

FOURTH GRADE

Language Arts

General Introduction

Reading and Writing in 4th grade is focused on the student as leading force in their learning. The focus of many units changes from teachers providing the knowledge to students using independent research skills to develop their own knowledge based. Multiple units in both Reading and Writing ask students to think beyond texts to create theses, defend their ideas with evidence, and synthesize multiple texts.

What do we teach?

- In Reading students:
 - Analyze characters
 - Analyze poetry
 - Study an author in depth
 - Participate in book clubs
 - Research topics in history and science
- In Writing students:
 - Write stories in the genres realistic fiction and fantasy
 - Conduct research projects
 - Persuade others to take up their cause
 - Defend a thesis about themes in literature

How do we teach it?

Reading and Writing following the Lucy Calkins Units of Study and book studies of Wonder, Love That Dog, and Roald Dahl.

How do we assess it?

- Reading is assessed through formative and summative assessments. Formative assessments could include small assignments in class or conferencing work with individual students. Summative assessments include end of unit projects and/or end of unit tests.
- Writing is assessed through varied length writing pieces and conferencing work.

Mathematics

General Introduction

Mathematics in 4th grade is the transition year between just learning multiplication and division in 3rd grade and using those skills on both whole and fractional numbers in 5th grade. During the 4th grade year, students become more fluent in multiplication and division strategies with larger numbers, learn about decimals as fractions, and work with fractions with all operations.

One of the major focuses of 4th grade is word problems, and students will encounter multi-step word problems all year long.

What do we teach?

- In Mathematics students learn about:
 - Addition, Subtraction and Rounding to the Millions
 - Multiplication and division of 3 digit numbers
 - Geometry with lines, angles, and shapes
 - Measuring in both the metric and standard systems
 - Fractional addition, subtraction, making equivalence
 - Decimals as fractions
 - Solving multi-step word problems

How do we teach it?

Mathematics in 4th grade is taught using the Eureka Math program for 4th grade in collaboration with Zearn, on online platform to present Eureka Math. Students also participate in whole group, small group, and individualized learning of the concepts.

How do we assess it?

Mathematics is assessed through exit tickets, small check in's at the end of each lesson, and larger tests at mid-module and the end of each module.

Science

General Introduction

Science learning in 4th grade follows the inquiry based model of learning, where students are presented questions they must investigate to create concepts about a topic. Students engage in discussions and interactive activities to construct knowledge bases on a topic that they then use to expand on a similar topic.

What do we teach?

In 4th grade Science, students learn about:

- How waves and energy can transmit information
- How eyes function for different animals
- How different types of renewable energy sources is converted into usable electricity

How do we teach it?

Science in 4th grade is taught using the Amplify Science Curriculum, a Next Generation Science Standards aligned curriculum.

How do we assess it?

Science is assessed through formative assessments, discussions, and end of unit projects. Students are assessed on their ability to create connected concepts about the topics presented and then apply those ideas to a similar situation.

Social Studies

General Introduction

Social Studies in 4th grade is guided by the C3 framework for Social Studies. In this framework, students are guided to learn skills in history, economics, and civics through inquiry based learning and “taking action” projects that complete the unit.

What do we teach?

In Social Studies in 4th grade, students will learn about:

- The history of inventions
- Entrepreneurship
- Immigration

How do we teach it?

C3 units begin with a larger question that students must investigate and come to a conclusion about. Their investigation is guided by three more focused questions that guide their research. Students finish the unit by taking the skills and knowledge they have gained into a real life situation that is present in their community and complete a project.

How do we assess it?

Social studies is assessed through formative assessments of students skills and knowledge. Summative assessments come in the form of “taking action” projects that are applicable to their community.

Español/Sociales

Información general

Integramos español con Sociales de Colombia, clase a la cual llamaremos (**Humanidades**) utilizando las estrategias de “Content Area Literacy” propuesta del Teachers College de la Universidad de Columbia. Algunos temas de Español, como el texto narrativo, el texto informativo y el persuasivo se realizarán con temas de Sociales de Colombia. Queremos que nuestros alumnos aprendan el uso del lenguaje con temas de Colombia. De esta forma, en muchos casos, estamos maximizando el tiempo que tenemos.

