

What My Fourth Grader is Learning



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

| | ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS  | MATH  | SCIENCE  & SOCIAL STUDIES  |
|--|---|---|---|
| AUGUST - OCTOBER  | <p>Students will learn how the main idea is supported by specific details in a text while reading about Earth, the sun, the moon, stars, and other planets.</p>  | <p>Students will learn to read, write, compare, and round multi-digit whole numbers, as well as work with multi-step word problems incorporating larger, multi-digit numbers.</p>  | <p>Students will learn about American Indian culture and customs prior to European Exploration and North American exploration.</p>  <p>Students will explore the changes of Earth and how wind, water, and weathering affect rocks and the evolution of Earth's physical landscape.</p>  |
| OCTOBER - DECEMBER  | <p>Students will learn to gather information from multiple resources, build note-taking skills, and compile sources by reading about Pre-Columbian America, exploration, and the early settlements of the U.S. to explain how European arrival changed America.</p>  | <p>Students will learn about factors, number multiples, and fractions that are equivalent, and then compare fractions with different numerators and denominators.</p>  | <p>Students will learn about the formation of the 13 colonies, eastern American colonization, and the individuals and groups of people who contributed.</p>  |
| DECEMBER - FEBRUARY  | <p>Students will learn about how perspective and point of view affect the way a story is told while reading about the American Revolution and American Independence.</p>  | <p>Students will learn to add, subtract, and multiply fractions.</p>  | <p>Students will learn about the early American settlers to examine the American Revolutionary period, with a focus on 1763 - 1783.</p>  |
| FEBRUARY - APRIL  | <p>Students will learn to analyze characters while reading about the legends of medieval times and heroes from this period. Specifically, students will analyze the treatment of heroes from medieval legends to determine whether or not they should be revered.</p>  | <p>Students will learn how decimals and fractions relate to one another, to compare decimals, and to solve word problems involving decimals.</p>  | <p>Students will learn about the relationship between the humans and our habitats, how humans help and hurt the earth, and how changes in the Earth impact human life.</p>  <p>Students will learn about the political, economic, and social ramifications of the American Revolution which led to the formation of the U.S.</p>  |
| APRIL - JUNE  | <p>Students will learn to use different sources to identify how geography, life experience, and heritage impact a person's writing while reading about how these differences shape people's beliefs.</p>  | <p>Students will learn to draw lines, line segments, rays, angles, parallel lines and lines of symmetry as well as measure angles.</p>  | <p>Students will learn how sound travels through waves and explore living systems to see how plants and animals function.</p>  |

Activities to Practice with My Fourth Grader



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AUGUST -
OCTOBER



For three nights, observe the night sky for 15 minutes to see the moon and star patterns. Then draw your own constellations and write a story about how they got their names.



Remove all 10's and face cards from a card deck. Then pull four random cards to create a 3-digit number, where the order corresponds to the place holder. Multiply your 3-digit number by the 4th card!



Go on a Dinosaur Dig with D.C.'s Dinosaur Guy, Peter Kranz. Visit bit.ly/DCPSdino for more information.



Keep a journal recording how much time you spend reading each day! List your favorite characters from each story and identify a place in the story where the character shows a quality that you admire.



Visit the Museum of Natural History's Native Americans exhibit. Jot down questions during your visit to research at your local library afterward! Visit mnh.si.edu for more information.



OCTOBER -
DECEMBER



Use a computer with internet access to visit bit.ly/CompareFractions to pop balloons while comparing fraction size! How many balloons can you pop!?



Visit the National Zoo! Record observations (like color, shape, and size) of your five favorite animals. Keep your observations as objective as possible. For example, "The lion is tan and strong."



Use a map to identify the original 13 colonies. How would history change if only half of the original colonies formed. Which colonies do you think would have formed together and why?



Visit your local library to find three different texts on American and European settlers. Review these text sources and take notes on what is similar or different about each source.



Visit your local library to check-out three new books! Visit bit.ly/findmylibrary to find your local library branch.



DECEMBER -
FEBRUARY



Speed up your typing skills with the fun games and activities at bit.ly/TyingFun. Can you win all of the games?!



Visit the American History Museum's Gunboat, Philadelphia exhibit. Then draw your own picture of the battle that sank the Philadelphia. Visit americanhistory.si.edu for more information.



Paul Revere warned about the British coming on horseback. Write a warning message like Paul Revere's but for Facebook, a text message, Twitter or Instagram. How is this different?



Visit the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History's Butterfly Pavilion, free of charge on Tuesdays. Visit www.mnh.si.edu for more information.



While cooking, look for different fractions found in recipes. Discuss how much of an ingredient would be needed if you were to double or triple the



FEBRUARY -
APRIL



Visit the National Cherry Blossom Festival. The 2015 dates are March 20 - April 12. Visit bit.ly/2015Blossoms for more information.



Talk about a current event where people have either helped or hurt the environment. Discuss how the behavior will impact humans in the future.



Practice jumping rope in February, Heart Health Month! Track your pulse before and after to see how hard your heart is working. Visit bit.ly/DCPSPulse to learn more.



Create a weekly family chore schedule by dividing chores based upon how much time each chore should take. Then make a daily chore list to determine the fraction of chores to be done each day.



Interview friends and family about their heroes. Reflect together how your heroes have inspired you or helped you achieve.



APRIL -
JUNE



Everybody has a story. What do you want yours to be when you are old? Tell your story as you hope it will be when you are an adult.



Visit the Kennilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens. Look for frogs on a pond tour, offered every weekend at 10 a.m. Visit nps.gov/keaq for more information.



Look for twenty angles in your neighborhood or at home. Measure each of them and order them from smallest to largest (ascending order). Are they acute, right or obtuse?



What are your summer plans? Brainstorm five activities you can do together to keep learning over the summer.



Make a telephone using plastic cups and string. Discuss how sound waves move through the string so the person on the other end can be heard.



Read together everyday for 20 minutes



English Language Arts



Enrichment Activity



Math



Science



Social Studies