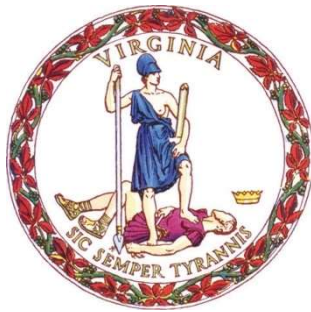


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# English Standards of Learning

for  
Virginia  
Public Schools



**Board of Education  
Commonwealth of Virginia**

**January 2017**

# Grade Four

In fourth grade, there is an increased emphasis on reading comprehension by comparing fiction and nonfiction texts, identifying cause and effect relationships, and differentiating between fact and opinion. The student will expand vocabulary using knowledge of roots, affixes, synonyms, antonyms, and homophones. The student will continue to increase communication and collaboration skills by working in diverse teams as both a facilitator and a contributor. Students will deliver multimodal presentations and begin to examine media messages. The student will demonstrate comprehension of the research process by evaluating the relevance and reliability of information collected to create a research product. Additionally students will continue to understand the difference between plagiarism and using his/her own words.

## Communication and Multimodal Literacies

- 4.1 The student will use effective oral communication skills in a variety of settings.
  - a) Listen actively and speak using appropriate discussion rules.
  - b) Contribute to group discussions across content areas.
  - c) Orally summarize information expressing ideas clearly.
  - d) Ask specific questions to gather ideas and opinions from others.
  - e) Use evidence to support opinions and conclusions.
  - f) Connect comments to the remarks of others.
  - g) Use specific vocabulary to communicate ideas.
  - h) Demonstrate the ability to collaborate with diverse teams, while sharing responsibility for the work.
  - i) Work respectfully with others, and show value for individual contributions.
- 4.2 The student will create and deliver multimodal, interactive presentations.
  - a) Locate, organize, and analyze information from a variety of multimodal texts.
  - b) Speak audibly with appropriate pacing.
  - c) Use language and style appropriate to the audience, topic, and purpose.
  - d) Make eye contact with the audience.
  - e) Ask and answer questions to gather or clarify information presented orally.
- 4.3 The student will learn how media messages are constructed and for what purposes.
  - a) Differentiate between auditory, visual, and written media messages and their purposes.
  - b) Compare and contrast how ideas and topics are depicted in a variety of media and formats.

## Reading

- 4.4 The student will expand vocabulary when reading.
  - a) Use context to clarify meanings of unfamiliar words.
  - b) Use knowledge of roots, affixes, synonyms, antonyms, and homophones to determine the meaning of new words.
  - c) Use word-reference materials.
  - d) Use vocabulary from other content areas.
  - e) Develop and use general and specialized vocabulary through speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

- 4.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction texts, and poetry.
- a) Describe how the choice of language, setting, and characters contributes to the development of plot.
  - b) Identify the theme(s).
  - c) Summarize events in the plot.
  - d) Identify genres.
  - e) Identify the narrator of a story and the speaker of a poem.
  - f) Identify the conflict and resolution.
  - g) Identify sensory words.
  - h) Draw conclusions/make inferences about text using the text as support.
  - i) Compare/contrast details in literary and informational nonfiction texts.
  - j) Identify cause and effect relationships.
  - k) Use reading strategies throughout the reading process to monitor comprehension.
  - l) Read with fluency, accuracy, and meaningful expression.
- 4.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
- a) Use text features such as type, headings, and graphics, to predict and categorize information.
  - b) Explain the author's purpose.
  - c) Identify the main idea.
  - d) Summarize supporting details.
  - e) Draw conclusions and make inferences using textual information as support.
  - f) Distinguish between cause and effect.
  - g) Distinguish between fact and opinion.
  - h) Use reading strategies throughout the reading process to monitor comprehension.
  - i) Read with fluency, accuracy, and meaningful expression.

## Writing

- 4.7 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
- a) Engage in writing as a process.
  - b) Select audience and purpose.
  - c) Narrow the topic.
  - d) Use a variety of prewriting strategies.
  - e) Recognize different forms of writing have different patterns of organization.
  - f) Organize writing to convey a central idea.
  - g) Write a clear topic sentence focusing on the main idea.
  - h) Write related paragraphs on the same topic.
  - i) Elaborate writing by including details to support the purpose.
  - j) Express an opinion about a topic and provide fact-based reasons for support.
  - k) Use transition words and prepositional phrases for sentence variety.
  - l) Utilize elements of style, including word choice and sentence variation.
  - m) Revise writing for clarity of content using specific vocabulary and information.

4.8 The student will self- and peer-edit writing for capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, paragraphing, and Standard English.

- a) Use subject-verb agreement.
- b) Eliminate double negatives.
- c) Use noun-pronoun agreement.
- d) Use commas in series, dates, and addresses.
- e) Correctly use adjectives and adverbs.
- f) Use quotation marks with dialogue.
- g) Use correct spelling including common homophones.
- h) Use singular possessives.

## **Research**

4.9 The student will demonstrate comprehension of information resources to create a research product.

- a) Construct questions about a topic.
- b) Collect and organize information from multiple resources.
- c) Evaluate the relevance and reliability of information.
- d) Give credit to sources used in research.
- e) Avoid plagiarism and use own words.
- f) Demonstrate ethical use of the Internet.