4th Grade Curriculum Overview

American Preparatory Academy follows Utah Core Standards, as well as the Core Knowledge Sequence as outlined in *What Your Fourth Grader Needs to Know.*

- Utah Core Standards for 4th Grade can be found at: https://www.uen.org/core/
- Core Knowledge Sequence can be found at: https://www.coreknowledge.org/
- What Your 4th Grader Needs to Know by E. D. Hirsch, Jr.
    - What Your 4th Grader Needs to Know offers parents, teachers, and children an illustrated guide to the essential knowledge outlined in the Core Knowledge Sequence, including beloved stories and poems, familiar sayings, interesting information on history and geography, lively discussions of visual arts and music, and explanations and activities in math and science.

Homeroom Subjects

History

All of the curriculum can be purchased or an online version can be accessed at www.coreknowledge.org

- *Map Skills*, Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- *World Mountains*, Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- *Medieval Europe*, Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- *Medieval Islamic Empires, Early Russia and Feudal Japan*, Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- *Early and Medieval African Kingdoms*, Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- *Dynasties of China*, Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- *The American Revolution*, Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- *The United States Constitution,* Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- *Early Presidents,* Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- *American Reformers,* Core Knowledge Curriculum Series
- Core Knowledge Curriculum Series Additional Resources for every unit listed above include: timeline cards, teaching materials and resources, and additional online resources all found on the core knowledge site

Science

Lessons for science are created by A.P.A. staff and are based on the Utah SEED standards, along with the Core Knowledge Sequence. These lessons will include the following topics:

- Geology
- Energy
- Waves
- Animals & Biomes
- Rocks & Minerals
- Fossils
- Sky Patterns
- Circulatory System
- Respiratory System
- What Your 4th Grader Needs to Know by E. D. Hirsch, Jr.
- Additional teaching resources created by American Preparatory Academy include: students packets, flash cards, student notes, and tests. These additional materials can be seen by visiting any of our classrooms.
    - To see a sample of these additional materials use the following link: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1T8WfHdmXvidVc3xR5TBFYYoiOWY0ZYwi

Vocabulary

Lessons for vocabulary are from the Wordly Wise program. Students have the following workbook for in-class activities:

- *Wordly Wise 3000 Book 4: Direct Academic Vocabulary Instruction* by Hodkinson, Kenneth, Adams, Sandra, & Hodkinson, Erika

Grammar

- *The Shurley Method: English Made Easy Teacher's Manual Level 4* - Hardcover (January 1, 1997) by Brenda Shurley and Ruth Wetsell- can be purchased on Amazon
- *The Shurley Method: English Made Easy Student Workbook* Level 4 - 97 Edition by Brenda Shurley and Ruth Wetsell
- *The Shurley Method: Student's Reference Guide*- Soft Cover Spiral

Writing

- *Writing & Rhetoric Book 3: Narrative II* Classical Academic Press
- Virtue Letters- These are completed for one student each week. Use the link to access a list of virtues and see a virtue letter template. Virtue Letter
- Class Pet Essay- This is a persuasive essay based on the students' opinions.
- Animal Report
    - Students will be assigned an animal and will conduct internet research under the direction of the teacher

- Book Reports- Students will read a book of choice from our Reading University list and use the following form to outline a book report, then write a first draft, and a final draft.
    - Additional teaching resources created by American Preparatory Academy can be seen by visiting any of our classrooms.
    - Reading University List: https://www.americanprep.org/reading-university/

Conceptual Math

Lessons for 4th grade Conceptual Math are created by A.P.A. staff and are based on the Utah Core standards, along with the Core Knowledge Sequence. Many of these are based on information from https://www.commoncoresheets.com/ and from the mathematics section of *What Your 4th Grader Needs to Know.* These lessons will include the following topics:

- Numbers and Number Sense
- Multiplication
- Division
- Fractions and Decimals
- Measurement
- Geometry

Literature

Novels

- *Robin Hood*- J. Walker Mcspadden
- *The Phantom Tollbooth* - Norton Juster
- *Pollyanna* -Eleanor Porter
- *Robinson Crusoe*- Daniel Defoe
- *Treasure Island* - Robert Louis Stevenson
- *King Arthur* -Alice M. Hadfield

Short Stories found in What Your 4th Grader Needs to Know by E. D. Hirsch, Jr.

- *The Fire on the Mountain* (an Ethiopian folktale)
- *The Wonderful Chuang Brocade* (a Chinese folktale)
- *Saint George and the Dragon* - Margaret Hodges
- *Rip Van Winkle*- Washington Irving
- *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* -Washington Irving

Poems found in What Your 4th Grader Needs to Know by E. D. Hirsch, Jr.

- “Monday’s Child”- Unknown
- “Humanity” - Elma Stuckey
- “Fog” - Carl Sandburg
- “Clouds” - Christina G. Rossetti
- “The Drum” - Nikki Giovanni

- “Things” - Eloise Greenfiled
- “Dreams” - Langston Hughes
- “Afternoon on a Hill” - Edna St. Vincent Millay
- “The Rhinoceros” - Ogden Nash
- “The Pobble Who Has No Toes” - Edward Lear
- “A Tragic Story” - William Makepeace Thackeray
- “Clarence” -Shel Silverstein
- “Paul Revere’s Ride” Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- “Concord Hymn” - Ralph Waldo Emerson
- “George Washington” - Rosemary Benet and Stephen Vincent Benet

Economics

Tuttle Twins Curriculum

- *The Tuttle Twins and the Miraculous Pencil* by Connor Boyack
- Student packets (created by A.P.A.)
- These books are provided by the school and the packets can also be found in the classroom or curriculum office.

