



Saint Francis of Assisi School

Experience the Good, the True, and the Beautiful

RELIGION IN FOURTH GRADE

The St. Francis School Fourth Grade Religion program uses *Spirit of Truth* by Sophia Press to infuse students with a deeper understanding of the moral life and how to intentionally develop a moral conscience. They explore God's creation and how to respond to the grace of God. Students also learn about the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, the Golden Rule, the Greatest Commandment, and dive deeper into Biblical texts.

Fourth Grade students will

- Understand the moral life and conscience formation
- Explore what it means to be created in the image and likeness of God
- Learn how to respond to God's grace in order to spend eternity with Him
- Master the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, the Golden Rule, and Jesus' Great Commandment to love God with all our heart and soul and to love our neighbor as ourselves
- Learn the reality of sin and necessity of grace
- Respond to God's Covenant of Love
- Understand the Communion of Saints
- Develop a deeper understanding and love of the rosary including the mastery of all prayers and Mysteries of the rosary
- Celebrate the season of Advent by praying around the Advent Wreath daily and creating a Jesse Tree for the school displayed in the hallway
- Understand the Lenten Season through prayer and penitence
- Participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation quarterly
- Integrate Disciples of Christ virtue program in the classroom
- Celebrate Our Blessed Mother at a Mother's Day Tea in May

LANGUAGE ARTS IN FOURTH GRADE

Our fourth graders continue with *Voyages in English*, which presents the fundamentals of writing and grammar in a logical and consistent manner. Through study of the seven parts of speech, development of writing skills, and practice with public speaking, students gain a mastery of language and become effective writers and communicators of their own ideas. By reading selections of literature, reading skills and comprehension strategies are implemented, such as recalling, comparing, classifying information, identifying cause and effect, restating the main idea and supporting with details from the text. Works of fiction read include *The Last Holiday Concert* by Andrew Clements and *Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard and Florence

Atwater. Students continue to grow in their mastery of spelling and vocabulary using *Spelling Connections*.

Mathematics Curriculum

Saxon Math produces confident students who are not only able to correctly compute, but also apply learned concepts to new situations. Saxon Math students practice mathematical ideas over a considerable period of time through the pedagogical process known as incremental development and continual review.

Material is introduced in easily understandable pieces, or, increments, allowing students to grasp one facet of a concept before the next one is introduced. Both facets are then practiced together until another one is introduced. This feature is combined with continual review in every lesson throughout the year. Topics are never dropped but are increased in complexity and practiced every day, providing the time required for concepts to become totally familiar.

Students will participate in a wide variety of mathematics activities using the Saxon Math program. Students will learn through hands-on experiences, discussions, explorations, and oral practice. While each day's activities will be different, each lesson will have a familiar four-part format.

- **The Meeting:** a time when students practice everyday skills. Students will learn about the calendar, the daily number pattern, weather, attendance graph, time, and money. They will also use mental computation to solve practical problems.
- **Fact Practice:** this helps students master number facts by practicing fact strategies using fact cards, games and activities, Learning Wrap-Ups, and fact sheets. Students also practice their number facts at home using a variety of methods.
- **New Concepts:** these are presented in each lesson through discussion and hands-on experiences that allow students to be actively involved in learning. This also aids in their ability to recall.
- **Written Practice:** this reinforces new concepts from the lesson as well as from previous lessons. Students are guided in class as they complete and correct Side A of the practice sheet. Students complete Side B as homework.

Complete Saxon Math Scope and Sequence

- *Kindergarten – Fourth Grade:*
<https://www.hmhco.com/~media/sites/home/education/global/pdf/scope-and-sequence/mathematics/elementary/saxon-math/scope-and-sequence-6-14-13.pdf?la=en>

MATH IN FOURTH GRADE

Fourth Grade students will master the following concepts: *

Numbers and Operations

- Identify and approximate square roots, cube roots and perfect cubes
- Identify quotients, dividends, and divisors
- Checks division answers using multiplication
- Find the percent of a number

Geometry and Measurement

- Construct scalene, isosceles, and equilateral triangles
- Compare, estimate, and measure circumference

Statistics, Data Analysis and Probability

- Draw and read a pie graph
- Make a stem-and-leaf plot

Problem Solving and Communication

- Solve story problems
- Connect math to science and social studies

**For a comprehensive list of skills and benchmarks, please see the Complete Saxon Math Scope and Sequence above.*

SOCIAL STUDIES IN FOURTH GRADE

Students will utilize *Our United States of America* by Oliver Corrigan. This colorful, student-friendly program introduces students to social studies, while drawing them into the realization that they too are part of history.

Children learn of faithful Christians who dramatically impacted and are impacting the development of our country: from government leaders; to doctors who served the poor; to Native Americans; to a religious order who saved a western town from outlaws. As students learn, they are guided to think of ways that Our Lord might be calling them to change society, and history, for the better.

Fourth Grade students will

- Discover the history of each and every State and memorize all capitals
- Undergo a nine-week, in-depth, hands-on state study of New Hampshire
- Attend field trips at the New Hampshire State House, Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth, and the Mill History museum in Manchester
- Perform a research project on one states of the U.S.

ELEVATE SCIENCE FOR GRADES 3-6

Third Grade, Fourth Grade, Fifth Grade and Sixth Grade all use *Elevate Science*, which is the latest and greatest science program from Pearson. Active exploration is the heart of this new curriculum. Designed to address the Next Generation Science

Standards, *Elevate Science* helps students investigate real-life phenomena through project-based learning. The curriculum develops strong reasoning skills and critical thinking strategies, as students engage in explorations, formulate claims, and use data for evidence-based arguments.

Elevate Science builds our students critical thinking, questioning, and collaboration skills. The curriculum fuels interest in STEM and creative problem solving while supporting scientific literacy development.

Video of Methodology: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/B0daBJullhs?rel=0>

Brochure:

https://assets.pearsonglobalschools.com/asset_mgr/current/201838/Elevate_Overview_K-5.pdf

In conjunction with *Elevate Science*, students will

- Learn the Scientific Method by participating in a yearly science fair
- Do an overnight at the Roger Williams Zoo
- Visit the Christa McAuliffe Planetarium and Museum of Science

SCIENCE IN FOURTH GRADE

Fourth Grade students will

- Understand how energy and motion relate
- Create different electric circuits
- Explore the human uses of energy
- Explore the Earth's features
- Understand erosion and weathering and their effects upon the land
- Understand how different surfaces cause different air temperatures
- Identify Earth's natural hazards
- Understand the working of two major body systems: digestive and circulatory