¿Qué enseñamos?

En 4to grado trabajaremos **Mi país** como tema central. Durante el desarrollo de las unidades los estudiantes trabajarán sobre un problema general de su región el cual a través de las

diferentes estrategias en lectura y escritura los estudiantes elaborarán un texto de información, opinión etc donde darán a conocer todos los aspectos importantes de su región.

¿Cómo lo evaluamos?

La evaluación será formativa, en la cual nos enfocaremos en los diferentes procesos de mejoras. Será una evaluación continua en la cual estaremos orientando, regulando y motivando a los estudiantes al desarrollo de sus potenciales en miras de conseguir las metas y los objetivos previstos . de igual forma se realizarán proyecto, textos escritos y presentaciones sobre los diferentes temas en las clases de humanidades.

Visual Arts

General Introduction

Art at the elementary level initiates, develops, and encourages:

*Individual expresión, imaginative expression and sharing, students' aesthetic awareness, learning to "see" as an artist and become a visual learner, knowledge and use of various media and art techniques, an introduction significant artists throughout art history, an introduction to different genres and movements throughout art history, an introduction to an artist's glossary of terms, an integrated curriculum through the visual arts

*The emphasis in art classes is on **student experience in the process** of class work projects and art appreciation. Students shall learn to utilize art qualities, familiarize themselves with various mediums, technical skills, subjects, artists, and genres.

What do we teach?

4th GRADE ART LESSONS focus on ART HISTORY TIMELINE where students analyze the role and development of the visual arts in past and present cultures throughout the world, noting human diversity as it relates to the visual arts and artists.

* Art styles, art history, and art appreciation from other cultures are a focus as students refer to the historical art timeline.

* Students create 2dimensional and 3dimensional projects imitating art from different periods of time understanding the importance of the process as well as the product in art-making.

*A great range of materials, media and techniques are used in the construction process of sculptures, architectural models and painting recreations.

Art Projects are based on the Elementary Art Curriculum Standards

How do we teach it?

Students enjoy art class once a week in a period of 50 minutes.

*Every class project starts with a **GOAL: an Art Concept and Art Style** to be stressed.

*We **ACTIVATE Previous Knowledge** and skills necessary for new Art Concept showing related image, video, picture, object; asking a Question, having a Brainstorm, using Partner Strategy, telling a story, making an analogy, a summary or review of previous class.

***The NEW ART CONCEPT** is introduced where students will acquire and process new information by observing the work of a known artist, analyzing artistic technique, media and expressions, and then view procedural steps for the creative process.

*In the **APPLICATION and Class Activity** students use thinking skills to apply the new information, apply procedure and Create!

*The **GOAL** is constantly stressed during the creative process,, feedback is provided to reinforce their effort and provide recognition, as they self evaluate and Project Rubrics are reviewed

How do we assess it?

Rubrics for the ART PROJECT consider:

*CREATIVE EXPRESSION

I produce high quality creative work. I show originality.

*ART CONCEPTS

I apply all art concepts, especially those stressed for the project. I solve problems myself.

PARTICIPATION AND EFFORT

*I always participate in class and use class time well. I collaborate and work well with my classmates. I use all materials appropriately and always clean up.

Technology

● General Introduction

At COJOWA, students learn to use the computer as an important tool. Students spend time once a week learning robotics, coding, google tools and also it is used as support for researching about different subjects (technology integration).

● What do we teach?

Technology is taught based on robotics, typing, Google tools, coding. We work with educational platforms.

Robotics are integrated with areas of art, language and drama. Students work on Google docs and slides presentations. Students work on projects from different areas. Technology integration with homeroom and specialist teachers.

● How do we teach it?

Students come to class once a week and also they have the opportunity to come for an extra period to practice math. Each student has a Chromebook (they either bring their own

Chromebook or the ones at the computers lab) Everytime they come to class they practice typing during 15 minutes and afterwards they work on the assigned activity.

