



Grade 4 English Language Arts

Major Learning Targets for This Grade

Reading

- Students will read and comprehend a range of grade-level stories, poems, and informational texts such as biographies, articles, or guidebooks about history, science, or the arts.
- Students will be able to describe the basic elements of stories (e.g., characters, events, settings) by drawing on specific details in the text.
- Students will pay close attention to key features of informational books and articles; understand the main and supporting ideas; compare and contrast information; and explain how the author uses facts, details, and evidence to support particular points.
- Students will compare ideas, characters, events, and settings in stories and myths from different cultures.

Writing

- Students will write summaries or opinions about topics supported with a set of well-organized facts, details, and examples.
- Students will independently conduct short research projects on different aspects of a topic using evidence from books and the Internet.

Language

- Students will write complete sentences with correct capitalization and spelling.
- Student will build understanding of relationships between words and nuances in word meanings (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, idioms) and use this knowledge to convey ideas precisely.

Speaking and Listening

- Students will be able to paraphrase and respond to information presented in discussions, such as comparing and contrasting ideas and analyzing evidence that speakers use to support particular points.
- Students will be able to report orally on a topic or tell a story with enough facts and details.



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College, Career, and Life Readiness

Students will be working to develop the following capabilities of a literate individual:

- Demonstrate independence.
- Build strong content knowledge.
- Respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.
- Comprehend as well as critique.
- Value evidence.
- Use technology and digital media strategically and capably.
- Come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

How Can I Support My Child?

1. Read with Your Child

- Read the same story or novel separately and discuss it together.
- Practice reading difficult text out loud until your child no longer stumbles over words.
- After your child reads, have them verbally summarize the main ideas and details to you.

2. Build on Language in Everyday Life

- Keep a running list of difficult vocabulary words and their meanings. Include words your child is learning in other subjects such as science and social studies.

3. Monitor Independent Reading Choices

- Make sure your child is challenging themselves.
- Make sure they are transitioning from early reader books with only a few words on the page, to longer books with chapters.

4. Play Word Games like Scrabble and Hangman

- Or, find fun word games online.

5. Introduce and Read Informational and Non-fiction Materials

- Read items such as instructions, mail or maps together.
- Discuss the difference between facts and opinions.

6. Encourage Research

- When your child asks questions, ask them to think about where they might find the answer.

For more information, visit scusd.edu/ela or contact Denise-Leograndis@scusd.edu, ELA Coordinator

SCUSD's Vision for Instruction and Assessment: *As a community of learners, we strive to create positive and engaging environments where a rigorous, student-centered curriculum is central. Teachers use inquiry-based instruction and formative assessment practices to support ALL learners in maturing socially and in becoming disciplinary thinkers.*