

2016-2017 Curriculum Overview (alternates yearly)

Social Studies

The 4/5's explore the theme: How did California become what it is today?

This year's focus is on the physical and human history of California. During this year, the 4/5's explore topics including:

- The geography of California and how it affects human and animal populations;
- Indigenous people before the arrival of Europeans;
- The arrival of Spanish explorers, exploiters, missionaries, and settlers in California;
- The mission period, the rancho period, and the Mexican-American War;
- The discovery of gold in California, the arrival of English, and the coming of statehood;
- "Manifest Destiny" and how it affected white settlement of the west;
- Waves of immigration to California during the 19th and 20th centuries: Hollywood, Silicon Valley, Transcontinental Railroad, and WWII Industry; and
- The construction and symbolism of the Golden Gate Bridge.

Related Field Trips:

- Oakland Museum of California
- The Golden Gate Bridge

Reading

In Reading, the 4/5's explore:

- Fiction-Interpreting Characters: The Heart of the Story
- Non-fiction: Tackling Complexity
- Non-fiction: Reading the Weather, Reading the World
- Historical Fiction Clubs
- *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell and various in-class read alouds

Word Study in the 4/5's includes:

- Initial assessment (*Words Their Way*) for spelling pattern knowledge and needs;
- Practice cursive in morning message and writing assignments;
- Focus on general academic, domain-specific vocabulary words;
- Spelling lists generated from 100 high frequency word list, *Words Their Way* leveled lists, and individual word lists from each student's writing/editing;
- Practice using dictionaries, glossaries, and thesauruses;
- Mini-lessons and practice with topics such as antonyms, synonyms, homophones, parts of speech, Greek and Latin roots and suffixes, verb tense, and writing conventions.

<p>Writing</p>	<p>The 4/5's continue practicing the writing process by collecting ideas, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing their work. Units of Study include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrative Writing: Launching the Writer's Workshop • Realistic Fiction: The Arc of Story • Opinion Writing: Boxes and Bullets and/or The Literary Essay • Informational Writing: Bringing History to Life • Poetry <p>Curriculum resources from the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project explore narrative writing, information writing, and opinion/argument writing. Later in the year, students will incorporate speechwriting as a genre through speeches and/or tributes presented during Graduation Week in June. The 4/5's do a number of writing projects to practice their skills and build their knowledge through investigations and research as part of their work in social studies and science.</p>		
<p>Math</p>	<p>Math in the 4/5's is taught by grade level using the <i>Bridges in Mathematics</i>, 2nd edition.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="381 787 1539 1167"> <tr> <td data-bbox="381 787 954 1167"> <p>4th grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiplicative Thinking • Multi-Digit Multiplication and Early Division • Fractions and Decimals • Addition, Subtraction, and Measurement • Geometry and Measurement • Multiplication and Division, Data, and Fractions • Patterns and Problems </td> <td data-bbox="954 787 1539 1167"> <p>5th grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressions, Equations, and Volume • Adding and Subtracting Fractions • Place Value and Decimals • Multiplying and Dividing Whole Numbers and Decimals • Multiplying and Dividing Fractions • Graphing, Geometry, and Volume </td> </tr> </table>	<p>4th grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiplicative Thinking • Multi-Digit Multiplication and Early Division • Fractions and Decimals • Addition, Subtraction, and Measurement • Geometry and Measurement • Multiplication and Division, Data, and Fractions • Patterns and Problems 	<p>5th grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressions, Equations, and Volume • Adding and Subtracting Fractions • Place Value and Decimals • Multiplying and Dividing Whole Numbers and Decimals • Multiplying and Dividing Fractions • Graphing, Geometry, and Volume
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<p>Science</p>	<p>The 4/5's will explore the following science units of study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soils, Rocks, and Landforms (FOSS); • Ecosystems (Walker Creek); and • Energy and Electromagnetism (FOSS) <p>Possible field trips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lindsay Wildlife Museum • Tilden Park • 4/5 weekly overnight (Walker Creek) • Lawrence Hall of Science 		
<p>Social-Emotional Learning</p>	<p>Elements of the 4/5 social-emotional curriculum include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning Meeting (<i>Responsive Classroom</i>) • Direct modeling of CARES (Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy, and Self-Control) • All-school <i>Community Creators</i> • Partner Pals • Conflict Resolution (<i>Talk It Out</i>) • Self Regulation Strategies (e.g. take a break) • Class Meetings/Council • Fifth Grade Lunchtime Affinity Groups • Opportunities for Self Reflection 		