



Grade four students in the Schenectady City School District are screened three times per year for literacy to ensure that they are on track for reading proficiency.

Grade 4

LITERACY MEASURES

- STAR
- Interim Assessments

If screening results indicate that a student is at risk of not achieving proficiency, teachers will administer a diagnostic assessment to help determine specific areas in need of reinforcement.

Students in grade 4 take New York State Assessments in English language arts, mathematics, and science.

New York State learning standards outline what a student should know and be able to do by the end of the grade level or band. There are also skills that a well-rounded students should possess. Listed below are examples of the **Schenectady City School District Academic Expectations for Fourth Grade Students**. These should be viewed holistically and are not meant to determine promotion or retention. A student may demonstrate or be on track for proficiency without having mastered every skill. Teachers intervene as appropriate to support skill development.

READING

- Use knowledge of syllable types, word parts (roots, prefixes, suffixes), and letter-sound correspondence to read unfamiliar multisyllabic words
- Read and understand grade 4 literature (fiction) and informational (nonfiction) texts
- Read grade-level text with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression
- Provide relevant & specific details from texts to support answers, inferences
- Determine a text's theme or central idea and how key details support these
- Describe a character, setting, or event from literature using specific details
- Identify text structure (compare/contrast, cause/effect, sequence) and structural elements (e.g., stanza, meter, settings, dialogue, stage directions)
- Compare/contrast a narrator's point of view, the difference between first and third-person
- Explain how claims in a text are supported by relevant reasons and evidence
- Explain how charts, graphs, diagrams, illustrations, etc., aid understanding

WRITING AND LANGUAGE

- Demonstrate grade-appropriate use of spelling, grammar, usage, mechanics
- Write an argument to support claim(s) using clear reasons, relevant evidence
- Write informative texts to share relevant ideas and information
- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear sequence
- Draw evidence from texts to respond to and support analysis, reflection, and research
- Use transition words (e.g., therefore, for example) to help develop key ideas
- Conduct research to answer questions and to build knowledge
- Take notes and create outlines using appropriate strategies

VOCABULARY

- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown or multiple-meaning words and phrases, choosing from a range of strategies
- Explain the meaning of simple similes and metaphors in context
- Recognize and explain the meaning of common idioms, adages, and proverbs
- Relate words to their antonyms (opposites) and synonyms (similar meaning)

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Engage in collaborative discussions, give oral reports, share information and/ or recount an experience
- Express ideas clearly and build on others' ideas
- Come to discussions prepared, having read, or studied required material

TIPS FOR PARENTS

Set aside daily time for reading. Ask students questions about the books they have chosen. Read the book to yourself to foster better conversations.

Encourage students to select books about science, history, art, music, and famous people. Building background knowledge is important for comprehension.

Expect students to write daily, using the strategies they learn in school. Writing about what they read improves comprehension.

Play word games like “I Spy” to encourage oral language and build vocabulary.

Keep a “word log” for new words your child discovers.

Practice basic math facts by posing problems to solve mentally. Expect a quick response.

Involve your student in tasks at home that require math like cooking, measuring, building, etc.

Allow students to make a mistake and problem-solve a better solution.

Ask your child to communicate and defend their thinking on various topics.



MATH

Grade Level Fluencies

- Multi-digit division; Multi-digit decimal operation

Geometry

- Solve real-world math problems involving area, surface area, and volume

Ratios and Proportional Relationships

- Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problem

The Number System

- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions
- Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers to the system of rational numbers

Expressions and Equations

- Extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions
- Reason about and solve-one variable equations and inequalities
- Use variable to represent and analyze quantitative relationships

Statistics and Probability

- Develop understanding of how a set of data varies by how it is collected
- Display and summarize numerical data in plots in a number line

SCIENCE

- Understand and apply scientific concepts, principles, theories related to the physical setting, Earth and space science, and the living environment
- Recognize the historical development of ideas in science: ecosystems and biomes; plant and animal characteristics; forces and motion; electricity; magnetism and electromagnetism; weather; the atmosphere; the Earth, moon, and sun
- Recognize that objects have properties that can be observed, describe, and/or measured (states of matter, density, temperature, conductor, etc.)
- Use scientific inquiry to show understanding of the scientific process and concepts by making observations and testing explanations; analyze using both conventional and invented methods to provide insights into phenomena

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Develop questions about New York State history, geography, economics, and government
- Describe Native American groups living in the region that became NYS and how they interacted with environment and developed unique cultures.
- Examine European exploration and colonization of the region that became NYS.
- Recognize the importance of New York during the Revolutionary War.
- Compare different levels of government with the United States and New York State.
- Explain the purpose of government to protect the rights of citizens and to promote the common good.
- Examine how different groups of people did not have equal rights and freedoms and how people worked to bring about change.
- Explore the role of NYS in westward expansion, trade, technology & immigration
- Describe how human activities change places and regions
- Identify types of political systems used at various times in NYS and US history

ART

- Use Elements and Principles of Art & Design to communication meanings and ideas
- Use various materials/tools, including digital technology, to promote creativity
- Analyze, reflect, discuss, and interpret artwork, and identify artist inferences
- Research and discuss a variety of artworks from diverse cultures throughout time

MUSIC

- Sing alone and with others using steps, skips, repeated notes
- Listen to music and write descriptions of musical elements
- Compose simple melodies, rhythms, and multiple part songs
- Identify music styles including American folk, Blues/Jazz, Rock ‘n’ Roll
- Identify the main components of musicals including composer, lyricist, scenery, choreographer, characters, costumes

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Perform basic motor and manipulative skills
- Attain competency in a variety of physical activities
- Demonstrate safe, responsible, personal, and social behavior