**Teacher Tammy Hainsfurther and Nikki Harris**

**Grade Level 4th**

**Course Language Arts**

**Course Aims Our focus and goal in Fourth Grade Language Arts is to empower students to become independent readers, researchers, note takers, writers, listeners, speakers, and critical thinkers who confidently approach and respond to Literature, Social Studies, Science, and global questions. Students increase their reading levels by reading in and outside of class, and improve their writing skills by writing, which also deepens comprehension. Students will actively read, write, research, listen, and discuss. English grammar skills will also be practiced.**

**Course Description In Fourth Grade Language Arts we will follow the Common Core State Standards for English**

**Language Arts, which requires students to read, read, read, and write, write, write. In addition to**

**Nonfiction we will read novels, which inspire lifelong reading. We will ask questions, research,**

**take notes, report, and write for a variety of purposes. Our writing will include informational,**

**opinion, compare and contrast, and narratives. When possible we will integrate our reading and**

**writing with Lead 21 Reading, Social Studies, and Science. Grammar practice will also be**

**included.**

**Textbook: No**

QUARTER: \_\_\_\_\_\_First\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COURSE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_4th Language Arts\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| ***Content*** | ***Assessment*** | ***Common Core*** | ***Essential Questions*** |
| Introduction to Language Arts:  Literature: *Frindle*  Introduction to Writing  Discuss: Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers  *Scholastic News* & Daily CNN 10  Student News  \*Read and learn about Current Events  \*Nonfiction Literacy  \*Incorporate Geography  \*Write summaries/paraphrase  \*Choose articles/news stories and paraphrase or write short opinion pieces providing reasons supported by facts (text evidence).  Listen/Share/Discuss/Debate stories/articles and responses.  Daily Read Aloud  Lead 21 Unit 1: *Life Stories*  Write about three famous people who have inspired future generations by their achievements. It could be a historical figure, a scientist, writer, sports figure, or other. Present.  Thank you letters  Lead 21 Unit 2: *A Green Future*  Global Warming-Research/notes/write informational report including opinion.  Share in speech format.  Respond in writing.  Present.  Shurley English:  Capitalization and Punctuation  Subject Nouns  Verbs  Ongoing:  Student led Book Reviews  Dictionaries/online resources  Thesaurus | -Comprehension questions requiring written responses  -Summaries  -Class participation  -Discussion  -AR Score  Use writing portfolios to assess improvement and growth throughout the year.  Teacher Observation  Lead 21 4 pt. Rubrics  Class participation  Discussion  Summaries  Notes  Class participation  Discussion  AR Score  Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric  Teacher proofing  Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric  Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric  Classroom Practice  Teacher Observation  Classroom Practice  Classroom Practice  Teacher Observation  Teacher Observation  Teacher Observation | RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10  RF.4.4  L.4.4  W.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.7  ELA  RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.10  W.4.1, 4.2  SL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4  L4.1, 4.3  RL, RI, SL, L  RI.4.10  W.4.1, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8,  4.10  SL.4.4  L4.1, 4.2, 4.3  W.4.4, 4.5  W.4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10  RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.9, 4.10  SL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4  L.4.2, 4.3  W.4.1, 4.2, 4.7, 4.8  SL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4  L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3  L.4.2  L.4.1  L.4.1  W.4.4  SL.4.4  L.4.4  L.4.4 | How might this novel connect to your Language Arts class? What did you learn about words, writing, research, dictionaries, newspaper reporting, and new ideas?  What is a Liberal Arts education? Who are critical thinkers? Why write? What are your reading/writing/research goals?  Why do the PARCC committees believe kids need to write all day?  Why read SN news articles and watch the news daily? What is informational text? What is opinion text? What is text evidence?  What genre are we listening to; Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Play, or Folk Tale? Am I listening, thinking, reflecting, and making notes of terms, events, people, and geography, etc. that can be further researched? What are the author’s messages throughout? What life lessons were learned?  Who do I really admire and can I document several reasons why he/she has inspired me?  Why is it important to show appreciation?  What is global warming? How is it affecting earth? Do I agree with the experts? Can I make a difference?  Do you think our environment would be in such danger today if more people had started thinking about conservation and recycling 50 years ago? What should we have done? Include several changes. One example is water bottles.  How will students learn to transfer capitalization, punctuation, and overall editing skills to writing?  What is a Subject Noun?  What is a verb?  What should I include in a summary of this book without giving away the ending? What is my opinion of the book and why? Why would I recommend this book? What type of person would enjoy it the most?  Do I know how to use a dictionary, and look words up online? Do I do so on a daily basis?  Do I know how and why to use a Thesaurus and how to look online? Do I do so on an ongoing basis? |

