

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. Brigman loves to share her passion for learning with her students. Her desire is to help them love the process of learning and make a real and lasting impact on their hearts and minds. She looks forward to helping your child learn to love God and grow in character and wisdom.