

Course Description

The 4th grade Language Arts curriculum integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of vocabulary and grammar in a way that engages today's learners and supports them in building a broad and diverse set of literacy skills. Students study classic literature as well as more contemporary forms, including media and multimedia products. Writing assignments in semester A focus on narrative and persuasive modes and emphasize the use of reasoning and details to support opinions. Each writing assignment spans several lessons and guides students through a writing process that begins with prewriting and ends by emphasizing one or more aspects of conventions of standard written English. Students also learn how to participate in collaborative discussion and peer review sessions. In each lesson, engaging and relevant models and step-by-step instruction guide students toward mastery and appreciation of 21st century communication in all its forms and functions.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
Module 1: Introduction	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain what literature means to people and society. • Name some reasons why people read. • Describe your own reading preferences and habits. • Explain when and why correct spelling is important.
Module 2: Processes	Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe some strategies for reading well. • Define decoding and test y.
	Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the stages of the writing process and explain how each stage helps you write well.
	Standard English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define standard English and explain when it's needed.
Module 3: Inferences	Making Inferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define detail.
	Collaborative Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take part in a collaborative discussion. • Support an opinion with reasons.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	Multiple Meanings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain how speakers and writers use words with multiple meanings.
Module 4: Plot	Parts of a Plot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name the basic elements of a story, and the parts of a plot. Explain how plots are different in short stories, compared to novels.
	Growing as a Reader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify some goals for your own growth in reading. Use the "progressive" verb tense to write about events.
	Verb Tense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the "progressive" verb tense to write about events. Understand how verb tense effects the story.
Module 5: Conflict	Conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the conflict in a story, and relate conflict to plot.
	Context Clues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use context clues to figure out what a word means.
	Writing Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select good topics and plan ideas for a narrative writing assignment. Use relative adverbs to describe events in a narrative.
Module 6: Setting	Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and describe the setting in a story.
	Setting Context Clues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the context clues in a story's setting to learn new words.
	Writing Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use prepositional phrases to develop setting. Generate ideas for a story's setting.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
Module 7: Characters	Character Traits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe a story's characters in terms of character traits. Identify and use several methods for communicating a character's traits.
	Developing Characters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and use several methods for communicating a character's traits.
	Novel Characters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the characters in a novel. Distinguish between precise and imprecise verbs. Edit writing to make the verbs more precise.
Module 8: Characterization	Characterization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize direct and indirect characterization. Use direct and indirect characterization to develop a character.
	Dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Punctuate dialogue.
	Word Endings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use what you know about word endings to figure out what words mean.
Module 9: Point of View	Points of View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the effect of point of view on a story.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	Paraphrasing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paraphrase someone else's comments.
	Relative Pronoun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use relative pronouns to describe a character.
	Writing Point of View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose the best point of view for your story.
Module 10: Narrators	Analyzing Narrators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze and describe the narrator of a story. Select a narrator for your short story.
	Introducing Narrators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a story's narrator in a way that is interesting.
	Using Direct Quotes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use commas and quotation marks to punctuate a direct quote.
Module 11: Theme	What is Theme?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define theme. Explain the difference between theme and plot.
	Time to Write!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write a short story based on your prewriting ideas. Apply strategies for deciding if a sentence is complete.
Module 12: Finding Themes	How to Find Themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the themes in a story, based on events and details.
	Discovering Themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write the theme of a story and support it with reasons.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	Themes and Titles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain how a story's title and theme are sometimes related.
	Discussion Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify questions that help a discussion by clarifying what others have said.
Module 13: Comparing Themes	Common Themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the themes that two stories have in common. Give reasons supported by facts and details.
	Reviewing Discussion Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review key ideas expressed in a discussion.
	Idioms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define and recognize examples of idioms.
Module 14: Forms of Fiction	Myths and Fables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare and contrast forms of short fiction. Use academic words related to the study of fiction.
	Folk Tales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use academic words related to the study of fiction. Distinguish among different forms of short fiction.
	Claims and Opinions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write an opinion paper about something you've read.
	Writing Opinions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain what makes a good conclusion to an opinion paper.
Module 15: Forms of Media	What is Media?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List and compare media forms used to tell stories.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	Paraphrasing Multimedia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paraphrase ideas presented in media other than written text.
	Transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link opinions and reasons using transition words and phrases.
	Checking for Commas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply rules for using commas after transitional tags.
Module 16: Analyzing Multimedia	Multimedia Stories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze a story delivered in media other than written text.
	Stereotypes and Multimedia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the written work of peers.
	Peer Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the effect of a multimedia story. Define and identify examples of stereotypes.
	Revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise a story to help readers follow a sequence of events.
	Editing for Commas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edit sentences with comma errors.
Module 17: Mythology	Mythological Beings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key characters from various cultures' myths.
	Allusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define and identify examples of an allusion.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	Allusions as Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use allusions as clues for determining a word's meaning.
	Using References	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use reference materials to confirm allusions to mythology.
Module 18: Comparing Myths	Creation Myths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compare and contrast myths from different cultures.
	Writing to Compare	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write an essay that compares and contrasts two myths.
	Mythological Roots	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Define words with Latin roots that are related to mythology.