

All About CKLA, Lexia, and AR

CKLA

CKLA is a comprehensive program that helps students build strong foundations in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. It is designed to develop both the technical skills of reading and the background knowledge students need to become strong, confident readers and thinkers.

What Does CKLA Look Like in 4th Grade?

The primary focus of CKLA is to build strong readers, writers, speakers, and thinkers by combining rich content knowledge with explicit instruction in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and grammar.

The Big Picture:

- **Content-Rich Learning:** Students explore engaging topics in science, history, literature, and the arts while learning language skills. The more knowledge a student has, the better they understand what they read.
- **Integrated Literacy Skills:** Reading, writing, spelling, grammar, and vocabulary are taught together rather than in isolation. This helps students apply their skills across subjects.
- **Close Reading & Analysis:** Students work with complex, high-quality texts, learning to read closely, discuss ideas, cite evidence, and make inferences.
- **Structured Writing Instruction:** Students practice different forms of writing (narrative, opinion, and informational), learning how to plan, draft, revise, and edit.
- **Oral Language Development:** Speaking and listening are emphasized through class discussions, presentations, and collaborative activities.
- **Cumulative Approach:** Skills and knowledge build across units and years so students revisit concepts at deeper levels.

Here are the units we will be working on this year:

Unit 1: Personal Narratives

Unit 2: Middle Ages

Unit 3: Poetry

Unit 4: Eureka! Student Inventor

Unit 5: Geology

Unit 7: Am. Revolution

Unit 8: Treasure Island

CKLA Grade 4 isn't just about "learning to read" anymore; it's about reading to learn while continuing to grow vocabulary, grammar, and writing abilities in meaningful, content-driven contexts.

How You Can Support Your Child at Home

- Ask your child what they are learning in CKLA and have discussions about the topics.
- Encourage daily reading at home both independently and aloud.
- Help your child review vocabulary words and spelling patterns each week.
- Support writing by encouraging them to write letters, stories, or journal entries.
- Ensure they complete their weekly homework.

CKLA is designed to help your child become a more confident reader, thoughtful writer, and engaged learner. If you have any questions about the curriculum or need support for your child's learning, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Lexia and AR

All students are expected to complete their weekly unit goal of 16 units per week on Lexia. Each student has an end-of-the-year goal of 250 units. Students who complete their weekly Lexia requirements will receive a House point and/or flexible seating.

Students attend the library once a week (Wednesdays). Books checked out should be on their reading level only. Students should read at least 20 minutes at home every night. Students should be taking 1-2 AR tests every week to meet their end of the 9-week AR goal. Students who have met their AR goal attend an AR party celebration. Students also earn house points and ELA bonus points for meeting their end of the 9-weeks goal.

FAQ

★ Can my student work on Lexia at home?

Yes, this is a great opportunity to meet or exceed weekly Lexia goals.

★ Are students able to work on Lexia/AR at school?

Yes, once students finish with classwork, they may work on Lexia or take an AR test. Students also work on Lexia during RTI. Students need to take advantage of any free time they have to work on this.

★ Can my student do more than the required number of lessons in a week?

Absolutely! This can earn additional rewards.

★ **Why the weekends?**

Many students are busy during the week, so this will allow them to work on the lesson requirements at a time convenient to them. This is also a great opportunity for French students to meet/keep up with their weekly goals.

★ **Can my child take an AR test at home?**

No, the system is not set up for students to take tests at home.

★ **How is my child's reading level determined?**

Students take a diagnostic test called the STAR test, which determines their reading level, or ZPD, every 9 weeks. It creates a level that is specific to their reading abilities.