Parents' Guide to Fourth Grade Learning Targets for Reading, Writing, and Mathematics

Chambersburg Area School District
www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us *Visit to find other developmentally appropriate web pages

~ Reading ~

By the end of Fourth Grade your child should be able to:

- Increase the number of words that can be read fluently.
- Identify meanings of words such as synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms.
- Identify meanings of words using context clues and word parts.
- Use information from the story to predict certain events and/or details.
- Identify main idea and supporting details.
- Summarize text.
- Make connections between two different stories.
- Identify different types of genres, such as fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.
- Identify literary elements such as character, setting, plot, events, problem, and solution.
- Identify exaggeration in text such as tall tales.
- Identify fact and opinion.
- Identify comprehension skills, such as cause and effect, compare and contrast and sequencing.
- Interpret graphs, charts, and headings.
- Self-monitor reading by predicting, inferring, drawing conclusions, clarifying, and summarizing.

Reading Activities to do at Home

- Have child read at home at least 20 minutes a day.
- Read appropriate independent text by making sure that there are no more than 5 unknown words on a page.
- Discuss with your child what they are reading. Ask them questions using who, what, where, when, why, and how.
- Provide many different types of reading materials such as newspapers, magazines and poems.
- Take your child to the library.
- Provide a good role model by reading yourself.
- Purchase books and gift cards to book stores for birthdays and holidays.
~ Writing ~

By the end of Fourth Grade, your child should be able to:

- Produce a compare/contrast essay based on a central theme using supporting ideas, along with a clear sense of organization.
- Use the steps in the writing process to create various forms of writing.
- Edit their own writing by looking for errors in grammar, spelling and sentence structure.
- Develop a personal writing style by using strong verbs along with descriptive adjectives and adverbs in fiction. In non-fiction, use accurate details and have transitions between different ideas.
- Correctly spell words when they are creating stories.
- Use punctuation correctly.

~ Mathematics ~

By the end of Fourth Grade, your child should be able to:

- Develop quick recall of multiplication and division facts.
- Multiply multi-digit whole numbers.
- Accurately estimate answers to problems.
- Compare models of fractions and decimals.
- Identify the area of a region.
- Use symmetry and congruency to describe shapes.
- Solve problems using bar graphs, picture graphs, and tables.
- Extend understanding of place value to hundred thousand.

Mathematic Activities to do at Home

Children enjoy mathematics because it relates to real life objects and situations.

- Use flash cards for both multiplication and division.
- Use food (pizza, pie, oranges, subs) to demonstrate fractions.
- Use grade appropriate math practice books available at local stores.
- Have your child explain to you how he/she came up with an answer for a math problem.