

The Fourth Grade Team Welcomes You to:



Curriculum Afternoon 2021-2022

Writing Units

Unit 1: The Arc of the Story: Writing Realistic Fiction

In this unit students create coherent characters with characteristics that fit together in ways that seem believable. Writers start by gathering entries that develop the character thinking especially about a character's wants and needs. Usually a storyline emerges out of the intersection of a character's motivation and the obstacles that get in the way.

Unit 2: The Literary Essay: Writing about Fiction

This unit focuses on the idea that to become strong writers, students not only need to learn more about *writing*: they also need to learn more about *reading*. They'll learn to notice the details in a text, to appreciate that authors choose the setting, objects, words, metaphors, and characters they put into their texts for reasons, and therefore, readers are wise to read, asking, "*Why might this author have made this decision?*" Students will make claims about their books and learn to create structured, compelling essays that support those claims.

Unit 3: Boxes and Bullets: Personal & Persuasive Essays

This unit is designed to help students with the difficult and exhilarating work of learning to write well within an expository structure. Organization is the focus from day 1. Children will learn that chapters in nonfiction books often pose an idea and then elaborate on that idea in parallel categories, each introduced by a subhead. Then, too, children learn that the "boxes-and-bullets" format helps construct a mental model comprised of main ideas and supporting information.

Unit 4: Genre Study

In this unit students will generate a number of writing pieces responding to literature. The unit builds on the "writing-about-reading" work done in Readers' Workshop and the previous writing unit, "The Literary Essay." Nothing is more important than the ability to distinguish between the different parts of an essay. Students perfect that skill here in the genre study unit.

Unit 5: Bringing History to Life: American Revolution

This unit goes hand-in-hand with the aforementioned 5th reading unit. Here, in Writers' Workshop, students will write informational texts on the American Revolution. They'll begin by writing an overview about the American Revolution, and drafting chapters on one focused topic that we've already taught into within our research instruction (i.e. the Boston Tea Party or Boston Massacre). As the unit progresses students narrow in on a subtopic of their choice, creating a new book that draws on what they learned previously to draft, revise, and edit with more independence.

Unit 6: Historical Fiction Writing

Here we provide an opportunity for students to stretch their writing skills by writing about fictional characters within a historical setting. Keep in mind that students will strengthen their skills as narrative writers while simultaneously writing through the lens of history. They will use read alouds to build background knowledge about the time period thus helping them understand the historical time period, historical details, and develop realistic plot lines.

Writing: Word Study, Spelling and Writing Conventions

- Making Words
 - Parts of words (e.g., prefixes, suffixes, roots)
- Grammar
- Vocabulary
- Spelling

Reading

- Components of instruction
- Strategies and skills
- Leveled reading

[Next Generation Learning Standards ELA](#)

Components of Instruction

- Text Talk – Shared texts & close reading to build strategies and skills, oral and written language
- Reading Workshop: mini lesson, independent/buddy/group practice
- Independent reading – independent practice
- Small group work – targeted work based on individual student needs

Reading Assessment

- Level determined through ongoing assessments
- Formal assessments are done 1-on-1 and utilize a running record for accuracy and a comprehension conversation to determine the level
- Informal assessments are done with classroom library books during reading instruction

September

November

January

March

May

Grade 4: 1=N or below 2=O 3=P 4=Q or above	Grade 4: 1=N or below 2=O/P 3=Q/R 4=S or above	Grade 4: 1=O or below 2=P 3=Q/R 4=T or above	Grade 4: 1=O or below 2=P/Q 3=R/S 4=T or above	Grade 4: 1=P or below 2=Q/R 3=S 4=T or above
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Reading Instruction: Strategies and Skills

- Using Prior Knowledge
- Main Idea and Details
- Questioning
- Vocabulary Acquisition
- Retell
- Story Elements
- Connections
- Reactions
- Theme
- Character Analysis
- Symbolism
- Elements of Poetry
- Theme
- Figurative Language
- Text Structure
- Visualizing
- Inference

Math: Major Concepts and Ideas

Next Generation Math Standards

- Establishing routines using math practices
- Place Value, Rounding, Addition & Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Geometry
- Fraction Equivalence
- Operations with Fractions
- Angle Measurement
- Decimals (post-test)
- Measurement (post-test)

