



4 / 5

2018-2019 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: Transcontinental Railroad, and WWII; Japanese Internment and Angel Island
- The construction and symbolism of the Golden Gate Bridge.

Possible Field Trips:

- Oakland Museum of California
- The Golden Gate Bridge
- Angel Island

Reading

In Reading, the 4/5's explore:

- Interpretation Book Clubs: Analyzing Themes
- Tackling Complexity: Moving Up Levels of Nonfiction
- Argument and Advocacy: Researching Debatable Issues
- Fantasy Book Clubs: The Magic of Themes and Symbols

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*, 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.

Writing

The 4/5's continue practicing the writing process by collecting ideas, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing their work. Units of Study include:

- Narrative Craft
- The Lens of History: Research Reports

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaping Texts: From Essay and Narrative to Memoir • The Research Based Argument Essay <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 style="text-align: center;">Math</p> | <p>Math in the 4/5's is taught by grade level using the <i>Bridges in Mathematics</i>, 2nd edition.</p> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <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 style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <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 style="text-align: center;">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 style="text-align: center;">Social-Emotional Learning</p> | <p>Aurora uses the <i>Open Circle Social Emotional Program</i>, an evidence-based social and emotional learning (SEL) curriculum developed at the Stone Center at Wellesley College. This innovative program proactively develops children's skills for recognizing and managing emotions, empathy, positive relationships, and problem solving. Open Circle helps schools build communities where students feel safe, cared for, and engaged in learning.</p> <p>Elements of Open Circle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Ourselves • Strengthening Relationships • How to Sort Problems • Problem Solving <p>Other elements of the 4/5 SEL curriculum include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning Meeting (<i>Responsive Classroom</i>) • Conflict Resolution (<i>Talk It Out</i>) • All-school <i>Community Creators</i> • Partner Pals • Ally Week | | |