

Curriculum Guide

Manchester and RES Grade 4

Learning Expectations

Table of Contents

Mission	Page 1
Introduction to Learning Expectations	Page 1
English Language Arts	Page 2-3
Mathematics	Page 3
Science	Page 3-4
Social Studies	Page 4-5
Fourth Grade Assessments	Page 5
Guiding Principles & Habits of Work	Page 6

Mission

The goal of RSU14 is proficiency in academics and the Guiding Principles for all students. We aim to get every child to the proficient level or above on rigorous state assessments and our own measures. Students in this grade level are exposed to skills and concepts to build their knowledge and be well on their way to success for the upcoming grade levels.

Introduction to Learning Expectations

Based on the Maine Standards, this document is designed to make clear what each student should know and be able to do by the end of 4th grade, so as to have a solid foundation for success in subsequent grades. This guide includes the types of work students should be able to complete by the end of the grade and reading level that is expected.

We understand that not all children are at the same level at any point of the year, but we hope that high expectations will bring parents and teachers together to help close the achievement gap that exists in many Maine schools.

This guide is a work in progress. During the 2024-2025 school year, we will continue to evaluate the guide and adapt it as necessary, and appreciate your comments and suggestions.



English Language Arts

The science of reading is an approach to literacy instruction based on evidence from rigorous research to guide effective classroom practices. The research evidence to explain how children learn to read, write, and spell has been developed over the last 50+ years. The studies on learning to read have come from diverse sources including education, linguistics, psychology, and neuroscience.

By the end of the school year, all fourth grade students should be able to do the following in each domain:

- ☐ **Language - This domain is taught through the following 4 strands- [Here](#) is a full list of indicators**
 - ☐ Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
 - ☐ Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
 - ☐ Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on *grade 4 reading and content*, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
 - ☐ Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
- ☐ **Speaking and Listening - This domain is taught through the following 4 strands- [Here](#) is a full list of indicators**
 - ☐ Prepare for and participate in conversations across a range of topics, types, and forums, building on others' ideas and expressing their own.
 - ☐ Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.
 - ☐ Present information and supporting evidence appropriate to task, purpose, and audience so listeners can follow the line of reasoning and incorporate multimedia when appropriate.
 - ☐ Adapt speech to a variety of contexts, audiences, and communicative tasks.
- ☐ **Reading - This domain is taught through the following 5 strands- [Here](#) is a full list of indicators**
 - ☐ Foundational Skills/Print Concepts
 - ☐ Key Ideas and Details
 - ☐ Craft and Structure
 - ☐ Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
 - ☐ Fluency
- ☐ **Writing - This domain is taught through the following 3 strands- [Here](#) is a full list of indicators**
 - ☐ Use an inquiry process to gather relevant, credible information/evidence from a variety of sources (e.g., print, digital, discussions, etc.) that build understanding of and lead to conclusions about a subject under investigation.
 - ☐ Develop, strengthen, and produce polished writing by using a collaborative process that includes the age-appropriate use of technology.
 - ☐ Routinely produce a variety of clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, audience, and purpose while avoiding plagiarism.

Themes/Units may include

- ❖ Fiction (realistic and fantasy)
- ❖ Nonfiction
- ❖ Reading of a variety of genres
- ❖ Poetry
- ❖ Historical Fiction
- ❖ Reflection and Goal Setting: Why do we read?

Curriculum Material used in RSU14

- Literacy units created by teachers in their Professional Learning Communities
- A variety of novels, short stories, poems, and essays
- Morphology Magic
- Units of Study Writing
- NewsELA

How the Learning Report is determined for ELA

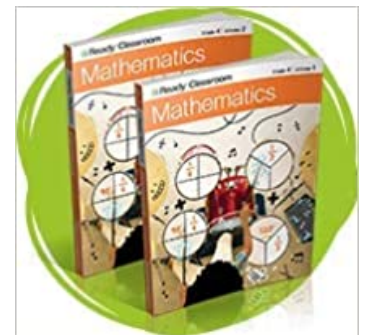
Evidence is collected according to state standards, performance indicators and learning targets and measured using the 4th grade common scoring guide. The types of evidence gathered by teachers and reported each trimester may include:

- Reading Log (an ongoing record of titles read independently)
- Literacy Unit Assessments
- Classroom Assessments
- Notebooks and Folders
- Projects
- On Demand Writing
- Published Pieces

Mathematics

By the end of the school year, all fourth grade students should be able to do the following:

- ☐ Engage in Mathematical Practices.
- ☐ Use the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems.
- ☐ Generalize place value understanding for multi-digit whole numbers.
- ☐ Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic.
- ☐ Extend understanding of fraction equivalence and ordering.
- ☐ Build fractions from units by applying and extending previous understandings of operations on whole numbers.
- ☐ Understand decimal notation for fractions and compare decimal fractions.
- ☐ Gain familiarity with factors and multiples.
- ☐ Generate and analyze patterns.
- ☐ Solve problems involving measurement and conversion of measurements from a larger unit to a smaller unit.
- ☐ Represent and interpret data.
- ☐ Understand concepts of angles and measure angles.
- ☐ Draw and identify lines and angles and classify shapes by properties of their lines and angles.