Literary Analysis

Based on curriculum from NY Engage

- https://www.nysedregents.org/ei/ei-ela.html

Logic

Building Thinking Skills Grade 4 by Sandra Parks

Sayings & Phrases

Found in What Your 4th Grader Needs to Know by E. D. Hirsch, Jr.

- An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure
- As the crow flies
- Beauty is only skin deep
- The bigger they are, the harder they fall
- Birds of a feather flock together
- Blow hot and cold
- Break the ice
- Bull in a china shop
- Bury the hatchet
- Can’t hold a candle to
- Don’t count your chickens before they hatch

- Don't put all your eggs in one basket
- Etc.
- Go to pot
- Half a loaf is better than none
- Haste makes waste
- Land of Nod
- Laugh and the world laughs with you
- Lightning never strikes twice
- Live and let live
- Make ends meet
- Make hay while the sun shines
- Money burning a hole in your pocket
- Once in a blue moon
- One picture is worth a thousand words
- On the warpath
- RSVP
- Run of the mill
- Seeing is believing
- Shipshape
- Through thick and thin
- Timbuktu
- Two wrongs don't make a right
- When it rains, it pours
- You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink

Reading University Book List

A list of all Reading University books for all grades is available on the schools website: https://www.americanprep.org/reading-university/

- All these books can be purchased or checked out from your local library

Art

Art projects are chosen for students based on the Core Knowledge Curriculum as found in What Your 4th Grader Needs to Know by E. D. Hirsch, Jr.

Music

- Song of the Minutemen
- We the People
- Rock Island Line
- Grandfather's Clock

- The Yellow Rose of Texas
- Mare Zee Doats
- Auld Lang Syne
- Waltzing Matilda
- Loch Lomond
- Taps
- Armed Forces Salute

Intensive Groups Curriculum

Intensive Math Groups

Based on assessment data, students will be assigned to one of the following math classes:

- The corrective math curriculum can be purchased or an online version can be accessed at: https://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/program/corrective-math-2005/MKTSP-UVI02M0.html?page=1&sortby=title&order=asc&bu=seg
    - Addition
    - Subtraction
    - Multiplication
    - Division
    - Basic Fractions
    - Fractions, Decimals, Percent
    - Ratios and Equations

Saxon Math, by Stephen Hake and John Saxon

- For each *Saxon Math* level (see list below), students will use a textbook and a math facts practice book. These books can be purchased on amazon.com or checked out in the school curriculum room.
    - *Saxon 5/4*
    - *Saxon 6/5*
    - *Saxon 8/7*
    - *Saxon Pre Algebra*
    - *Saxon Algebra 1*
    - *Saxon Algebra 2*

Intensive Reading Groups

Based on assessment data, students will be assigned to one of the following reading classes:

Corrective Reading Decoding Strategies B1 by Mcgraw Hill

- Student manual
- Teacher manual

Corrective Reading Decoding Strategies B2 by Mcgraw Hill

- Student manual
- Teacher manual

Corrective Reading Decoding Strategies C by Mcgraw Hill

- Student Manual
- Teacher Manual

Reading Mastery, by Siegfried Engelmann and Jean Osborn

- For each *Reading Mastery* level (see list below), students will use a textbook, a workbook, and a skillbook. These books can be purchased on amazon.com or checked out in the school curriculum room.
- *Reading Mastery 4*
- *Reading Mastery 5*
- *Reading Mastery 6*

Literature Based Direct Instruction

LBDI 4

Lessons are based on the following novels:

- *Sign of the Beaver*, Elizabeth George Speare
- *Long Way from Chicago*, Richard Peck
- *The Candy Shop War*, Brandon Mull
- *Boy: Tales of Childhood*, Roald Dahl
- *Midnight Magic*, Avi
- *Number the Stars*, Lois Lowry
- *Mr. Revere & I*, Robert Lawson
- *Indian in the Cupboard*, Lynne Reid Banks

LBDI 5

Lessons are based on the following novels:

- *The Lightning Thief: Percy Jackson and the Olympians*, Rick Riordan
- *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh*, Robert O'Brien
- *My Side of the Mountain*, Jean Craighead George
- *If Your Name was Changed at Ellis Island*, Ellen Levine
- *Freedom Crossing*, Margaret Goff Clark
- *The Door in the Wall*, Marguerite De Angeli
- *King of the Wind*, Marguerite Henry
- *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, Scott O'Dell
- *Upper McGuffey Reader*, William McGuffey

LBDI 6

Lessons are based on the following novels:

- *Banner in the Sky*, James Ramsey Ullman

- *The Dark Hills Divide*, Patrick Carman
- *The Incredible Journey*, Sheila Burnford
- *The Wednesday Wars*, Gary D. Schmidt
- *Sees Behind Trees*, Michael Dorris
- *The Golden Fleece*, abridged Core Knowledge version
- *Soldier's Heart*, Gary Paulsen
- *The Black Stallion,* Walter Farley
- *The Slave Dancer,* Paula Fox
- *The Little Prince,* Antoine de Saint-Exupery

LBDI 7

Lessons are based on the following novels:

- *Rifles for Watie*, Harold Keith
- *Hound of the Baskervilles*, Arthur Conan Doyle
- *The Alliance*, Gerald N. Lund
- *A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens
- *The Clay Marble*, Minfong Ho
- *A Single Shard*, Linda Sue Park
- *A Tale of Two Cities*, Charles Dickens
- *Twelfth Night,* William Shakespeare
- *Helen Keller*, Helen Keller

Some students may be placed in these additional classes. For more information or curriculum, please contact the campus administrator.

- Comprehension A
- Comprehension B
- DICE
- Morphographs
    - *Spelling Through Morphographs* by Mcgraw Hill: https://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/product/spelling-through-morphographs-student-workbook/9780076053957.html