

Fourth Grade Earthschooling *Written Curriculum* Summary of the Year & Supply List

SUMMARY OF THE FOURTH GRADE YEAR

The Fourth Grade Full Year Curriculum is designed to guide educators in teaching fourth graders through a structured yet flexible approach. The curriculum emphasizes the theme of individuality, encouraging students to explore their place in the world and cultivate awareness of their local environment and character.

Overview of the Fourth Grade Year

The curriculum introduces various subjects that integrate history, geography, language, and the arts. Students will engage with Norse mythology, local geography, and the relationship between humans and animals, enhancing their understanding of individuality and character. The curriculum also includes music, where students learn to play instruments and sing in rounds, fostering collaboration and musical skills.

Weekly Planners and Lesson Blocks

The curriculum is organized into ten main lesson blocks, each lasting approximately four weeks. These blocks cover topics such as "Human & Animal," "Norse Mythology," and "Native American Studies," allowing for in-depth exploration of each subject. The structure is designed to provide flexibility, enabling teachers to adapt lessons based on the needs of their students.

Block Structure

1. **Block One: Human & Animal I** - Focuses on the relationship between humans and animals, integrating math and clay work.
2. **Block Two: Human & Animal II** - Continues the exploration of human-animal relationships with a focus on knitting.
3. **Block Three: Norse Mythology I** - Introduces students to Norse myths, enhancing language and spelling skills.
4. **Block Four: Norse Mythology II** - Further delves into Norse stories with a focus on form drawing and watercolor.
5. **Block Five: Native American I** - Covers local geography and crafts related to Native American culture.
6. **Block Six: Native American II** - Focuses on grammar and sign language, continuing the exploration of Native American culture.
7. **Block Seven: Animal Science** - Integrates math with the study of animals.
8. **Block Eight: Early Settlers & Human Deeds** - Explores human history and language through plays.
9. **Block Nine: Language** - Focuses on form drawing and plays.
10. **Block Ten: Anatomy** - Examines the human form and systems.

Teaching Methods and Rhythms

The curriculum emphasizes the importance of rhythm in teaching, suggesting a three-day cycle for lessons. This cycle includes a rhythmic introduction, a thinking phase where new material is presented, and a doing phase where students actively engage with the material. This approach is designed to cater to different learning styles and temperaments, ensuring that all students can connect with the lessons.

Copyright Earthschooling: *This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.*

Special First Planners Instructions

The first month of lessons should focus on the cornerstone and review lessons that establish foundational skills for the year. For example, the "Human & Animal" block integrates various subjects, providing a comprehensive introduction to the year's curriculum.

Handwork and Crafting

Handwork is a significant component of the curriculum, with fourth graders encouraged to develop intricate fine motor skills through knitting, embroidery, and clay modeling. These activities not only enhance dexterity but also promote patience and concentration. The curriculum aims to connect crafting with the students' observations of the world around them, fostering a deeper appreciation for detail and creativity.

Nature Studies

Nature stories and walks are integral to the curriculum, allowing students to connect their lessons with the natural world. The curriculum encourages daily nature walks and the integration of nature themes into main lessons, enhancing students' understanding of their environment. The "Human and Animal" unit will provide a more scientific and philosophical view of animals, transitioning students into a more academic approach to science.

Storytelling and Language Development

Storytelling is a vital aspect of the curriculum, with teachers encouraged to tell stories that resonate with the students' experiences and developmental stages. The curriculum outlines how storytelling evolves from simple tales in earlier grades to more complex narratives in fourth grade, where students will engage in writing longer passages and building their own spelling lists. The emphasis is on the quality of storytelling, ensuring that it captivates and engages students.

Math Education

The curriculum presents a holistic approach to math, viewing it as an integral part of life rather than just a set of abstract concepts. It encourages experiential learning through hands-on activities, such as using an abacus to visualize mathematical concepts. The curriculum aims to foster a natural understanding of math, helping students develop a "sixth sense" for numbers and their applications.

Conclusion

The Fourth Grade Full Year Curriculum is a comprehensive guide that integrates various subjects through thematic blocks, emphasizing individuality, creativity, and a connection to the natural world. It provides educators with the flexibility to adapt lessons to meet the needs of their students while fostering a rich learning environment that encourages exploration and personal growth. The curriculum's focus on storytelling, handwork, and holistic math education ensures that students develop a well-rounded understanding of their place in the world.

DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE FOURTH GRADE YEAR

Fourth Grade Planner One

Main Lesson: Human Being and Animal: Part I

Complimentary Lesson: Math Review (Adding and subtracting double-digit numbers), Math Review (Multiplying and dividing double-digit numbers)

Creative Lesson: Shaping Clay Animals, Shaping Beeswax Animals

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Fourth Grade Planner Two

Main Lesson: Human Being and Animal: Part II

Complimentary Lesson: Math (Fractions), Math (Measurements in cooking), Math (Multiplying & Dividing Fractions)

Creative Lesson: Review Knitting Skills, Knitting Animals (Making a Horse or Unicorn)

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Fourth Grade Planner Three

Main Lesson: Norse Mythology: Part I

Complimentary Lesson: Language (Spelling), Math (Practice & Review Problems Only)

Creative Lesson: Cross-Stitch

Music: Soprano Recorder (Introduction to), Soprano Recorder (The North Wind)

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Fourth Grade Planner Four

Main Lesson: Norse Mythology: Part II

Complimentary Lesson: Form Drawing: Vertical Braiding, Circular Braiding, Octogram Knot, The Trillium

Creative Lesson: Norse Cross Stitching, Wet-on-Dry Watercolor (Norse)

Music: Soprano Recorder (Native American Lullaby)

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Fourth Grade Planner Five

Main Lesson: Native American Block: Part I

Complimentary Lesson: Local Geography: Mapping, Art & Geography, Geography & Language

Creative Lesson: Native American Baskets, Medicine Wheel, Sand Painting

Music: Soprano Recorder (Snowy Afternoon)

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Fourth Grade Planner Six

Main Lesson: Native American Block: Part II

Complimentary Lesson: Native American Sign Language, Language (Pronouns), Language (Prepositions), Language (Conjunctions)

Creative Lesson: Native American Pinch Pot, Native American Coil Pot, Kachina Dolls, Wampum Beads, Birch Bark Canoe, Moccasins

Music: Soprano Recorder (Mountain Blizzard)

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Copyright Earthschooling: *This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.*

Fourth Grade Planner Seven

Main Lesson: Human Being & Animal: Part III (Animal Science): Animal Signs, Animal Homes, Animal Tracks, Animal Scat

Complimentary Lesson: Math (Adding & Subtracting Mixed Numbers), Math (Common Denominator), Math (Adding Fractions)

Music: Soprano Recorder (Friendly Voices)

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Fourth Grade Planner Eight

Main Lesson: Early Settlers & Human Deeds

Complimentary Lesson: Language (Grammar and Punctuation), Celtic Language, Language (Writing Letters), Language (Poetry)

Creative Lesson: Plays for Fourth Graders

Music: Soprano Recorder (Friendly Voices)

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Fourth Grade Planner Nine

Main Lesson: Language (Grammar)

Complimentary Lesson: Form Drawing (Book Corners, Pentagram Knot, Square Weave, Turning Square, Woven Hexagram, Totems)

Creative Lesson: Plays for Fourth Graders

Music: Soprano Recorder (April)

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Fourth Grade Planner Ten

Main Lesson: Man & Animal: Part IV: Anatomy of Man (Feeling System, Will System, Thinking System)

Complimentary Lesson: Language (Poetry)

Creative Lesson: Art (The Human Form)

Music: Soprano Recorder (Minstrels)

Music: Ukulele: Level 1 (Living Lessons only)

Copyright Earthschooling: *This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.*

SUPPLY LISTS FOR FOURTH GRADE WRITTEN CURRICULUM

Basic Supplies for All Lessons All Year

These supplies are used in many grades of the Waldorf curriculum, so if you have already been teaching in the Waldorf style, you may have many of these on hand. This is also a general list to get you started. If you get everything on this list, you will not need to supplement with much else all year. *You will also need the supplies from the "specific supply list" below this one.*

Optional Supplies for the Year

These are not required in the curriculum. However, they may be suggested or can be used to supplement lessons and support creative expression.

Specific Supplies for the Year

This list was taken directly from the crafts and projects presented in the curriculum

Basic Supplies for All Lessons All Year

1 Main Lesson Book - 32 Pages, Landscape, 32x24 cm, Blank, With or Without Onion Skin.

2 Main Lesson Books - Composition Book 21 x 29.7 cm Portrait Format - Blank

2 Composition Books - 21x29.7 cm Portrait Format - Lined - 35 Lines Each Page

1 Main Lesson Book - Composition Book - 21 x 29.7 cm, Portrait, Graph Paper 10 x10mm

1 Main Lesson Book - Composition Book - 21 x 29.7 cm, Portrait, Graph Paper 5 x5mm

1 Geography Main Lesson Book

Modeling Beeswax (Stockmar or can be made at home)

Modeling Clay (Stockmar or can be purchased at a local art supply store)

Watercolors (Set of 8)

Watercolor Brushes (Different Sizes)

Watercolor Paper (At Least 11" x 14")

Watercolor Board (Can purchase, make, or use the back of a frame)

Instrument of Choice (Violin, Piano, etc.)

