# Fourth Grade Curriculum Overview



New Ulm Public Schools - Independent School District 88

## JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Jefferson Elementary School is a child-focused primary school located at 318 South Payne Street. It shares the site and parking lot with the Middle School. The original school building was completed in September of 1962. Improvements to the growing school were completed in 1997, 2005 and 2016. The school houses grades 1 – 4 with an enrollment of approximately 635 students.

Jefferson Elementary School offers a variety of experiences, focusing on the academic, emotional and social growth of children. Some unique opportunities for Jefferson students include a free breakfast for students, Title I services for reading and math, a S.M.A.R.T. room and an autism resource room. Students also receive physical education, music, art, media, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) taught weekly by specialists.

#### COUNSELING

This curriculum is presented through both the classroom and group activities and will include lessons on:

- Time management, communication, and teamwork.
- Academic goal setting and developing work habits
- How to manage conflict and conflict resolution Support and encourage PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support)

### SOCIAL STUDIES

In grade 4, students focus on the *Geography of North America, which* concentrates on citizenship and government, economics, geography and history. Students will be able to: A leader in education through engaging and innovative programs and

- Develop civic skills and describe how people take action to influence a decision
- Understand the levels (federal, state and local) and the three branches of government (legislative, executive and judicial) and the functions of each area
- Learn how to formulate economic goals by comprehending economic reasoning skills and fundamental concepts
- Create and understand maps as well as use longitude and longitude to locate cities and other locations.
- Understand how individuals, businesses and governments interact in market situations
- Additional mapping skills will be learning states, territories, major cities and state capitals
- Use data to show population changes and compare the population over periods learn the effect of resources in relation to population



Jefferson Elementary School 318 South Payne Street, New Ulm, MN 56073 Phone 507-233-3500 www.newulm.k12.mn.us

#### ENGLISH/ LANGUAGE ARTS

Foundational skills, Literature, Informational Non-Text, Language, Writing, Speaking, Viewing, Listening, and Media Literacy are all components of the 4th Grade English/Language Arts Curriculum. Students will be able to demonstrate the following outcomes upon completion of this grade level:

- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in text
- Compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are narrated; including the difference between first and third-person narrations
- Determine the main idea of a book and explain how key details support it
- Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text
- Demonstrate proper use of English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing
- Write narratives and other creative texts to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences
- Use technology to produce and publish writing; demonstrate proficient keyboarding skills.

#### **MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY**

Upon competition of the media/technology curriculum, students will demonstrate:

- Proper care and respect for equipment and follow school policies
- Understand ethical conduct and legal principles of technology
- Use digital media to support learning environments
- Demonstrate appropriate keyboarding skills and use various software and equipment such as flash drives, media cards, etc.



#### **SCIENCE**

Fourth grade students receive two to three hours a week of instruction within the science curriculum. Students will be able to:

- Understand how science is used to investigate interactions between people and the natural world
- Participate in a controlled scientific investigation
- Know that heating and cooling may cause changes to the properties of a substance
- Understand basic electricity
- Explore the structures and functions of Earth systems
- Categorize living things according to their varied characteristics, structures, and behaviors.
- Know that matter and energy flow into, out of, and within a biological system
- Know that structures that serve various functions in the human body, including protection from disease

#### **MATHEMATICS**

By the completion of this grade level, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate mastery of multiplication and division basic facts; multiply multi-digit numbers
- Represent and compare fractions and decimals; use place value to understand how decimals represent quantities
- Use input/output rules, tables and charts to represent patterns
- Use number sentences involving multiplication, division and unknowns to represent and solve real-world problems
- Name, describe, classify and sketch polygons
- Use various tools to measure angles and areas
- Use translations, reflections, and rotations to establish congruency and understand symmetries
- Collect, organize, display, and interpret data collected over time and date represented by fractions and decimals.

Jefferson Elementary School 318 South Payne Street, New Ulm, MN 56073 Phone 507-233-3500 www.newulm.k12.mn.us

#### HEALTH

In fourth grade, the health curriculum is embedded within other courses. Student objectives include:

- Describe the relationships between healthy behaviors and personal health
- Discuss ways to prevent common childhood injuries and health problems.
- Identify how community, culture, friends, family, and media affect and influence our health
- Demonstrate refusal skills, nonviolent strategies to manage or resolve conflict
- Develop skills to ask for assistance when making health-related decisions
- Discuss the outcomes of health-related decisions
- Demonstrate healthy practices and behaviors to maintain or improve personal health or reduce or avoid health risks
- Encourage others to make positive health choices.

#### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Learner outcomes to be accomplished by the end of 4th Grade include:

- Dribbling, catching, kicking, striking, throwing, volleying, jumping, rolling, weight transfer, balancing and rhythm
- Learning concepts such as strategy in games and activities
- Understanding the value of exercise and participation, being physically fit and develop personal and social skills.

#### **MUSIC**

Fourth grade students receive thirty minutes of Music instruction three times per week. The music curriculum includes:

- Creating generate musical ideas for various purposes and contexts
- Performing select varied musical works to present based on interest, knowledge, technical skill and context
- Responding choose music appropriate for a specific purpose or context
- Connecting synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experience to make music

#### ART

In fourth grade, students receive one hour per week of Visual and Media Arts Instruction. Visual Arts instruction will allow students to identify elements of art such as color, line, shape, texture, and space. They will create two and three-dimensional works by drawing printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture. They will also identify characteristics of art from different cultures and share works of art with others. Students will grasp the following Media Arts concepts: Identify elements such as image, sound, space, time, motion and sequence; use of digital technology and editing software to create works of art.

#### S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) OR S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math)

Students in grades 1 through 4 attend class in the STEM room once every seven days. The classes last 60 minutes. Students are involved in many types of activities related to science, technology, engineering, and math. The lessons include work in the STEM room, computer lab, and outside when possible.









Jefferson Elementary School 318 South Payne Street, New Ulm, MN 56073 Phone 507-233-3500 www.newulm.k12.mn.us