

HEALTH

Fourth graders learn that peer pressure affects behavior, dress, relationships and health decisions, and that their actions have consequences. They also learn about the physical changes that occur during puberty.



Fourth grade students learn:

- the importance of showing respect for the feelings, rights and property of others
- basic communication skills such as speaking and attentive listening
- how to manage first aid emergencies (choking, Heimlich, CPR, bleeding) and ways to reduce or prevent the risk of disease or disability
- to identify health care providers in various cultures
- how alcohol, tobacco and other drugs can affect the body
- to identify goals and write a plan to reduce personal health risks (e.g. use of bike helmets, sunscreen, seat belts, health products)
- to use decision-making techniques
- to evaluate food choices in terms of nutrition
- non-violent ways to mediate or resolve conflicts
- ways to avoid and reduce threatening situations

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Fourth graders learn about game strategy (offense and defense) and refine their eye-hand coordination skills by participating in team games and activities. They also participate in exercises that promote cardiovascular endurance and assess their own fitness during this stage of their physical education.

Fourth grade students learn to:

- avoid collisions while moving throughout a space
- balance themselves on stationary equipment
- jump rope twelve different ways
- dribble a ball with hands and feet
- locate the carotid and radial pulse and identify body composition as a part of fitness
- use mature form for trapping a ball, striking a ball that has been pitched to them and hitting a target
- cooperate in team activities and respect the achievement levels of self and others in physical performance



FINE ARTS

Overview

In Fine Arts, the goal is that students learn to communicate at a basic level in at least two art forms and demonstrate proficiency in at least one art form. In addition, students develop skills to analyze works of visual and performing arts, have exposure to the arts from a variety of cultures and historical periods, and integrate this knowledge within and across art disciplines.



At this time, most schools provide instruction in Music and Visual Arts grades K-6. Expectations for these are listed below.

A few schools provide instruction in Dance and Theater. The district is working on expectations and resources for broader implementation of these two art forms.

Music

Fourth grade students are ready to use their musical knowledge and skills in new ways, such as learning to play a band or an orchestra instrument.

Fourth grade students learn to:

- sing a variety of songs from diverse cultures including partner songs
- perform simple songs on a melodic instrument (recorder, keyboard, xylophone, wind or string instrument)
- read, sing and notate songs in staff notation using the extended pentatonic (5-tone) scale
- create and arrange short songs and instrumental pieces within specified guidelines
- identify symbols and traditional terms referring to dynamics, tempo and articulation and interpret them correctly when performing

Visual Arts

Students in grades four through six learn to communicate ideas and demonstrate proficiency using a variety of visual arts materials, techniques, and processes for personal expression. Students use the art inquiry process (describe, analyze, interpret, decide) to compare and contrast works of art.

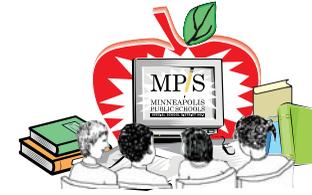
Fourth grade students learn to:

- use the art inquiry process to place a broad, cultural range of artworks in a basic historical context
- articulate personal and cultural meaning in their work and in the work of others
- identify interdisciplinary concepts and use them to learn more about art and other disciplines
- understand that the arts enhance the well being of the individual and of the community
- use and care for art materials and tools
- use complementary/analogous colors, harmony, scale, perspective, contour/gesture drawing, space, form, and additive/subtractive sculpture in their artwork

INFORMATION MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

Fourth grade students learn to:

- write a bibliography for a book or internet source
- follow an acceptable use policy for the internet
- locate various reference tools, including atlases, almanacs, dictionaries and encyclopedias, in both book form and on-line
- use numerical order to locate nonfiction materials
- put information in a format that follows topic and subtopic and write a bibliography from sources used in gathering information on a topic
- identify the differences between fact and opinion from a videotaped selection or newspaper article
- demonstrate cultural sensitivity when presenting a report
- select appropriate technology to fit content
- present on a specific topic using a video camera
- use a word processing program, spreadsheet, database and E-mail



Grade Four Guide to Grade Level Expectations

The Grade Level Expectations outlined in this guide describe the learning goals for fourth grade students. They are based on the Minnesota State Standards, Benchmarks, and the Minneapolis Grade Level Expectations. Families help students achieve these expectations by taking an interest in the schoolwork they do at home and by ensuring that they come to school prepared to learn.



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