

FOURTH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

- *Reading and Literature*
 - Oral reading
 - Reading comprehension
 - Vocabulary building
 - Three to four book reports per year
 - Develop a love for reading
 - Develop fluent and accurate oral reading skills with ability to comprehend the content
 - Develop speed in silent reading along with the ability to scan for information
 - Exposure to classic literature
- ♦ *Penmanship*

Review of cursive writing formation through skill practice, word games, original composition, and sentence dictation
- ♦ *Spelling and Poetry*
 - Weekly word lists based on phonics and spelling rules, challenging words, and vocabulary
 - Weekly test
 - Reinforcement activities
 - Develop appreciation for poetry
 - Poetry memorization
- ♦ *Writing Process*
 - Sentence structure, kinds of sentences, punctuation, capitalization facts, abbreviations, possessive words
 - Writing projects: personal narratives, compare/contrast essay, friendly letter, and business letters
 - Gathering information
 - Writing with details
 - Creative writing
 - Dictionary skills
 - Writing topic sentences, concluding sentences, supporting sentences, paragraphs, and reports
 - Research paper
 - Poetry and tall tales
 - Book review using persuasion
- ♦ *Grammar*
 - Recognizing and using six of the eight parts of speech
 - Punctuation and capitalization
 - Sentence types and structure and diagramming
 - Types of nouns and verbs
 - Correctly using troublesome words

- Word usage
- Haiku poetry, tall tales, synonyms, antonyms, homonyms

MATHEMATICS

- Addition, subtraction, multiplication (two digits times three digits), and division (three digits divided by two digits)
- Two or three step word problem
- Measures, clocks, scales, graphs, squares and square roots, money, ratios, decimals, probability, chance
- Polygons, area, perimeter, radius, diameters
- Percent and fractions

SCIENCE

- Living things and their ecosystems insects and spiders, plants
- Forces and machines, electricity and magnetism
- Light, spectrum, and vision
- Oceans and weathering,
- Digestion,
- The moon

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

- Geography/ Map Skills (focus on specific continents)
- European Expansion during the 16th century
- Colonization of the United States
- Native American tribes in North America
- American Revolution
- Formation of the U.S Government (types of government: monarchy, dictatorship, democracy)
- Westward Expansion movement in the U.S
- Geography and Culture of China
- Geography and Culture of Africa

CHARACTER STUDIES

These life lessons are part of our morning opening exercise where the entire student body is brought together in a time of self-exploration and discovery. One of nine core character traits is emphasized each month at LBA. Students learn about ancient and modern people who show good

character and we stress to students the importance of displaying, at all times, positive character traits. In class, students participate in discussions, listen to and act out stories of compassion and generosity, and complete short assignments.

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Honesty
- Caring
- Gratitude
- Forgiveness
- Servanthood
- Perseverance
- Leadership

MANDARIN as First Language

Words and Sentences and Chinese characters

- Recognize 1500 characters and write 1000 characters
- Compound words, rhyming words, opposite words, same-meaning words
- Learn sentence structure, kinds of sentences
- Contracting and expanding sentence, pile up more vocabulary to make sentences better.

Writing

- Write 300 characters' essay
- Write projects
- Do creative writing

Reading

- Read the textbook loudly and clearly
- Understand the main contents of the text and the thought of the writer
- Speed up the silent read
- Read one Chinese book and write 1 book report per month

Oral Chinese and Communication

- Share personal experience in an organized way
- Pay attention, do not interrupt others while talking
- Do simple public speaking

Others

- Expanding Chinese traditional culture while learning textbook
- Each unit has 1 ancient poetry. Students are required to read all the poetries very frequently. Reciting is even better.

MANDARIN as Additional Language course

- Recognize and read with accuracy frequently seen words and highly contextualized words and phrases.
- Generate and answer questions to demonstrate reading comprehension and use strategies to self-correct when needed.
- Maintain conversations on familiar topics with native Mandarin speakers at the level of a sentence or string of sentences.
- Understand the Chinese writing system and use certain sentence patterns to write meaningful sentences.
- Follow multiple written directions and begin to write a short essay using a structured model and teacher guidance.
- Respond to topics related to a 4rd grade curriculum in academic and social interactions, without interruption.
- Write 300 Chinese characters.

ARTS

The LBA Art classroom is a positive learning environment that helps to motivate students to be creative, solve problems, and think “outside the box”.

MAIN GOAL:

LBA students are encouraged to make conscious choices. They are encouraged to ask questions like:

What materials are needed to accomplish this task?

How do these tools work? How can tools be used to make a particular effect?

What happens when I experiment with these tools and different mediums?

How does my work reflect how I feel and/or think?

Students build their self confidence and passion for learning when they are creatively encouraged and encouraged to create.

PRIMARY EMPHASIS:

Create - Learn to investigate, organize and complete works of art using the exploration of materials.

Present - Learn to share and listen to others explain the choices they make in art.

Respond - Learn to perceive, analyse, critique and interpret artistic work through discussion.

Connect - Learn about art in history and society...different times, places, and cultures.

In Grade 4, students apply the elements of design to communicate for a variety of purposes and on a variety of themes. The focus of visual arts in these grades is to help students extend their exploration of relationships and personal experience in their own world. Students use a broader range of subject matter and media (tools, materials, processes, and techniques) to produce works of art. The teacher's role at this stage is to provide a positive working environment, facilitate the growth of technical skills and observational skills, and help students recognize that mistakes can be turned into creative opportunities.

Students use their knowledge of the elements and principles of design to solve artistic problems and analyse works of art. They generate and develop visual ideas in response to a variety of motivations, using imagination, observation, and a study of artists' works, and incorporate into their art ideas gained from sources such as independent reading.

Students explore and describe how different media influence the communication and interpretation of ideas in their own and others' work. They look beyond the surface meaning of art works and observe not only what is present but what is missing, in order to analyze and evaluate an artist's intent. They also analyze and describe how art-making processes and procedures clarify meaning and intentions in their own and others' work and observe how artists tell stories and create mood in their work. Students use their growing analytical and evaluative skills to investigate the purpose(s) and significance of objects, images, and art works in past and present cultures and to examine the contexts in which they were or are made, viewed, and valued.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Two, thirty-minute periods weekly; begin teaching basic fundamentals for sports such as volleyball, basketball, soccer, and softball; encourage development of individual skills as well as team building skills, encourage a habit of daily activity for overall fitness

MUSIC

- Notate and identify whole notes/rests, half notes/rests, quarter notes/rests, and eighth notes/rests
- Identify line/space notes in Treble clef
- Sing and sign all the solfege syllables
- Sing with a quality sound
- Explore and sing a variety of repertoire from different genres of music
- Identify and express dynamic markings (f, p, mf, mp, ff, pp)
- Recognize various instruments by sight and sound
- Study composers and their music compositions
- Study seasonal and holiday music
- Participate in Christmas production