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 explain what a fictional text says explicitly and infer from the text
- Use details to retell the main idea and theme of a fictional text
- Describe elements of a fictional story
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling

- Determine main idea and details of a nonfiction text
- Use text features to locate information
- Describe the structure of a nonfiction text
- Write persuasive, informative, and narrative compositions using the writing process

- Use details to explain what a nonfiction text says explicitly and infer from the text
- Identify fact and opinion with evidence
- Use context clues and text features to determine the meaning of unknown words
- Understand a variety of figurative language phrases

- Compare and contrast point of view
- Use known words, roots, prefixes, and suffixes to determine the meaning of an unknown word
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling
- Write persuasive, informative, and narrative compositions using the writing process

**MATH**

- Compare two whole numbers up to 1,000,000 using >, <, and =
- Use place value to round numbers
- Recognize relationships between addition and multiplication and subtraction and division

- Add and subtract fluently
- Solve real-world problems using addition and subtraction
- Solve real-world problems using addition and subtraction of fractions

- Compare two fractions with different numerators and denominators
- Compare decimals to the hundredths
- Multiply up to four digits by a one-digit whole number and multiply two two-digit numbers
- Divide with and without remainders
- Multiply fluently within 100
- Solve problems involving time, volume, mass, and money
- Apply the area and perimeter formulas for rectangles to solve math problems
- Collect, represent, and interpret data using tables, line plots, and bar graphs
- Plot fractions on a line

- Identify, describe, and draw parallelograms, rhombuses, and trapezoids
- Identify, describe, and draw rays, angles, and perpendicular and parallel lines
- Measure and sketch angles
**SCIENCE**
Students learn about science through hands-on exploration. In fourth grade, students learn about environments, soil, 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.
**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.

**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.