QUARTER: \_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COURSE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Language Arts \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| ***Content*** | ***Assessment*** | ***Common Core*** | ***Essential Questions*** |
| Lead 21 Unit 3 *A Nation’s Beginnings:* Complete graphic organizer and one page report for each of two weekly focus questions.  Write Veterans’ Day letters  Narrative Writing on historical topic/historical event/other choice relevant to Unit 3  Literature: *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*  Shurley English:  Adverbs  Adjective  Type reports (when possible) | Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric  Teacher proofing  Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric  -Written comprehension questions  -Summaries  -Class participation  -Discussion  -AR Score  Classroom Practice  Classroom Practice  Teacher proofing | RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10  W.4.2, 4.4, 4.5  L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6  W.4.4, 4.5  W.4.3, 4.5  RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10  L.4.4  L.4.1  L.4.1  W.4.6 | How are geography and economy connected in New England?  How are geography and economy connected in the South Atlantic States?    Why write to veterans? What should I write? Will I strive to put forth my best effort?  What is my favorite historical topic, historical event, or other choice relevant to Unit 3? How can I put this into words that will be interesting and easy to visualize?  Have you ever known a child who was thought to be the “worst kid in town”? Have you ever learned a valuable lesson? Have you ever thought about the true meaning of Christmas?  What is an adverb?  What is an adjective?  When will I have to type reports in the future? |

QUARTER: \_\_\_\_Third\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COURSE: \_\_\_\_\_\_Language Arts\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| ***Content*** | ***Assessment*** | ***Common Core*** | ***Essential Questions*** |
| Lead 21 Unit 4 *Patterns in the Sky*  International Space Station research/notes/1 pg. report  Lead 21 Unit 5 *America’s Heartland*  Complete graphic organizer and report for each of two focus questions.  Young Author Story including characters, plot (problem), and resolution.  Classic Literature: *Old Yeller*  (#1 Student favorite and links to Units 5 and 6)  Shurley English:  Prepositions/objects of the prepositions/prepositional phrases | Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric  Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric  Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric  -Comprehension questions requiring written responses  -Summaries  -Class participation  -Discussion  -AR Score  Classroom Practice | RI.4.3  W.4.2, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 4.10  L. 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4  RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10  W.4.2, 4.4, 4.5  L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6  W.4.3, 4.4, 4.5  L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5  RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4,  4.7, 4.9, 4.10.  RF.4.4  L.4.4  L.4.1 | What is the International Space Station, and what is its purpose? What is NASA? What important information should I research and record on the ISS?  How are geography and economy connected in the Midwest?  How are geography and economy connected in the South Central States?  What can I write a very interesting, award winning story about? Does my story describe the characters, form a plot, and resolve the problem?  What was life like on the Texas frontier following the Civil War? Are young people capable of making important decisions and taking action?  What is a preposition, object of the preposition, and a prepositional phrase? |

QUARTER: \_\_\_Fourth\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COURSE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Language Arts \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| ***Content*** | ***Assessment*** | ***Common Core*** | ***Essential Questions*** |
| Lead 21 Unit 6 *Nature’s Neighborhoods:*  Poetry:  Catskill Mountain Alliteration  Topics of choice  Literature: *My Side of the Mountain*  Lead 21 Unit 7 *The Wide-Open West*  Complete graphic organizer and one page report for each of two focus questions.  Year-end Literature:  *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*    *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*  Shurley English:  Pronouns  Conjunctions | Teacher Observation  -Comprehension questions requiring written responses  -Summaries  -Class participation  -Discussion  AR Score  Lead 21 4 pt. Rubric  -Written Comprehension Questions  -Summaries  -Class participation  -Discussion  -AR Score  -Reader Response Journal  -Written Comprehension Questions  -Summaries  -Group Discussion  Classroom Practice  Classroom Practice | RL.4.5  RF.4.4  RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10  RF.4.4  L.4.4 (vocab)  RI.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10  W.4.2, 4.4, 4.5  L.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6  RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10  RF.4.4  L.4.4  RL.4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10  L.4.4  L.4.1  L.4.1 | What is poetry? Who are some famous poets? Can I write poetry?  How are themes of nature, courage, curiosity, and independence interwoven throughout this novel? What types of ecosystems does Sam encounter in the Catskill Mountains?  How are geography and economy connected in the Mountain States?  How are geography and economy connected in the Pacific States?  Are you interested in stories of fantasy and magic, struggles between good and evil, and sacrifices one hero makes to save someone else? Would you lie just to make yourself look good? Would you ever forgive someone who was your enemy?  How would it feel to live in a house where you were despised and treated poorly? How could you leave this situation and make it on your own?  What are pronouns?  What are conjunctions? |