

Grade 4 ELA Overview

Students are immersed in multiple genres through engaging texts. On a daily basis, students read self-selected books independently. Students share the experience of learning how to talk, think, and write about books in an authentic, meaningful way using interactive read alouds, as well as community books. Expanding on their ability to explicitly identify the main idea and key details of a text, students draw inferences and explain how these details support the main idea.

As writers, students focus on responding to literature, as well as opinion, informative, and narrative writing through prose or poetry. Students create, revise, and edit their writing using their iPads on a daily basis.

The Literacy Collaborative instructional framework is used to provide both standards-based instruction and attend to students' needs.

Units of Study: In order to foster the students' independence as readers and writers the following units are shared across the year. In each unit of study, students are able to apply what they have learned as readers to the craft of writing.

Launching the Reader's Workshop & Genre Overview: In this unit of study, students are creating a community of readers. This is an opportunity to establish the roles and routines of the reading workshop.

Realistic Fiction: In this unit of study, students will extend their learning of genre elements, as well as studying characters and how their feelings, and thoughts influence the plot and affect the outcome. They see that characters in stories mimic real life situations.

Memoir: Students explore the memory of a time, place, person, or an event in the author's life and understand its significance.

Fantasy: Students are able to explore beyond the boundaries of reality while remaining grounded in the world of human experiences.

Reading and Writing Informational Text- Negro League Baseball: Students learn how individuals can bring about social change, how the sport of baseball evolved, and how some of the colorful idioms of baseball have become a unique part of American English.

Traditional Literature: Students will learn about cultures other than their own as they read stories that have been passed down over time in the oral tradition and later published.

Preparation for Standardized Assessment: In this unit of study, students will be taught the ways to display knowledge and skills that will be expected of them on proficiency tests.

Poetry: Throughout the year students learn the language of poetry and the role figurative language plays in expressing something beyond the literal meaning.

Word Generation Elementary- WordGen Elementary is an approach to academic language and literacy development. It strengthens the links among language acquisition, vocabulary instruction, reading comprehension, and discussion.

Units of Study in Writing: Throughout the year, students will be engaged in the craft and conventions of writing. They will continue to develop their own process for writing. Students experience poetry throughout the year.

Launching Writer's Workshop and the Writing Process: Writers develop strategies to generate their own ideas for writing and build independence as writers. In addition, they will find a writing process that works for them.

Narrative Writing: Writers continue to generate personal narratives linking small moments together to write longer pieces about things that happen in their lives.

Informative Writing: Writers educate their audience on a topic.

Opinion Writing: Throughout the year, writers will write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

Literary Essay: Writers will read & analyze text, and then present their thinking in the form of an essay.