- **How do we assess it?**

Most of the platforms and educational websites give a score at the end of the activity. The teacher offers feedback and support to the students regarding the skills they are working on. The teacher also advises them on areas of improvement.

Drama

Información general

Los estudiantes desarrollan proyectos y actividades que abarcan los hábitos del pensamiento crítico, la participación colaborativa, el crecimiento de la creatividad y el desarrollo de las habilidades de comunicación. Nos centramos en la exploración del lenguaje corporal.

¿Qué enseñamos?

Enseñamos a que el estudiante analice, ejecute, identifique y comprenda la coordinación en su expresión emocional. Así mismo, como el desarrollo de movimientos de coordinación dinámica general, coordinación óculo- manual - pedal, manejo del público; desarrollar múltiples posibilidades para resolver un determinado problema sobre el escenario. Lo tangible e intangible.

¿Cómo lo enseñamos?

A través de creación de proyectos como Musicales donde los estudiantes pueden practicar en cada clase los temas dados para luego ser expuestos ante un público, observarse en el esposo y con el conteo grupal e individual desarrollar una coordinación. Así mismo, con actividades teatrales en clase, improvisando situaciones y aprendiendo a solucionarlas sobre un escenario. Utilizamos la plataforma de Kahoot para verificar la teoría dada en clase.

¿Cómo lo evaluamos?

Con la puesta en escena, presentación de proyectos durante la Semana de las Artes o Steam Week, Kahoot, dramatizaciones, fotografías, y videos. Tomando una calificación de acuerdo a la rúbrica diseñada.

Music

- **Información general**

Nuestras clases de música tienen como objetivos que nuestros estudiantes a través de estas exploren contenidos sobre diferentes y variados temas como: El sonido, historia de la música,

elementos que conforman la música, la voz, instrumentos, géneros y agrupaciones musicales, etc.

De igual manera, que nuestros estudiantes puedan utilizar los recursos que esta nos brinda para promover valores éticos, estéticos, ambientales, sociales y culturales; logrando con esto formar personas reflexivas y autónomas, capaces de emprender proyectos que beneficien a su comunidad.

- **¿Qué enseñamos?**

Dentro del desarrollo de nuestras clases los estudiantes conocen todo lo relacionado con el ritmo, teniendo en cuenta que este es un pilar muy importante dentro de la música. Así mismo, aprenden a identificar los elementos que conforman el ritmo y la lectoescritura musical del mismo en un nivel medio, los principales ritmos y géneros tradicionales y contemporáneos de la música colombiana, como también, las diferentes técnicas de composición musical con las que el estudiante podrá entender, analizar y crear música.

- **¿Cómo lo enseñamos?**

Nuestra metodología de enseñanza se basa en el desarrollo de estrategias lúdico pedagógicas basadas en la música, en donde nuestros estudiantes a través de estas aprenden en una forma divertida mediante juegos, recursos tecnológicos y actividades musicales los conceptos aplicados en clases. Además, cuentan con diferentes momentos teóricos apoyados de prácticas individuales y grupales, donde reciben apoyo docente constante durante todo su proceso de aprendizaje.

- **¿Cómo lo evaluamos?**

La evaluación de los procesos teóricos realizan a través de retroalimentaciones orales y escritas en clases, como también, mediante las herramientas tecnológicas y multimedias como: Kahoot, audios y videos. Por otro lado, los procesos prácticos serán evaluados mediante prácticas individuales y conjuntas, las cuales se llevan a cabo en cada clase, además, mediante los diferentes conciertos y presentaciones que se realizan dentro del colegio llamanse: musicales, obras de teatros e izadas de banderas, entre otros.

Values

Información general

Los valores se enseñan a través del programa REACHES donde los estudiantes aprenden y practican la Responsabilidad, Empatía, Asertividad, Cooperación, Honestidad, Excelencia y el Auto-Control.

¿Qué enseñamos?

