your opinions. Then read an additional book or books on the same subject and compare and contrast how they dealt with the same issue.

• When your child expresses their opinion about something, ask them why they think that or how they know it is true. This will help them learn to support their opinion with reasons and/or facts. Do the same when you express your opinion or ideas about something.

• Make up your own math riddles for each other. For example: “Start at 39. Subtract 4, divide by 7, and add 6. What number are you left with?”

• Ask each other to predict your answers using estimation, and then explain how you developed this prediction. Next, solve the problems and see whose guess is closer to the correct answer.

• If your child is interested in sports you have built-in math fun! Talk about some common statistics used to rank baseball player performance, such as batting averages and earned run averages.

FOURTH GRADE DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

• More individualistic
• Like to work with partner of choice, usually of same gender; may begin to form cliques
• Can work in groups but may spend more time arguing about facts, rules, directions than doing the activity
• Often feel worried or anxious; need adult patience and clarity when giving directions or setting expectations
• Impatient; tend to give up on tasks; encouragement to try again builds up sense of competence
• Very self-critical; sarcastic humor from adults can be very hurtful
• Often complain about fairness issues; like to negotiate
• Critical of self and others (including adults)
• Can be sullen, moody, negative; often say “I hate it,” “It’s boring,” etc.