



4 / 5

**2017-2018 Curriculum Overview**  
*(alternates yearly)*

**Social Studies**

This year, the theme in Social Studies is the landscape and human history of North America. During this year, the 4/5s explore topics including:

- Life in pre-European contact North America;
- The cultural encounters between North American Indians, Europeans, and Africans and their legacies;
- Life during the colonial period;
- The causes, course, and consequences of the American Revolution;
- The structures, functions, and powers of the federal and state governments; and
- The various regions of the United States, the 50 states and their capitals

During the year, students also study the capitals and locations of all 50 US states as well as the Preamble to the US Constitution.

Possible field trips:

- Museum of the African Diaspora
- de Young Museum's American painting collection
- Walker Creek Ranch

**Reading**

This year, in Reader's Workshop the 4/5's explore:

- Fiction: Interpreting Characters - The Heart of the Story;
- Non-fiction: Reading the Weather, Reading the World;
- Non-fiction: Reading History - The American Revolution;
- Fiction: Historical Fiction Clubs; and
- Read and reflect on *New Found Land* by Allan Wolf and various in-class read alouds

Word Study in the 4/5's includes:

- Initial assessment for spelling pattern knowledge and needs;
- Practice cursive handwriting in morning message, word study, and writing assignments;
- Spelling lists generated from 500 high frequency word list, domain-specific vocabulary words, 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.

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| <p><b>Writing</b></p>   | <p>This year, in Writer’s Workshop the 4/5’s continue exploring the writing process by collecting ideas, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing their work in the following units of study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrative Writing: The Arc of the Story - Writing Realistic Fiction;</li> <li>• Argument: Boxes and Bullets - Personal and Persuasive Essays;</li> <li>• Information Writing: Bringing History to Life;</li> <li>• Literary Essay: Writing About Fiction;</li> <li>• Integrative Performance: Script Writing and Speech Writing; and</li> <li>• Poetry</li> </ul> <p>Curriculum resources from the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project explore narrative writing, argument, information writing, and literary essay. 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, science, performance, tributes and graduation speeches.</p> |   |  |
| <p><b>Math</b></p>  | <p>Math in the 4/5’s is taught by grade level using <i>Bridges in Mathematics</i>, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.</p> <hr/> <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="370 751 954 1024"> <p>4<sup>th</sup> grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiplicative Thinking</li> <li>• Multi-Digit Multiplication</li> <li>• Fractions and Decimals</li> <li>• Addition, Subtraction, and Measurement</li> <li>• Geometry and Measurement</li> <li>• Multiplication and Division, Data, and Fractions</li> <li>• Patterns and Problems</li> </ul> </td> <td data-bbox="954 751 1539 1024"> <p>5<sup>th</sup> grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expressions, Equations, and Volume</li> <li>• Adding and Subtracting Fractions</li> <li>• Place Value and Decimals</li> <li>• Multiplying and Dividing Whole Numbers and Decimals</li> <li>• Multiplying and Dividing Fractions</li> <li>• Graphing, Geometry, and Volume</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>                           | <p>4<sup>th</sup> grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiplicative Thinking</li> <li>• Multi-Digit Multiplication</li> <li>• Fractions and Decimals</li> <li>• Addition, Subtraction, and Measurement</li> <li>• Geometry and Measurement</li> <li>• Multiplication and Division, Data, and Fractions</li> <li>• Patterns and Problems</li> </ul> | <p>5<sup>th</sup> grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expressions, Equations, and Volume</li> <li>• Adding and Subtracting Fractions</li> <li>• Place Value and Decimals</li> <li>• Multiplying and Dividing Whole Numbers and Decimals</li> <li>• Multiplying and Dividing Fractions</li> <li>• Graphing, Geometry, and Volume</li> </ul> |
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| <p><b>Science</b></p>   | <p>This year, the 4/5s will explore the theme of systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Solar System;</li> <li>• Body Systems / Puberty Education;</li> <li>• Living Systems; and</li> <li>• Mixtures and Solution</li> <li>• Gardening</li> </ul> <p>As a complement to the human body unit, the 4/5s have a puberty education unit, ongoing discussions on gender, and a presentation by a panel of LGBTQ adults.</p> <p>Possible field trips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lawrence Hall of Science</li> <li>• Chabot Space &amp; Science Center</li> </ul>   |   |  |
| <p><b>Social-Emotional Learning</b></p>   | <p>Elements of the 4/5 social-emotional curriculum include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning Meeting</li> <li>• Mindfulness</li> <li>• Direct modeling of CARES (Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy, and Self-Control)</li> <li>• All-school <i>Community Creators</i></li> <li>• Partner Pals</li> <li>• Conflict Resolution (<i>Talk It Out</i>)</li> <li>• Self-Regulation (e.g. take a break)</li> <li>• Ally Week</li> <li>• Class Meetings/Student Council</li> <li>• Fifth Grade Lunchtime Affinity Groups</li> <li>• Opportunities for Self Reflection</li> </ul>  |   |  |