Fourth Grade Units

- ❖ Unit 1: Whole Numbers: Place Value, Comparison, Addition, and Subtraction
- ❖ Unit 2: Operations: Multiplication, Division, and Algebraic Thinking
- ❖ Unit 3: Multi-Digit Operations and Measurement: Multiplication, Division, Perimeter and Area
- ❖ Unit 4: Fractions, Decimals, and Measurement: Addition, Subtraction, and Multiplication
- ❖ Unit 5: Geometry and Measurement: Figures, Classification, and Symmetry

Curriculum Material used in RSU14

- Ready Classroom Mathematics
- iReady Online Tools and Practice

How the Learning Report is determined for Mathematics

Evidence is collected according to state standards, performance indicators and learning targets and measured using the 4th grade common scoring guide. The types of evidence gathered by teachers and reported each trimester include:

- Ready Classroom Mathematics Lesson Quizzes
- Ready Classroom Mathematics Mid-Unit and End of Unit Assessments

Science

By the end of the school year, all fourth grade students will have worked with the following science practices using the following Units of Study/Themes to integrate the Maine State Learning Results.

Science Practices	Units of Study/Themes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asking questions • Developing and using models • Planning and carrying out investigations • Analyzing and interpreting data • Using mathematical and computational thinking • Constructing explanations (science) and designing solutions (engineering) • Engaging in argument • Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy • Waves • Structure, Functions, and Information Processing • Earth's Systems: Processes that shape the Earth • Engineering Design • Ecosystems

Curriculum Material used in RSU14 may include:

- Mystery Science
- Science units created by teachers in their Professional Learning Communities
- Engineering units with Lego Education Kits
- NewsELA - Science

How the Learning Report is determined for Science

Evidence is collected according to the state standards, performance indicators, and learning targets and measured using the 4th grade common scoring guide. The types of evidence gathered by teachers and reported each trimester include:

- Science Unit Assessments
- Projects
- Common Assessments
- Experiments
- Science Journals or Notebooks

Social Studies

By the end of the school year, all fourth grade students will have engaged in units of study based around themes while incorporating the following standards:

Maine State Standards	Units of Study/Themes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Civics and Government ❖ Personal Finance and Economics ❖ Geography ❖ History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Maine Native Americans ❖ Maine Geography ❖ Maine Government ❖ Maine Agriculture & Tourism

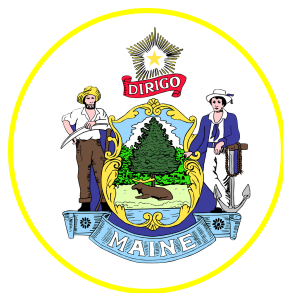
Curriculum Material used in RSU14 may include:

- Trade Books - Fiction and Non-Fiction
- Almanacs/Globes/Maps
- MOOSE Wabanaki Studies Learning Modules
- NewsELA - Social Studies

How the Learning Report is determined for Social Studies

Evidence is collected according to the state standards, performance indicators, and learning targets and measured using the 4th grade common scoring guide. The types of evidence gathered by teachers and reported each trimester include:

- Social Studies Unit Assessments
- Projects
- Grade level Units



Fourth Grade Assessments

Assessment	Content Area	Time Frame	Purpose
Local Level: iReady Diagnostic	Reading and Mathematics	Fall, Winter, Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Track grade level progress over time❖ To understand school, classroom and individual strengths and challenges
State Level MEA (Maine Educational Assessment)	English Language Arts and Mathematics using the NWEA Platform	Testing windows Fall: September 16, 2024 - October 25, 2024 Spring: April 14, 2025 - May 30, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ State reporting❖ Measure local growth over time
National Level: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)	Reading, Mathematics and Science	When Applicable: January 2026 - March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ National Report Card

Skills to Strengthen at Home

Looking to help your child at home? Below are a few suggestions on how you can support your learner with reading and math right in your own home.

Reading -

- ❖ Set aside 20 minutes every night for your child to read a book they enjoy. Ask them a few questions like:
 - What is happening in the book right now?
 - What do you think will happen next? How do you know?

- If you could ask the author or character a question, what would it be?
- What is your favorite part and why?
- What does the story remind you of?
- How did the story make you feel?

Math

- ❖ Check out [Ready Classroom Mathematics Family Center](#)
- ❖ Talk about math! Find patterns and numbers in everyday events.
- ❖ Think aloud, to your child, about how you use math everyday.

Guiding Principles

RSU14 believes all students should leave school proficient at being:

- ❖ Clear and Effective Communicators
- ❖ Self-Directed and Lifelong Learners
- ❖ Creative and Practical Problem Solvers
- ❖ Responsible and Involved Citizens
- ❖ Integrative and Informed Thinkers



RSU14's Belief Statement for Grade 4

At the 4th grade level, the teaching of Guiding Principles is integrated through classroom activities and projects. We acknowledge that there are multiple opportunities for students to develop these skills in academic subjects, as well as in art, music, physical education, and guidance.

How is this reported to parents?

Information will be shared with students and families throughout the year as needed through conferences, emails, goal setting, and phone calls. At minimum, each Guiding Principle will be graded once per year through our reporting system. Reporting will include strengths and areas for growth.

Habits of Work

RSU14 Habits of Work include:

- ❖ Classroom Responsibility
- ❖ Academic Responsibility
- ❖ Perseverance

Student Expectations:

Students in grades 3-5 are expected to take responsibility for their academic learning and behavior. Students will understand that mistakes and revision are part of the learning process. Students are expected to take the tools and strategies provided by their teachers to put forth their best effort and persevere through challenges.



How is this reported to parents?

Students will meet with teachers periodically to reflect and communicate on progress towards Habits of Work. Habits of Work will be shared at Fall and Spring conferences with both students and parents. Habits of Work grades will be communicated frequently through a grading portal and formal report cards.

