

## Science

### Students will...

- ◆ Understand scientific concepts.
- ◆ Record scientific observations and data accurately.
- ◆ Apply investigative process.

### Ways you can help...

- ◆ Encourage your child to pose questions and allow them to answer those questions through experimentation.
- ◆ Talk about how you use science daily.
- ◆ Take a trip to the library and study Thomas Edison's life and his work when inventing the light bulb.
- ◆ Make a homemade flashlight using 2 flashlight batteries (size D), 1 flashlight bulb, masking tape, and aluminum foil. Experiment with the materials to make the bulb light.

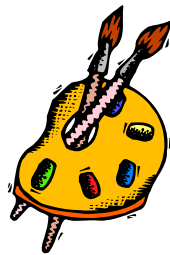
## Fine Arts

### Students will...

- ◆ Create, perform, and respond through art.

### Ways you can help...

- ◆ Sing with your child. Discover high, medium, low, and repeated sounds.
- ◆ Attend a school music performance.
- ◆ Explore phrases such as "I'm feeling blue". Create a work of art using many variations of that color.
- ◆ Encourage your child to make sketches of shadows.
- ◆ Encourage your child to create artwork to be given as gifts.
- ◆ Write new lyrics to a familiar song.



## Social Studies

### Students will...

- ◆ Understand how historical events and social changes impact people, culture, and events.
- ◆ Understand basic economics including goods, services, production, distribution, supply and demand.
- ◆ Understand principles of democracy; individual and community.
- ◆ Understand demonstrate knowledge of geographic elements (maps, charts, locations, physical features, patterns).



### Ways you can help...

- ◆ Look at a map of Washington State. Find Lake Washington, Puget Sound, Seattle, etc.
- ◆ Together calculate distance between cities. Examine an atlas, discuss the different types of maps, and their uses.
- ◆ Discuss leadership experiences each of you may have had. Talk about how leadership occurs in your home, community, and state.
- ◆ Discuss a major family decision (vacation, purchase).
- ◆ Use a world map to locate areas of the world where products are imported and/or exported.

## Health and Fitness

### Students will...

- ◆ Demonstrate skills and knowledge to reduce health risks and safely maintain a healthy life.

### Ways you can help...

- ◆ Walk, hike, jog, or bicycle together.
- ◆ Have your child plan meals using the food pyramid.
- ◆ Discuss ways germs can be transmitted, and ways to prevent it.
- ◆ Discuss transportation safety issues.
- ◆ Brainstorm how to cope with stress.
- ◆ Discuss how media messages sometimes encourage people to make unhealthy decisions.



## Snoqualmie Valley School District

# Fourth Grade Curriculum Overview

Parents and other family members play a vital role in a child's success in school. A strong partnership between home and school is a key to this success.

This pamphlet gives you an outline of the content and skills taught in fourth grade, and some ways to help your child achieve them. A detailed description of the fourth grade standards and expectations are available from your child's teacher.

Communication and cooperation between home and school is essential for a successful educational experience.

We look forward to working with you!



[www.svsd410.org](http://www.svsd410.org)

## Reading

### Students will...

- ◆ Understand words through word structure, sentence structure, and context.
- ◆ Comprehend text through: analyzing, predicting, inferring, interpreting, sequencing, comparing, synthesizing.
- ◆ Demonstrate understanding of literary elements and devices such as plot, characters, setting, theme, point of view, conflict, resolution, simile, metaphor, alliteration, imagery.
- ◆ Use features of non-fiction text to locate and synthesize information.
- ◆ Build vocabulary through reading fiction and non-fiction materials.
- ◆ Read accurately and fluently at grade level, adjusting for purpose and material.

### Ways you can help...

- ◆ Read to your child daily and vary the type of material.
- ◆ Have your child read independently, read to a sibling or read to you every day.
- ◆ Ask your child to summarize the previous day's selection before continuing reading.
- ◆ Provide time for your child to read at night (20 minutes minimum).
- ◆ Let your child see you and other family members enjoying reading.
- ◆ Talk to your child about the meaning of stories read together.
- ◆ Ask your child to read aloud a favorite book, poem or story into a tape recorder and send the tape to someone far away as a gift.
- ◆ Check out a book on tape and listen to it in the car or at home.

- ◆ Help your child find books. Encourage your child to try new types of genres and books.



### Students will...



- ◆ Use appropriate and engaging vocabulary.
- ◆ Write sentences that vary in length and structure.
- ◆ Apply writing conventions including punctuation, indentation, capitalization, etc.
- ◆ Spell high frequency words correctly.

### Ways you can help...

- ◆ Encourage letter writing for developing a sense of voice, audience, and purpose.
- ◆ Collect your child's favorite writing pieces in a folder or book. Read them together.
- ◆ Have your child write a persuasive note to you to explain why he/she needs a particular item.
- ◆ Coach—don't write—for your child. Question, listen, and talk about his/her writing together. Your child needs to do his/her own drafting, revising, and editing, with you serving as a coach.
- ◆ Set up a family message board.
- ◆ Work with your child to keep a writer's notebook of observations, quotes, favorite words, and future writing ideas.
- ◆ Purchase a thesaurus and dictionary and encourage its use during revising.
- ◆ Help your child identify his/her strengths as a writer and set goals.
- ◆ Take your child to hear a children's author speak about writing for young people.
- ◆ Look first for what is done well in writing.

## Writing

### Students will...

- ◆ Apply concepts in number sense and place value (fractions).
- ◆ Apply concepts in measurement (money, time, temperature, etc.).
- ◆ Apply concepts of geometric sense.
- ◆ Apply concepts of algebraic sense.
- ◆ Demonstrate proficiency in computation skills and fact fluency.
- ◆ Demonstrate ability to interpret data (table, charts, graphs, etc.).
- ◆ Demonstrate ability to problem solve.
- ◆ Demonstrate ability to communicate mathematical thinking coherently and clearly.

### Ways you can help...

- ◆ Use a page of the classified ads to create challenges. "Find the largest number, find the smallest number".
- ◆ Play math games together such as Dominos, Yahtzee, Battleship, etc.
- ◆ Play strategy games. Start with eight pennies on a table. Take turns picking up 1 or 2 or 3 pennies. The loser picks up the last penny. Discuss the winning strategy.
- ◆ Create problems to solve: You have an ice cream store that has five different flavors. How many different two-scoop cones can you make? How many three scoop cones?
- ◆ Toss a coin 50 times. Record the number of heads and tails. Predict what would happen if you tossed the coin 100 times, 150 times, 200 times, etc.
- ◆ While doing chores, create opportunities to use fractions: cutting pizza, cake, mowing  $\frac{1}{2}$  the lawn before taking a break, etc.
- ◆ Play "Too High—Too Low" with your child. Think of a number between 1 and 1000 and ask your child to guess the number. Tell your child if he/she is too high or too low.