Math: Major Concepts and Ideas

- **Place Value, Rounding, Addition and Subtraction**
 - ❑ Students will compare multi-digit numbers based on place value using $<$, $>$, $=$
 - ❑ Use place value to round multi-digit whole numbers to any place
 - ❑ Read, write multi-digit whole numbers using number names, expanded form, base ten numerals
 - ❑ Recognize that in multi-digit whole numbers, a digit in one place represents ten times what it represents in the place to its right

Math: Major Concepts and Ideas

- **Multiplication and Division**

- ❑ Solve multi-step word problems with whole numbers using four operations
- ❑ Solve division problems in which remainders must be interpreted
- ❑ Represent problems using equations with a letter standing for the unknown quantity

Math: Major Concepts and Ideas

- **Fraction Equivalence**

- ❑ Use visual fraction models to explain why a fraction is equivalent to another fraction
- ❑ Recognize and generate equivalent fractions
- ❑ Compare fractions with different numerators and denominators

Math: Major Concepts and Ideas

- **Decimals**

- ❑ Use decimal notation for fractions with denominators 10 or 100
- ❑ Express a fraction with denominator 10 as an equivalent fraction with denominator 100
- ❑ Add two fractions with denominators 10 and 100
- ❑ Compare two decimals to hundredths by reasoning about their size

Research

- Integrated curriculum units
- Studies:
 - Geography of New York State
 - Indigenous People of New York
 - Encounters: Worlds Meeting
 - Freedom: Colonial America and the American Revolution

Fourth Grade Google Classroom

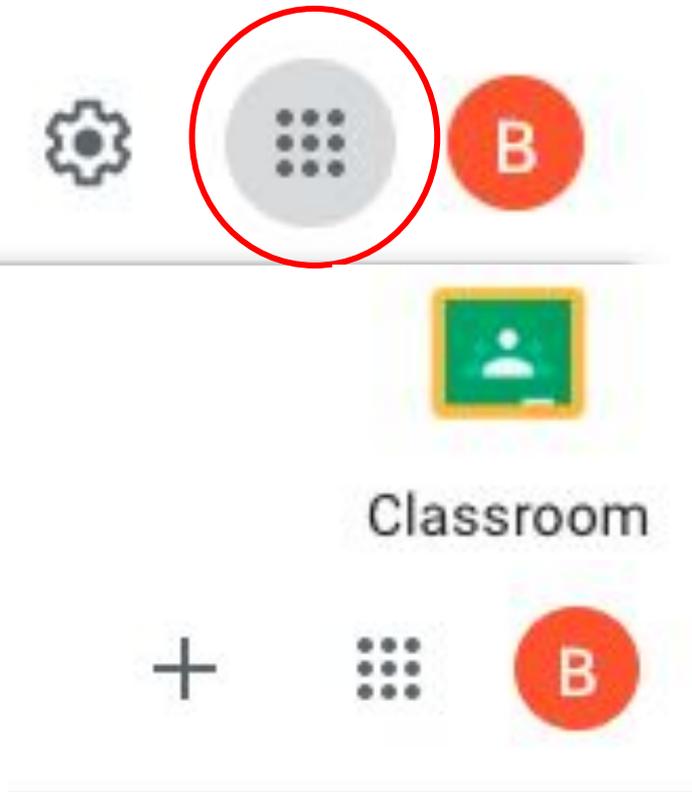
Google Classroom will ONLY be used in the event of a School/Class Closure or a snow day and then school work will be posted. If either of these scenarios occur, we will be sure to email all adults so that you know to check for assignments.

Class code: **b5xm5wo**

Please join the classroom from your student's Spruce Street gmail account, by entering the code.

**** if you need help accessing the Spruce Street email
please contact Valerie or Kim**

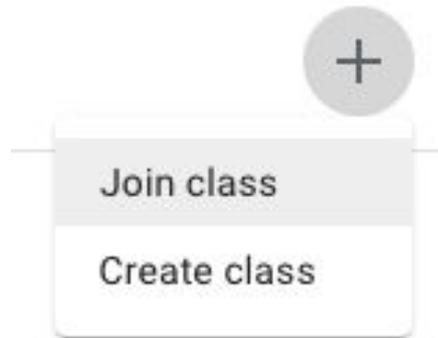
Follow these directions to join a google classroom:



1. Log into your student Spruce Account on google. In the top right corner next press this 3x3 dot array to open up google suite apps.

2. Find the classroom icon and click on it

3. Click on the plus symbol in the upper right hand corner and click "join class"



Class code

Ask your teacher for the class code, then enter it here.

4. Enter the class code:

b5xm5wo

- This google classroom is for all of Fourth Grade.