

NORTH MAC MIDDLE SCHOOL
CURRICULUM GUIDE

Teacher

Tammy Hainsfurther

Grade Level

4th

Course

Language Arts

Course Aims

Our focus and goal in Fourth Grade Language Arts is to empower students to become independent readers, researchers, note takers, writers, listeners, speakers, and critical thinkers who confidently approach and respond to Literature, Social Studies, Science, and global questions. Students increase their reading levels by reading in and outside of class, and improve their writing skills by writing, which also deepens comprehension. Students will actively read, write, research, listen, and discuss. English grammar skills will also be practiced.

Course Description

In Fourth Grade Language Arts we will follow the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which requires students to read, read, read, and write, write, write. In addition to Nonfiction we will read novels, which inspire lifelong reading. We will ask questions, research, take notes, report, and write for a variety of purposes. Our writing will include informational, opinion, and narratives. When possible we will integrate our reading and writing with Lead 21 Reading, Social Studies, and Science. Grammar practice will also be included.

Textbook: No

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QUARTER: _____ First _____

COURSE: _____ 4th Language Arts _____

<i>Content</i>	<i>Assessment</i>	<i>Common Core</i>	<i>Essential Questions</i>
<p>Introduction to Language Arts:</p> <p>Literature: <i>Frindle</i></p>	<p>-Comprehension questions requiring written responses</p> <p>-Summaries</p> <p>-Class participation</p> <p>-Discussion</p> <p>-AR Score</p>	<p>RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10</p> <p>RF.4.4</p> <p>L.4.4</p>	<p>How might this novel connect to your Language Arts class?</p> <p>What did you learn about words, writing, research, dictionaries, newspaper reporting, and new ideas?</p>
<p>Introduction to Writing</p>	<p>Use writing portfolios to assess improvement and growth throughout the year.</p>	<p>W.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.7</p>	<p>What is a Liberal Arts education? Who are critical thinkers? Why write? What are your reading/writing/research goals?</p>
<p>Discuss: Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers</p>	<p>Teacher Observation</p>	<p>ELA</p>	<p>Why do the PARCC committees believe kids need to write all day?</p>

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<p>Lead 21 Unit 1: <i>Life Stories</i></p> <p>Classic Literature: <i>Old Yeller</i> (#1 student favorite)</p> <p>Write about three famous people who have inspired future generations by their achievements. It could be a historical figure, a scientist, writer, sports figure, or other. Present.</p> <p><i>Springfield Journal-Register:</i> Newspaper and e edition newspaper reading- *“Read All About It” *Newspaper Literacy *100 Ways to Use the Newspaper *Let’s Write a Newspaper Story! *Write a classified ad. *Write summaries/paraphrase. *Rate a story using a 1-5 Rubric. * Choose articles and write short opinion pieces providing reasons supported by facts (text evidence). Listen/Share/Discuss/Debate articles and responses.</p>	<p>-Comprehension questions requiring written responses -Summaries -Class participation -Discussion -AR Score</p> <p>Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric</p> <p>Lead 21 4 pt. Rubrics</p>	<p>RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10 RF.4.4 L.4.4</p> <p>RI.4.10 W.4.1, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8, 4.10 SL.4.4 L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3</p> <p>RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.10 W.4.1, 4.2 SL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 L.4.1, 4.3</p>	<p>What was life like on the Texas frontier following the Civil War? Are young people capable of making important decisions and taking action?</p> <p>Who do I really admire and can I document several reasons why he/she has inspired me?</p> <p>Why read the newspaper? What is informational text? What is opinion text? What is text evidence?</p>
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<p>Thank you letters</p>	<p>Teacher proofing</p>	<p>W.4.4, 4.5</p>	<p>Who (sponsors) should I thank for providing our newspapers? What specific details should I include?</p>
<p>Lead 21 Unit 2: <i>A Green Future</i></p>			
<p>Global Warming- Research/notes/write informational report including opinion. Share in speech format.</p>	<p>Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric</p>	<p>W.4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.9, 4.10 SL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 L.4.2, 4.3</p>	<p>What is global warming? How is it affecting earth? Do I agree with the experts? Can I make a difference?</p>
<p>Respond in writing. Present.</p>	<p>Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric</p>	<p>W.4.1, 4.2, 4.7, 4.8 SL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3</p>	<p>Do you think our environment would be in such danger today if more people had started thinking about conservation and recycling 50 years ago? What should we have done? Include several changes. One example is water bottles.</p>
<p>Shurley English: Capitalization and Punctuation</p>	<p>Classroom Practice Teacher Observation</p>	<p>L.4.2</p>	<p>How will students learn to transfer capitalization, punctuation, and overall editing skills to writing?</p>
<p>Subject Nouns</p>	<p>Classroom Practice</p>	<p>L.4.1</p>	<p>What is a Subject Noun?</p>

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Verbs	Classroom Practice	L.4.1	What is a verb?
Ongoing:			
Student led Book Reviews	Teacher Observation	W.4.4 SL.4.4	What should I include in a summary of this book without giving away the ending? What is my opinion of the book and why? Why would I recommend this book? What type of person would enjoy it the most?
Dictionaries/online resources	Teacher Observation	L.4.4	Do I know how to use a dictionary, and look words up online? Do I do so on a daily basis?
Thesaurus	Teacher Observation	L.4.4	Do I know how and why to use a Thesaurus and how to look online? Do I do so on an ongoing basis?

