

Curriculum Essentials: Grade Four

Modern History: 1850–Present

Core Knowledge series by E.D. Hirsch: *The Civil War; Westward Expansion after the Civil War; Native American Cultures and Conflicts; Immigration; Industrialization and Urbanization*
National Geographic Society GeoKit: *The Civil War; Immigration; Twentieth Century*

- Constitution, Bill of Rights
- Slavery, Tubman, Douglass
- Civil War – causes, battles, generals
- Reconstruction
- Abraham Lincoln
- Westward Expansion
- Native American cultures and conflicts
- Map skills, U.S. states and capitals
- Immigration, Ellis Island, Statue of Liberty
- Inventions and inventors
- Factory work, labor unions, reforms
- Turn-of-the-century art and architecture
- World War I
- Roaring Twenties
- Great Depression, Roosevelt, Hoover, New Deal
- World War II
- Holocaust, atom bomb
- The Civil Rights movement

Literature

Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder
Old Yeller by Fred Gipson
The Birchbark House by Louise Erdrich
Pinocchio by Carlo Collodi
Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle
In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson by Bette Bao Lord
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor
Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

Writing

Units include Realistic Fiction, Personal Essay, Persuasive Essay, Native American Research Report, How-to Article, Legend, and Poetry.

A Guide to the Writing Workshop: Primary Grades
By Lucy Calkins, Teachers College Reading and Writing Project, Columbia University

Grammar, Mechanics, Usage, Spelling, and Handwriting

The Writing Road to Reading by Romalda Spalding
Junior Analytical Grammar by R. Robin Finley

Parts of speech; prepositional phrases; simple sentences; modifiers; sentence fragments and run-on sentences; sentence diagramming.



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Science

Science and Technology for Children Science Kits, Carolina Biological Supply Company, 2002

Units include MicroWorlds, Food Chemistry, and Motion and Design.

Mathematics

Primary Mathematics 4A and 4B (5A/5B for advanced class), Singapore Mathematics

Art

Art history: a timeline of the Masters of Western Art. Major projects: The twelve Renaissance words for drawing along with drawing assignments; looking at photography, quilt making, animal chalk portraits, abstract art/design, Jacob Lawrence collage, Georgia O'Keeffe watercolor, Deborah Butterfield horse sculptures. Field trip to the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Music

Share the Music Series, Macmillan/McGraw-Hill

The Story of Music, Usborne

My Recorder Book, Feldstein

Solfege, sixteenth notes and eighth-sixteenth combinations, tonal center, strong/ weak beats, pitch, notation, musicals, opera, spirituals, Romantic and Modern music history.

Physical Education

Team sports; individual and lifetime activities; fitness exercise and assessment.

Latin has its own curriculum essentials document showing the sequence of courses students take from K-12.