

Essential Skills: 4th Grade

This document summarizes the common terms, skills, and expectations for District 153 students in the core areas of reading, mathematics, language arts, social studies, and science.

District 153 considers these skills to be essential, non-negotiable skills. The District's expectation is that 80 percent of all 4th-grade students will master these skills.

READING

Comprehension

- Age-appropriate inferencing
- Use of context clues for vocabulary and inferencing
- Choose and use the appropriate text organizational feature to answer questions
- Evaluate text organizational features and their purpose in aiding comprehension

Literature

- Ability to differentiate between fact and opinion

Vocabulary

- Using syllabication to decode new words
- Use of common prefixes, suffixes, and root words to determine meaning of unfamiliar words

Roots and Affixes

-able, -ible	phon	port
sphere	tri-	cap
ex-	micro	serv
cent	-al	-ance
il-,	hab	geo
ir,	fact	-ish
miss/mit	mem	pre-
over	in-, im	mar
bi-	-ic	non-
struct	pop	bio

MATH

Algebra

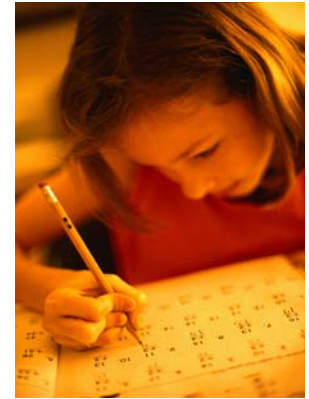
- Solve an expression with one variable and one operation
- Solve for an unknown in an equation using one operation (+ or -)
- Solve word problems with unknown quantities

Number Sense

- Recognize and use whole numbers and their place values up to 1,000,000
- Order and compare whole numbers up to 100,000
- Order and compare fractions with like denominators, and decimals through hundredths
- Model and apply multiplication and division facts up through 12

Measurement & Geometry

- Use of standard measurement units and tools to the $\frac{1}{2}$ inch or $\frac{1}{2}$ centimeter
- Compare, estimate and solve problems using length, area, volume and mass
- Calculate the volume of solid figures using cubic units (cu)



- Identify regular and irregular polygons
- Locate, graph and identify ordered pairs on a grid
- Identify a 3-D figure from its net
- Determine the distance between two points on a number line in whole numbers

Data & Probability

- Create a pictograph, bar graph, tally chart, or table for a given set of data
- Classify simple events and describe chances associated with probability using proper terms



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LANGUAGE ARTS

Written Language

- Discriminate sentence fragment from complete sentence and run-on sentence
- Capitalization - cities, states, abbreviations, continents, streets, roads, countries
- Identify and write 4 types of sentences using appropriate terminology (declarative, imperative, interrogative, exclamatory)

Parts of Speech

- Understand objective pronouns
- Understanding of singular and plural pronouns

Writing

- Brainstorm a position for a persuasive piece using a graphic organizer
- Use of full name and date on all papers

SOCIAL STUDIES

Political Systems

- Knowledge about the Bill of Rights
- Understanding of the three branches of government (state and federal)
- Ability to discuss the influences and behaviors of social institutions

Economics

- Understanding of the impact of inventions and technology on the economy
- Knowledge of the production process
- Conservation of resources

History

- Use of maps, charts, and timelines to gather information about people, places, and environments
- Describe the relationship between location, history, and economics of each region in the U.S. with a special emphasis on the Midwest and Illinois
- Understand the rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens
- Understand the structure of the U.S. government
- Understand the development of significant political events in and contributions of significant person on U.S. history

Timelines

- Place a series of social, political, or environmental events in their proper location on a timeline of U.S. history

Geography

- Describe the physical features, resources, and climate of an area

- Describe some tools and skills geographers use to study and explore the world and locate places
- Read an elevation map and identify cause and effect relationships
- Classify landforms, bodies of water in the U.S. and explain how places change over time

SCIENCE

- Classify living things
- Demonstrate an understanding of how plants and animals, grow, adapt, survive, and reproduce
- Identify structure and functions of the human body systems
- Recognize the relationship between plants and animals within an ecosystem
- Be aware of Earth's geological features and the actions and reactions that occur in nature
- Describe the physical properties of matter
- Develop an understanding of electricity and magnetism
- Comprehend relationships between the natural and technological worlds
- Use the scientific method to analyze data and communicate results