

Assessment

- Throughout the year, classroom teachers will assess each student's growth and progress toward achievement of the learning goals specified in the state curriculum (GPS or QCC if GPS have not been implemented).
- These classroom assessments will be used to guide instruction in order to provide every child with the opportunity to learn and to succeed.
- Students will be made aware of the performance expectations for 4th grade and will acquire self-monitoring and self-assessing skills to help them maximize their achievement.
- In the spring, Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests in Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies will be administered to 4th graders in order to provide a standardized measure of student learning.
- Beginning in the year the Georgia Performance Standards are implemented for a content area, the CRCT will directly align with those GPS.
- In addition, NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) is required by federal and state law in grade 4. Not all schools and students are administered these assessments. The selection of schools and students is determined by a random sample.

4th Grade Expectations

What should a child be able to do at the completion of 4th Grade?

What are the characteristics of a 4th Grader?

Typical fourth graders are students who begin to establish independence, responsibility, and organization skills. While developing these skills and character traits, they are still children and have a need for recreation. Fourth graders are very aware of differences, and teamwork is essential to create acceptance of all students. Fourth graders should begin to master more abstract concepts as opposed to concrete.



Promotion and Retention Policy from Coweta County Schools Board of Education Policy

1. In order for students to be successful in fifth grade, each student will exhibit at least 70% mastery of reading, vocabulary skills, math skills and three of the four following subjects: science, social studies, language, and spelling. The 70% will reflect an average of grades from each 9 nine weeks throughout the school year. Grades will be based on daily grades, end of selection tests and authentic assessments.
2. For a student to be promoted to the fifth grade, a rating of meets expectations or above is recommended on the reading/language arts, math, science and social studies of the fourth grade Criterion-Referenced Competency Test.
3. In all subject areas professional assessment, written documentation, and portfolio assessment of the student's performance shall carry great weight in the final decision for promotion and retention.

**Implementation
Schedule
for the Georgia Performance
Standards in 4th Grade**

**English Language Arts
2005-2006**

**Mathematics
2007-2008**

**Science
2006-2007**

**Social Studies
2008-2009**



4th Grade Language Arts

Fourth grade students will receive instruction in reading, writing, listening, speaking, & viewing. By the end of 4th Grade, students will be able to:

- Read and comprehend texts from a variety of genres
- Understand and learn from texts without having a teacher review the material for them
- Read and understand informational texts from other content areas as well as from language arts
- Use, independently, a variety of metacognitive strategies, such as self-questioning techniques when reading materials seem contradictory or hard to understand, to deepen and expand their understanding of texts
- Use writing as a tool for learning
- Articulate how authors use a variety of techniques and craft in their writing, and show evidence of the author's craft in their own writing
- Communicate effectively with different audiences
- Participate in cooperative learning environments

4th Grade Science

Fourth grade students will gather and interpret data and make models to focus on “doing” science related to earth science, physical science, and life science. By the end of 4th Grade, students will be able to:

- Differentiate between observations and ideas
- Use records, tables, or graphs to identify patterns of change
- Write instructions and make sketches that allow others to carry out a scientific procedure
- Compare and contrast attributes of stars and planets
- Model position and motion of the earth, moon, and sun
- Investigate heating and cooling and use of thermometers and insulation
- Investigate magnets
- Differentiate between habitats in Georgia and the organisms that live in our state
- Recognize effects of pollution and humans on the environments

4th Grade Social Studies

Fourth grade students will begin the formal study of United States history, from the development of Native American cultures to the year 1860. Concepts in geography, government, and economics will interface with the study of history. By the end of 4th Grade, students will be able to:

- Explain the development of early Native American cultures in North America
- Describe the European exploration of North America and explain the factors that shaped British colonial America, as well as the causes, events, and results of the American Revolution
- Analyze the challenges faced in governing the new American nation, westward expansion, and the abolitionist and suffrage movements
- Locate the important geographical features of the United States, both natural and man-made, and describe how these physical systems affect the growth of the U. S.
- Describe and explain the significance of selected historical documents and of governmental functions as they relate to democratic beliefs and freedoms
- Use economic concepts of trade, opportunity cost, specialization, voluntary exchange, productivity, and price incentives to illustrate historical events

4th Grade Mathematics

All students will be actively engaged in developing mathematical understandings in real and relevant contexts. By the end of 4th Grade, students will be able to:

- Use properties of the four arithmetic operations to solve and check problems
- Determine when and how to use rounding
- Solve problems involving multiplication and division of whole numbers (2-3 digits by 1-2 digits)
- Add and subtract simple decimals and common fractions with common denominators
- Measure weight and use appropriate units and tools to measure angles
- Understand characteristics of and model geometric plane and solid figures, and use the first quadrant of the coordinate system
- Understand and apply patterns and rules to describe relationships and solve problems, including using the strategy of working backwards
- Write mathematical expressions using symbols and evaluate using different values
- Gather, organize, and display data in bar, line, and picture graphs, and compare features of graphs and identify missing or duplicate data