

# FOURTH GRADE

# QuickFacts



Fourth grade is a time when students finally have skills to begin to satisfy their hungry minds and imaginations more fully than they have been able to before. We will weave in C.S. Lewis's *The Chronicles of Narnia* as a subtle theme throughout the year. You may even hear students refer to themselves as being king or queen of Narnia!

## Subjects We Study

### LITERATURE

- Explore story components such as plot, character, and main events
- Writing assignments that create anticipation and reinforce imagination
- Make connections between story themes and concepts and our everyday lives

### WRITING AND RHETORIC

- Rewrite classic fables and stories using IEW (Institute for Excellence in Writing) method
- Create outlines
- Write paragraphs of 5-7 paragraphs
- Zaner-Bloser Cursive

### GRAMMAR

- Learn and use the parts of speech
- Learn sentence pattern and diagramming
- Shurley English

### SPELLING

- Spell to Write and Read (Wanda Sanseri)
- Learn spelling rules and applications
- Find words that are exceptions to those rules
- Develop grammatical understanding, classify words, and build vocabulary

### SCIENCE

- Science Through History (Berean Builders)
- Life science, physical science, earth science, and the human body
- Sketches and observations compiled in individual Nature Study Journals
- Labs twice a week with hands-on experiments

### MATH

- Math in Focus (a version of Singapore Math)
- Develop quantitative reasoning skills
- Turn abstract problems into concrete pictures

### GEOGRAPHY

- Legends and Leagues (Veritas Press)

### LATIN

- Develop basics of the language-often put to music
- National Mythology Exam
- D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths
- Latin for Children Primer 3

## History Cycle

- *THE STORY OF THE WORLD: VOL II THE MIDDLE AGES*

## Bible Cycle

- *GOD'S GREAT COVENANT: NEW TESTAMENT* (CLASSICAL ACADEMIC PRESS)
- CATECHISM QUESTIONS 60-75

## Fine Arts and PE

- WEEKLY MUSIC AND ART CLASSES (TWICE A WEEK)
- BATTLE MASTERS & GRACE AND STRENGTH, INCLUDES ARCHERY FOR GIRLS (TWICE A WEEK)
- RECESS DAILY

### EXAMPLES OF BOOKS WE READ

*The Chronicles of Narnia series*

by C.S. Lewis

*Pinocchio*

by Carlo Collodi

*Snow Treasure*

by Marie McSwigen

*Railway Children*

by Edith Nesbit

*Robin Hood*

by Roger Green

*The Secret Garden*

by Frances Hodgson Burnett

### EXAMPLES OF PIECES WE RECITE

*A Song of Sherwood King Alfred's*

*War Song*

*Christmas Bells*

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

*Opportunity*

by Edward Rowland Sill

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

by Christina Rossetti

*The Tyger*

by William Blake

*The Village Blacksmith*

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

## Class Traditions to look forward to

**NARNIA CELEBRATIONS** The class Narnia celebrations are kicked off with a formal tea imitating the one Mr. Tumnus made for Lucy in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, and culminate in a production of their narratives several weeks later. The students dress in costume and deliver a dramatic and sometimes humorous reading of the first-person narrative they write from the perspective of their assigned Narnia character. Parents and classmates enjoy wassail and cookies at this much-anticipated event!

**DISCOVERY PARK OF AMERICA TRIP** Students always look forward to taking a class trip to Union City, TN to visit the Discovery Park of America. There are lots of fun and interesting exhibits to spark their curiosity and imagination, as well as several historically relevant exhibits.

**MEMPHIS BOTANICAL GARDENS** The students enjoy checking off different plants, sculptures, and other items from their scavenger hunt list. The class also compares what they are seeing to the wondrous world they read about in *The Magician's Nephew*.

*Mrs. Marsch brings to Augustine School her love of Classical Education as well as her enthusiasm for life. She is a beloved Augustine graduate and prior to teaching, she has coached cross country for our students.*