
SOCIAL STUDIES



Students will . . .

- Use primary and secondary sources to explain how migration and immigration affected the growth of Michigan.
- Use data and text to compare a major Michigan economic activity today with that same activity in the past.
- Use a variety of sources to construct a historical narrative about the beginnings of the automobile industry and labor movement in Michigan.
- Use cardinal and intermediate directions to describe the relative location of places in the US.
- Describe ways that the US can be divided into different regions.
- Describe the impact of immigration to the US.
- Explain probable consequences of an absence of government and of rules and laws.
- Give examples of ways the Constitution limits the powers of the federal government.
- Describe the relationship between rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- Describe some characteristics of a market economy.
- Explain how changes in the US economy impact levels of employment and unemployment.
- Describe how global competition affects the national economy.

(A complete listing of content expectations are found on the Michigan Department of Education website)

ADDITIONAL CURRICULUM

Art

Fourth grade students meet with the art teacher twice for 40 minutes every 15 days.

Physical Education/Music

Fourth grade students meet for physical or music education every day for 30 minutes.

Shared and Interactive Literacy Experience (SAIL)

All 1st through 5th grade students will engage in common literacy experiences every day for 25 minutes.

ASSESSMENT

Teachers use a variety of methods when assessing students. They may include:

- Portfolio Collection
- Observations
- Demonstrations
- Rubrics
- Conferences
- Quizzes and written tests
- Surveys
- Checklists
- State of Michigan Assessment
- District Common Assessment
- STAR Reading and STAR Math
- Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA)
- Self Evaluation



REPORT TO PARENTS

Parents are encouraged to talk with their child's teacher at any time during the school year. Following is a list of ways that you may communicate with and/or review your child's progress:

- Synergy
- Teacher's web site/e-mail/voice mail
- Regular parent-teacher conferences



Ways You Can Help Your Child At Home

- ✓ Help your child establish a routine to read independently.
 - ✓ Be a reader yourself.
 - ✓ Read to your child (fiction & non-fiction).
 - ✓ Encourage them to predict and ask questions as they read.
 - ✓ Give books, dictionaries, thesauri, spell checkers, academic software, etc. to your children as gifts.
 - ✓ Make the above resources available in your home.
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Grand Blanc Community Schools

Fourth Grade Curriculum

Guide for Parents



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Grand Blanc Community Schools, the hallmark of academic and personal excellence, is to ensure students actualize their own unique genius, freely and without fear, through a system distinguished by

- Dedication to the discovery of profound learning
 - Exemplary models of character and judgment
 - Global experiences in life and living
 - Emphasis on individual autonomy and self direction
 - Unremitting pursuit of the highest human ideals.
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READING/LANGUAGE ARTS



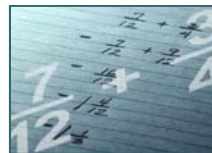
Students will . . .

- Engage in subject matter conversations.
- Speak clearly with appropriate volume and intonation.
- Writes legibly using both manuscript and cursive handwriting
- Write for a variety of purposes and audiences (*i.e., writing that uses many descriptive words and includes all the senses, a personal story written in a sequential order, begin to research a topic and write about findings, state an opinion and support with facts*).
- Use the writing process (*pre writing, drafting, revising, editing, publishing*).
- Write using descriptive words and sentence variety.
- Use correct spelling, end punctuation, colons/semicolons, apostrophes, quotation marks, commas, and capital letters in their published writing.
- Identify and read a variety of literature including fantasy, adventure, poetry, essay, historical fiction, biography, and nonfiction.
- Use a variety of strategies to decode text and construct meaning (*i.e., A student might underline text, take notes, or use a graphic organizer to help remember what they've read*).
- Apply comprehension strategies (*i.e., visualizing, making predictions, making connections, questioning and summarizing during reading*).
- Compare two texts and show how they are alike orally and in writing.
- Infer the message, theme, or central purpose of text
- Read with fluency (smooth and with expression)

MATH

Students will . . .

- Use the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems including use of drawings, simple equations, and assessing the reasonableness of an answer using mental computation and estimation strategies.
- Find all factor pairs for whole numbers 1-100. Find multiples and determine whether a number from 1-100 is prime or composite.
- Generate and analyze patterns, such as generating terms in sequences and explaining patterns that result.
- Generalize place value understanding for multi-digit whole numbers.
- Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic.
- Understand fraction equivalence and ordering through the use of visuals, and comparing by creating common denominators or numerators.
- Understand the multiplication of a fraction by a whole number, by using visual fraction models and equations to represent problems.
- Understand decimal notation for fractions, and compare decimal fractions.
- Solve problems involving measurement and conversion of measurements from a larger unit to a smaller unit.
- Apply the area and perimeter formulas for rectangles in real world and mathematical problems. (For example, find the width of a rectangular room given the area of the flooring and the length).
- Understand concepts of angle and measure angles.
- Draw and identify lines and angles, and classify shapes by properties of their lines and angles (*i.e., points, line segments, rays, right, acute, obtuse, perpendicular, parallel, symmetry*).



SCIENCE



Students will . . .

- Make purposeful observations and generate questions using appropriate senses.
- Manipulate simple tools that aid observation and data collection and make accurate measurements with appropriate units.
- Construct simple charts and graphs from data and summarize to answer scientific questions using data/samples as evidence to separate fact from opinion.
- Share ideas about science through purposeful conversation in collaborative groups and use evidence when communicating.
- Develop research strategies and skills for information gathering and problem solving.
- Compare sets of data from multiple trials of a science investigation using illustrations, performances, models, exhibits, and activities to explain reasons for differences.
- Identify heat and electricity as forms of energy and show how temperature can be increased in a substance by adding energy.
- Explain how electrical energy is transferred and changed through the use of a simple circuit.
- Create a simple working electromagnet and explain the conditions necessary to make the electromagnet.
- Measure the weight (spring scale) and mass (balances in grams or kilograms) of objects.
- Measure volumes of liquids and capacities of containers in milliliters and liters.
- Compare the states (solids, liquids, gases) of matter.
- Determine that plants require air, water, & light; animals air & water, and that both require a source of energy and building material for growth and repair.
- Identify organisms as part of a food chain or food web and individual differences in organisms of the same kind.
- Explain how environmental changes can produce a change in the food web and how variations in physical characteristics of organisms give them an advantage for survival and reproduction.
- Identify common objects in the sky and compare the characteristics of the sun, moon and Earth, including relative distances and abilities to support life.
- Describe the apparent movement of the sun and moon through day/night and the seasons.
- Explain how fossils provide evidence of the history of Earth and compare life forms found in fossils with organisms that exist today.