

# 4TH GRADE CURRICULUM GUIDE



## WE CHALLENGE & INSPIRE

<i>Bible</i>	Using Summit Ministries' Building on the Rock curriculum, students examine their Christian worldview by learning Biblical truths. The Bible survey component focuses on the divided kingdoms of Israel and Judah. Each week our K4-6th graders memorize Scripture or a Gospel Foundation (question/answer) and learn how to apply that truth to their lives. Since all students in the lower school have the same memory work, it allows our families to learn and grow together as they memorize.
<i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	The Wonders reading curriculum is used to implement whole groups and small groups for instruction. Literature Circles challenge the students with both their ability level and interests. Whole group book studies include 4th Grade Rats and The Best Christmas Pageant Ever. Students learn to apply knowledge of Latin roots, base words, and affixes, to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words in grade-level content.
<i>Writing</i>	Students will continue to improve in the three forms of writing including: narratives, argumentative, and expository. Narrative writing will focus on personal dialogue. Argumentative writing will be written with a clear claim and supported with at least three reasons from a second source. Expository writing will include a main idea with supporting paragraphs. Students will be proficient in presenting information both written and orally including basic writing and grammar skills within a five-paragraph structure. In addition, students will write lower and uppercase letters in cursive. All K4-4th grade students write and present their own book during our Young Author's Day.
<i>Math</i>	Big Ideas Curriculum emphasizes the application of mathematics to real-world situations. 4th grade begins ability grouping in the structure of their classes. They have opportunities to increase their computation and problem-solving skills through hands-on cooperative learning, technology and teacher-led lessons, independent work time, and small group instruction. Students are expected to be able to work independently, decode two-step word problems, and have division facts fluency to 12 by the end of the year.

<i>Science</i>	Carolina Biological curriculum is used to allow 4th Graders to participate in meaningful hands-on investigations. We investigate and discuss God's divine purpose in the nature of science. Science exploration in 4th grade focuses on types of energy, plant and animal structures, and the effects of weathering and erosion on our earth. Fourth grade also provides the first opportunity for dissections.
<i>Social Studies</i>	Students learn about the exploration, colonization, and growth in Florida throughout history. They study important people, places, and events that helped shape Florida history.
<i>Technology</i>	Technology resources are used to enhance learning and equip students for use and management of electronic devices regarding education and beyond. As an Apple certified school, each student is assigned their own iPad that they can take home, which allows each student access to their reading, math, grammar, and vocabulary curriculum online. They use Google Drive to upload their classwork into their digital portfolio. Promethean Board Technology, iPads, Google tools, and the Apple Suite are used to enhance learning and increase student engagement.
<i>Fostering a Faith that Sticks</i>	Our students not only learn the Bible but apply it to their lives to be the hands and feet of Jesus, with the goal of equipping students to transform the world for Christ and His Kingdom. Students are coached on resolving conflict Biblically with their peers. They encourage their classmates by nominating them for weekly WOW Awards when they observe their Christ-like behavior.
<i>We Lead</i>	The students learn responsibility and how to serve their fellow classmates through Safety Patrol positions. They also have the opportunity to participate in the Student Council and begin to take ownership of their faith by leading their grade-level chapels.
<b>THE HEARTBEAT OF 4TH GRADE</b>	Students in 4th grade demonstrate ownership of their independence and organizational skills that began in third grade. They continue to rotate between classrooms for core subjects and utilize a planner to track their upcoming tasks, assessments, and events. The developmental focus in 4th grade is to improve in responsibility skills by learning how to manage time in studying for upcoming assessments and completing bigger projects. In addition, with the ability to take home their iPads, 4th grade students have an Orangewood gmail account for the first time. Favorite field trips include St. Augustine, Barberville Pioneer Settlement, and Sea World. Students look forward to squid and cow eye dissections and creating their own lab coat.