Cada mes se enfoca en uno de los valores REACHES y les enseñamos el significado del valor con historias, cuentos y actividades donde ellos mismos dan ejemplos de sus vidas y practican el valor con diferentes experiencias cooperativas.

Physical Education

- **Información general**

La Educación Física, Recreación y Deportes aporta al desarrollo Bio-Psico-Social de nuestros estudiantes, mantenimiento de un óptimo estado de salud, desarrollo Psico-motor y el fortalecimiento de buenos hábitos alimenticios y las relaciones Psico-Sociales.

- **¿Qué enseñamos?**

En nuestro programa de Educación Física nuestros estudiantes tienen la experiencia de vivenciar los siguientes temas: Desarrollo motor, coordinación viso-manual, coordinación viso-pédica, gimnasia, habilidades deportivas y sus fundamentos técnicos, hábitos saludables.

- **¿Cómo lo enseñamos?**

Nuestro programa se imparte teniendo en cuenta los ritmos de aprendizaje de cada estudiante y su desarrollo motor haciendo énfasis en el trabajo cooperativo y el respeto por la diferencias entre estudiantes-estudiantes, estudiantes-docente.

- **¿Cómo lo evaluamos?**

La evaluación de los contenidos programáticos se llevan a cabo de acuerdo a nuestro programa de PE METRICS que comprenden los siguientes ítems:

1. Healthful Living
2. Gross Motor Skills
3. Recreational Participation and Attitude

Spanish as a Second Language (SSL)

General Introduction

This program is focused on foreign students who came to the school with no knowledge of the Spanish language. It facilitates the transition into the culture, and the acquisition of a second language that will help them to understand and communicate in the new environment students are involved.

SSL Program at COJOWA is based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Language Standards. The CEFR is described as a guideline used to determine achievements of learning according to levels. The CEFR is divided into 6 levels of knowledge:

- A1-A2: Beginners
- B1-B2: Intermediate
- C1-C2: Advance

At COJOWA, we are looking after achieving an Intermediate level of knowledge (B1), which means the child is able to understand and communicate in Spanish at an Intermediate level and is ready to attend a regular Spanish class. In SSL Elementary these levels are divided into sublevels; the student could fit in any of these categories and will advance in order to get a B1.2.

In SSL we focused on student's individual needs, in this way, they can grow depending on their Spanish knowledge.

What and how do we teach it?

Speaking

Speaking will be developed through all the activities in the classroom. Kids will participate in lessons where they have to use their new vocabulary (Practice), and, they will be encouraged to speak in Spanish during the entire class. Also, kids will be developing projects related to the topics that are taught in the classroom where the main goal will be to include authentic materials in real communicative situations. We use a program known as Mondo, where kids build sentences and new vocabulary through the use of pictures that increase their interest to practice their acquired Spanish vocabulary.

Content

Topics included during the school year is based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Language Standards. Each student could start with any of these contents depending on their Spanish level. The topic might be the same but the level of difficulty will increase.

Reading, Writing, and Vocabulary

We work with the program Learning A-Z in Spanish, where the kids are reading a variety of leveled books. In the beginning, they will read books with basic vocabulary, organized by patterns in order to practice new vocabulary Sight Words (P.U.F) and pronunciation.

Regarding the writing skills, we worked based on Balanced Literacy to enhance strategies for reading and writing in Spanish. Depending on their level and grade, every type of writing will be introduced each trimester; in this way they can work in SSL class about what their classmates are working in the regular Spanish classes. The vocabulary will be introduced with games and activities that allowed students to learn and apply their learning.

Culture

During the school year, students will be learning about Colombia and other Hispanic countries, in this way they can be able to recognize characteristics, places, gastronomy and interesting facts about Spanish speakers' countries.

How do we assess?

Assessment will consist of Students' performance, Oral presentations, Projects, Classroom assignments, and Quizzes-exams. All these based in two categories:

- Vocabulary and Grammar
- Communication Skills

The students are assessed based on the Grading 4-point scale.