

## Columbia Heights Public Schools Grade 4 Curriculum Overview

**Literacy:** Student in grade 4 develop their ability to read literature and informational texts, as well as to write, speak and listen, and improve essential skills in grammar, spelling, and vocabulary. Students learn to become “deeper” readers and thinkers through close reading and research. Students are introduced to a variety of themes with grade level texts, integrated skills work and writing activities, and small group instruction.

- Time: Minimum of 90 minutes per day for reading; 20 – 30 minutes for writing
- Materials: *Literacy by Design*; classroom libraries; online sites: *TumbleBooks, Raz Kids*

**Math:** In grade 4, students develop fluency with basic multiplication and division facts, understand place value up to millions, understand and accurately solve word problems, solve multi-digit addition and subtraction problems accurately, solve multi-digit multiplication and division problems accurately, use fractions and decimals accurately, and write and solve problems using basic algebra.

- Time: Minimum of 60 minutes per day
- Materials: *EveryDay Math, Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI)* materials

**Science:** Fourth graders study basic science concepts through units on astronomy, the structure of life, magnetism and electricity, and water.

- Time: Every other day for a minimum of 60 minutes
- Materials: *FOSS kits*, leveled libraries of related readings

**Social Studies:** Fourth grade social studies units focus on geography.

- Materials: Social Studies text, online resources
- Time: Units interspersed throughout the school year

**Health:** Fourth grade students learn basic concepts of personal health, safety and injury prevention, nutrition and physical activity, and the dangers of alcohol and tobacco use. Fourth grade Health includes information on puberty. Bully prevention is revisited throughout the school year.

- Time: Periodic throughout the school year
- Materials: *Health Smart*

**Art and Music:**

- Time: 40 minutes every 4 days throughout the school year
- Materials: Teacher produced

**Physical Education:** The Physical Education program helps children develop the skills, knowledge, and desire to enjoy a lifetime of physical activity through developing competency in motor skills and movement patterns, understanding movement concepts, participating in physical activity, achieving and maintaining a health enhancing level of physical fitness, exhibiting responsible and respectable personal and social behavior, and valuing physical activity for health, enjoyment and social interaction.

- Time: 40 minutes every two days
- Materials: Teacher developed

**Responsive Classroom:** All elementary students participate in building a community of learners with ongoing activities that emphasize cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy, and self-control. Commitments are made by teachers and students to a code of conduct and classroom/building procedures for building a positive space for learning.