

Fourth Grade



Bible

As we seek to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ and grow in our knowledge of Him, we dig into Scripture to see what God has to say. We study the life of Christ in the Gospels and learn about the Holy Spirit in the Gospels, Acts, and the Epistles. We end the year learning about the life of Paul and his missionary journeys through studying his Epistles and the book of Acts. Each week, we hide God's Word in our hearts by memorizing and reciting scripture, which helps us walk in a manner that brings God glory.

Language Arts

Developing writing skills is a key component of our Language Arts program. Writing an essay about a California mission gives students an opportunity to focus on research, note-taking using key word outlines, forming paragraphs with topic sentences, supporting details, and clinchers. Creative writing is explored through Native American myths, first-person narratives, and poetry! For each writing assignment, students apply the grammar, sentence structure, and writing mechanics that they learn through the *Shurley English* program completing their final draft in cursive. Students also learn keyboarding and basic computer skills through various assignments, including a PowerPoint presentation on a missionary. Reading comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary are developed using our literature anthologies and spelling curriculum. Students learn about different genres including biography, fantasy, historical and realistic fiction, mystery, and more, through monthly book reports. We also read several core literature novels in class, which correspond to our history curriculum. These include: *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, *Little House in the Big Woods*, *By the Great Horn Spoon!*, *Patty Reed's Doll*, and *Sarah, Plain and Tall*.

History/Social Studies

In social studies, we explore and discover our home state of California, as well as learning how it fits into the big picture of the United States. As we learn more about California's history and geography, we are better able to understand the state we live in, how it came to be a part of the United States, and how it continues to grow. In addition, we get to see some of the sights for ourselves through trips to John Muir's Martinez Home and Muir Woods, Mission San Francisco de Solano, Old Sacramento and the Railroad Museum, Sutter's Fort and the Capitol, as well as Columbia State Historic Park!

Math

Fourth-grade math is a time to pull together the basics we have already learned and to build on this foundation. Over the course of the year, we master our multiplication facts, tackle double-digit multiplication, and become experts in long division! Students also acquire many problem-solving strategies such as making tables/lists, using logical reasoning, working backward, using diagrams and graphs, finding patterns, and more. In addition, we begin to work with geometry, decimals, fractions, and yes, even algebra, and we learn why these skills are important.

Science

Fourth-grade science is an exciting time of investigation and discovery. Students conduct hands-on experiments, while making predictions and observations, and thinking critically about the way the world around them works. This helps them to learn about our amazing Creator, and to see His order, logic, and creativity as they study units on *Solid Earth*, *Magnetism and Electricity*, and *Environments*.