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QUARTER: Second

COURSE: Language Arts

<i>Content</i>	<i>Assessment</i>	<i>Common Core</i>	<i>Essential Questions</i>
Lead 21 Unit 3 <i>A Nation's Beginnings</i> : Complete graphic organizer and one page report for each of two weekly focus questions.	Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric	RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 W.4.2, 4.4, 4.5 L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6	How are geography and economy connected in New England? How are geography and economy connected in the South Atlantic States?
Veterans Day letters to Walter Reed Army Medical Center	Teacher proofing	W.4.4, 4.5	Why write to veterans? What should I write? Will I strive to put forth my best effort?
Narrative Writing on topic/event/holiday/other of choice	Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric	W.4.3, 4.5	What is my favorite topic, event, holiday, or other? How can I put this into words that will be interesting and easy to visualize?

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<p>Literature: <i>The Best Christmas Pageant Ever</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Written comprehension questions -Summaries -Class participation -Discussion -AR Score 	<p>RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10 L.4.4</p>	<p>Have you ever known a child who was thought to be the “worst kid in town”? Have you ever learned a valuable lesson? Have you ever thought about the true meaning of Christmas?</p>
<p>Shurley English: Adverbs</p>	<p>Classroom Practice</p>	<p>L.4.1</p>	<p>What is an adverb?</p>
<p>Adjective</p>	<p>Classroom Practice</p>	<p>L.4.1</p>	<p>What is an adjective?</p>
<p>Type reports (when possible)</p>	<p>Teacher proofing</p>	<p>W.4.6</p>	<p>When will I have to type reports in the future?</p>

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QUARTER: Third

COURSE: Language Arts

<i>Content</i>	<i>Assessment</i>	<i>Common Core</i>	<i>Essential Questions</i>
Lead 21 Unit 4 <i>Patterns in the Sky</i> International Space Station research/notes/1 pg. report	Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric	RI.4.3 W.4.2, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 4.10 L. 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4	What is the International Space Station, and what is its purpose? What is NASA? What important information should I research and record on the ISS?
Lead 21 Unit 5 <i>America's Heartland</i> Complete graphic organizer and report for each of two focus questions.	Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric	RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 W.4.2, 4.4, 4.5 L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6	How are geography and economy connected in the Midwest? How are geography and economy connected in the South Central States?
Young Author Story including characters, plot (problem), and resolution.	Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric	W.4.3, 4.4, 4.5 L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5	What can I write a very interesting, award winning story about? Does my story describe the characters, form a plot, and resolve the problem?
Shurley English: Prepositions/objects of the prepositions/prepositional phrases	Classroom Practice	L.4.1	What is a preposition, object of the preposition, and a prepositional phrase?

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COURSE: Language Arts

<i>Content</i>	<i>Assessment</i>	<i>Common Core</i>	<i>Essential Questions</i>
<p>Lead 21 Unit 6 <i>Nature's Neighborhoods</i>:</p> <p>Poetry: Catskill Mountain Alliteration Topics of choice</p> <p>Literature: <i>My Side of the Mountain</i></p>	<p>Teacher Observation</p> <p>-Comprehension questions requiring written responses -Summaries -Class participation -Discussion AR Score</p>	<p>RL.4.5 RF.4.4</p> <p>RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10 RF.4.4 L.4.4 (vocab)</p>	<p>What is poetry? Who are some famous poets? Can I write poetry?</p> <p>How are themes of nature, courage, curiosity, and independence interwoven throughout this novel? What types of ecosystems does Sam encounter in the Catskill Mountains?</p>
<p>Lead 21 Unit 7 <i>The Wide-Open West</i> Complete graphic organizer and one page report for each of two focus questions.</p>	<p>Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric</p>	<p>RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 W.4.2, 4.4, 4.5 L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6</p>	<p>How are geography and economy connected in the Mountain States?</p> <p>How are geography and economy connected in the Pacific States?</p>

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<p>Year-end Literature:</p> <p><i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Written Comprehension Questions -Summaries -Class participation -Discussion -AR Score 	<p>RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10</p> <p>RF.4.4</p> <p>L.4.4</p>	<p>Are you interested in stories of fantasy and magic, struggles between good and evil, and sacrifices one hero makes to save someone else? Would you lie just to make yourself look good? Would you ever forgive someone who was your enemy?</p>
<p><i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Reader Response Journal -Written Comprehension Questions -Summaries -Group Discussion 	<p>RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10</p> <p>L.4.4</p>	<p>How would it feel to live in a house where you were despised and treated poorly? How could you leave this situation and make it on your own?</p>
<p>Shurley English: Pronouns</p>	<p>Classroom Practice</p>	<p>L.4.1</p>	<p>What are pronouns?</p>
<p>Conjunctions</p>	<p>Classroom Practice</p>	<p>L.4.1</p>	<p>What are conjunctions?</p>

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