

June 2025

Welcome to Fourth Grade! As your teachers for next year, we would like to congratulate you on finishing third grade, and wish you a happy and safe summer. While summer is a wonderful time to relax and spend time with family and friends, we'd like to encourage each of you, Riley's "rising" fourth graders, to spend some time each week on activities that will help you be ready to begin school again in the fall. So, have fun with these activities and we will see you in August!

Reading

We've heard from your third grade teachers about how much all of you love books, in 4th grade we do too! So the first thing we want you to do this summer is read, read, read... every day! Find books that interest you and are "just right" for you. Try a new series or genre, listen to books on CD, or share a book with someone at home, you could start a book club and read the same book as a friend or family member! Keep track of the GREAT books that you read this summer and let us know about them. We love suggestions for our classroom library!

Join a summer reading program at the DeWitt, Briggs (St. Johns), or Lansing Public libraries, or through a local bookstore. Each program is different and offers fun activities and rewards! You can also find programs at local bookstores such as Schulers: <https://www.schulerbooks.com/summer-reading-club>, or Pizza Hut: <https://www.bookitprogram.com/programs/camp-book-it>

Take advantage of the electronic books available on MyOn offered by the School District. You can also borrow books from the "Little Free Library" -different locations throughout town, as well as outside of Riley.

Compare a classic to the "Big Screen." There are many great novels that have been made into film, compare and contrast the book and the movie (some favorites include How to Train your Dragon, Because of Winn-Dixie, Holes, & Hoot)

Writing

Keep a journal of your daily activities.

Write a story in the style of your favorite author or series, or write another chapter for a great book that you wish hadn't ended.

Practice summarizing by writing down the important points from a magazine or newspaper article that you read.

Write letters to people close by or far away. It's always fun to get mail!

E-mail us! We'd love to get to know you before school begins next year. We'll be sure to answer within a few days. Mrs. Kelly (kellyd@sjredwings.org) and Ms. Faivor (faivors@sjredwings.org)

Math

Keep working in IXL math throughout the summer. Review the first and second grade concepts and then make sure you've gotten a score of 100 in important 3rd grade sections like fractions, numbers and comparing, place value, addition, subtraction, and multiplication.

Work hard on mastering your addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts. Practice pages to print can be found at: www.math-drills.com and www.aplusbmath.com.

Practice finding at least the first 12 multiples of the numbers up to twelve (skip count by the number). For example, the first 5 multiples of 6 are: 6, 12, 18, 24, 30.

Follow recipes, paying special attention to fractions. Try doubling a recipe, or just making half of it. How would the measurements change?

Science

Practice reading and making graphs. Examine any graph you find and see if you can explain what it is showing to someone who has not seen the graph. Ask people to answer a question that interests you and graph your results using bar and line graphs.

Find some non-fiction books and get an early jump on learning about our science topics: human body, senses and the brain, rocks, the rock cycle and earth's processes (erosion & weathering), sound, waves and communication, energy, motion, and electricity.

In 4th grade, we practice observing nature to learn more about the world around us. Over the summer, go on nature walks and take time to draw or write about what you see—like plants, animals, rocks, or even changes in the weather.

Social Studies Topics of study: geography of the United States, economics, citizenship, and government

Citizenship: be an active and responsible member of your community this summer! Offer help to your neighbors, volunteer at a local organization, or pick up litter in your community.

Geography: Pay attention to where you are traveling this summer. Look at maps. Do you know the town or city, state, country, and continent where you are? Make a travel brochure for the places you go!

Human Geography: Make a recipe or two from a different culture and learn about how different people and cultures ended up here, in America.

Economics: Keep track of how you spend and earn money this summer. Record your thoughts in a journal. Be sure to include things you wanted to buy but could not afford, and the choices you had to make with the limited money that you have.

Suggested Supplies for Fourth Grade

While certainly not required, some parents like to provide supplies for the classroom. Below is a list of some suggestions for items if you choose to donate.



- 1 tape-bound composition style notebook with lined notebook paper inside - cover color/design does not matter, but please **avoid plastic covers**



- a **sturdy** "homework folder" for papers to and from school- cover design/color does not matter... PLEASE DO NOT SEND trapper keepers



- 4 folders, **please, please, please** be sure each has metal "gussets" or brackets inside for holding loose notebook paper: 1 blue, 1 green, 1 yellow, 1 red

- **Band-Aids**
- highlighters
- 2 ball point correcting pens - not blue or black
- 2 dry erase markers - if you can find ones with an eraser cap, awesome!
- personal set of earbuds/headphones, labeled in a protective case
- colored pencils
- pencils and erasers -please send in periodically throughout the year, mechanical pencils with larger size lead are nice
- 2 pads of sticky notes- around 3 x 3 inches (not the pop-up ones if possible)
- a pencil box or pouch to hold supplies in desk
- a box or two of tissues for the classroom
- scissors
- glue - liquid or stick, whatever your 4th grader prefers

Optional supplies: markers, a sturdy ruler, a small calculator, pencil sharpener (with lid for catching shavings).

Other items that are appreciated for the classroom: disinfectant wipes, gallon and sandwich size snap and seal-type bags, small and large size paper plates, 8 oz cups - no styrofoam please, plastic spoons, stickers for student papers, rolls of paper towels

We are so excited to have you in class next year and can't wait to hear about all of your summer adventures!

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