



HERITAGE OAK

Private Education

Fourth Grade Curriculum Synopsis

Welcome to Fourth Grade! Our focus is on very distinct interrelated skills including language, comprehension and critical thinking, mathematics, problem solving, and writing. Our students learn how to effectively gather information, apply it, and then use this data as the basis for new skills; such as inference, analyzing, and thinking critically. By focusing on the critical skills of comprehension and math in these formative years, we guide students to become confident and accomplished communicators. Through the use of various modalities, we provide challenging and creative experiences that allow students to work individually and in groups, as they apply their newfound knowledge.

In addition to a strong academic program, Heritage Oak is committed to developing the whole. This well balanced environment is not only safe and inviting, but also supportive and encouraging. We are partners working together for the benefit of the children.

ENGLISH/ LANGUAGE ARTS

An integrated Harcourt language arts curriculum providing core instruction in the following areas:

- ☐ Grammar usage and mechanics
- ☐ Parts of speech: Verbs and verb tense / Nouns / Adjectives / Adverbs / Pronouns / Contractions / Participles
- ☐ Capitalization and punctuation / Spelling, Vocabulary and Verbal Reasoning
- ☐ Synonyms and antonyms / Prepositions / Articles / Interjections
- ☐ Writing letters / Prefix, suffix and root words
- Identify parts of a sentence
- Daily Grammar warm-up worksheets
- Weekly spelling words that coincide with each weekly Harcourt story.
- Vocabulary: Definitions/Synonyms/Antonyms/Classifying/Analogies/Completing the Sentence/Word Associations
- Biweekly vocabulary words derived from stories and passages read throughout lessons
- Biweekly and Theme assessments

READING COMPREHENSION

Students are provided with a structured literature program in a warm and inviting environment. This program supports young children in developing a love for literature using narrative and expository works, poetry and prose from the Harcourt series, as well as through in-class novel studies.

- ☐ Students are required to read for 15 minutes on a nightly basis
- ☐ Reading comprehension practice with students individually and in groups
- ☐ Students are taught about books, authors and illustrators
- ☐ Reading includes: Harcourt California Excursions basal reader, Cricket in Times Square and Island of the Blue Dolphins, plus non-fiction selections and other whole-class novel studies
- ☐ Accelerated Reader/Reading Assistant: students will read three books per quarter, with an average of 85% or higher
- Increase level of comprehension / enriched vocabulary / sequencing skills
- Comparison and abstractions

- Write summaries / paraphrasing / illustrating
- Moral lessons / enjoyment and pleasure reading
- Reading fluency and comprehension
- Summaries / sequencing skills
- Short stories / Current events / Novels

WRITING

The Step Up To Writing curriculum is an enriching process that allows students to become well rounded, organized writers. Using visual, multisensory and practical strategies, our young authors will demonstrate their writing abilities through various genres. Students will compose clear coherent sentences, paragraphs, and essays that develop a central idea. Their writing will show they consider the audience and purpose. Students progress through the stages of the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising and editing). The Six Traits of effective writing curriculum is also reviewed throughout the year to ensure students employ quality ideas and word choice, write with correct sentence fluency and conventions, and consider voice and organization in all assignments.

- One to four paragraph compositions
- Writing Styles: Narrative/Descriptive/Expository/Imaginative/Formal and Informal Letters/
Compare and Contrast/Persuasive/Fable
- California Missions Report

MATH

McGraw Hill offers a vertical alignment process that provides learners with an articulated, coherent sequence of content. It ensures that content standards and units of study are introduced, reinforced, and assessed and that instruction is targeted on individual students and CA Mathematics Standards at a grade level ahead.

- whole-number concepts and computation
- fractions / decimals / percent
- negative numbers
- properties of operations
- measurement / conversions / square roots /
- Probability / chance
- perimeter and area / polygons / angles
- geometric solids / volume / symmetry /
- real-world connections
- quantitative reasoning

SCIENCE

The Science Program is a hands-on, interdisciplinary curriculum that takes place in the Elementary Science Laboratory.

- Interactions of Living Things / The Human Body Systems
- The Changing Earth
- Matter and Electricity / Heat and Energy

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students will explore and do an in-depth study of the environment, historical, social and economic structure of the state of California.

- California's environment and life in the twenty-first century
- Settling California / Geography and map skills
- California Gold Rush Report and Mission Report

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

- ☐ basic grammatical structures
- ☐ the study of definite and indefinite articles
- ☐ the subject and possessive pronouns
- ☐ students learn to conjugate regular and irregular verbs

COMPUTERS

- ☐ Students will develop and apply skills in technology to the learning process
- ☐ Basic skills and Keyboarding / Word processing
- ☐ Utilizing and Organizing work folders / Locate and use research materials
- ☐ Create Graphs from a spreadsheet
- California Mission Power point presentation

ART

The students will study the lives and works of artists such as Georgia O'Keefe, Vincent Van Gogh, Winslow Homer, Paul Cezanne, They will be studying the color wheel, values, printmaking, architecture, drawing from a grid and learning to sketch animals.

- ☐ Students will learn about the Impressionist movement
- ☐ How to shade with charcoal / Sketch outdoor objects / perspective drawing
- ☐ Every week new artists are introduced and discussed with the children

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC:

- ☐ Children will choose to play in the band or orchestra.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS

- ☐ Development of fundamental, specialized motor skills.
- ☐ Monitor and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness
- ☐ Students participate in a variety of physical activities and learn how to maintain a personalized active lifestyle
- ☐ Students exhibit responsible and self-directed behavior that lead to positive social interactions in physical activity DSL (Developmental Sports League)
- ☐ Development of the individual