Wool Roving - At Least 8 Colors

Felt Board (At Least 11" x 14" - Can Make or Purchase)

Yarn (8-10 Balls) - 100% Cotton or Wool

Wooden Knitting Needles (Size 6 and 8)

Colored Pencils - At Least 16 Colors

Drawing Paper (Minimum 8" x 10")

Pencils for Writing

Pencil Sharpener

Eraser

Ruler

Blackboard and Chalk for the Teacher to Present Lessons (Recommended but Optional)

Optional Supplies for the Year

Small Blackboard & Chalk for Child

Weaving Loom (Small 12" x 12" is Fine)

Origami and/or Kite Paper

Circle paper

Specific Supplies for the Year

1. Cooking Supplies for Soup:

- Nice set of measuring cups, teaspoons, and tablespoons
- Glass liquid measuring cup
- Cooking pans
- Wooden spoons
- Mixing bowls.

2. Ingredients for Pumpkin Soup:

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 teaspoon crushed garlic
- 16 ounces of pumpkin (fresh or canned)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon honey
- ½ teaspoon powdered ginger
- 3 cups milk (or substitute with almond, coconut, cashew, hemp, or soy milk).

3. Ingredients for Russian Borscht:

- 2 quarts beef stock or vegetable stock
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup cabbage, finely chopped
- 1 cup diced potatoes
- ½ cup carrots, diced
- 1 stalk celery, minced
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1½ cups canned tomatoes
- ½ cup juice (from can of beets)
- 1 cup cooked or canned beets, diced
- Chopped dill or parsley (for garnishing)
- Sour cream.

4. Crafting Supplies for Unicorn Project:

- 1 pair of needles (size 5 or 8)
- 2 skeins of 100% cotton yarn (white color)
- ¼ skein of 100% cotton yarn (lavender color)
- Dried purple flowers or wedding-type flowers
- Ribbon
- Dried lavender flowers
- Processed corn stuffing
- Butterfly
- Shell for horn
- Amethyst & jute string for necklace.

Copyright Earthschooling: *This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.*

About Main Lesson Books: Although we provide a supply list, the main lesson books you use can vary according to preference. The only reason we have a list of different main lesson books on the supply list is to provide you with a variety of main lesson book experiences or the option to use different formats. There is no rule as to which book goes with which lesson. Some teachers prefer to use the lined books for writing, and others prefer to use the blank page/lined book combination for writing. Blank page books often work best for math. However, lined books can also be used. Once you become familiar with the main lesson book experience, you can choose your own books according to your preference. To decide on which lesson books you want to use/order, you can use the following list:

1. Main lesson books are used for each different subject. Every time a student does a math lesson or math practice, they write or draw in their math main lesson book. Each time a student does a language lesson, they use their language main lesson book. I usually provide my students with at least one nature journal book and one “free” book (in which they can do whatever they want or practice lessons before they put it into their main book), so base how many books you need on this guideline.
2. There is no rule as to what kind of book you need. I know one Waldorf teacher who has students make their own books with plain paper and yarn. I have seen some teachers use very specific books for each subject. I, personally, prefer the style of book with lines on one side and a blank page on the other side so the student has space to write and draw each day. Although I have seen others use the lined books exclusively (and then just glue or tape in plain paper as needed) and others use just the plain pages only, and either ask students to write without lines or create their own lines before they write.
3. For size, I usually choose the largest size available or at least medium. I find the students have a hard time opening up their creativity with the smaller books. Although a smaller book might work as a nature journal if you are carrying it with you.
4. The only requirement is that the book you create needs to be able to lie flat. Sometimes you can use a piece of the child’s art or wet-on-wet watercolor as the book cover.

Question from Member: *When should we start using lined books for writing?*

Reply from Earthschooling: We recommend second or third grade, depending on the comfort level of the child. When you do start, begin with wider lines before moving to thinner ones. You can “try them out” in second grade and observe how the child responds. If they are comfortable, then you can continue using them. Some signs of discomfort might be complaining about the restrictions of the lines, consistently writing off the line, or refusal to write in the books.

Question from Member: *I am having trouble finding the exact main lesson book that is suggested on the “suggested supply list.”*

Reply from Earthschooling: Although we provide a supply list, the main lesson books you use can vary according to preference. The only reason we have a list of different main lesson books on the supply list is to provide you with a variety of main lesson book experiences or the option to use different formats. There is no rule as to which book goes with which lesson. Some teachers prefer to use the lined books for writing, and others prefer to use the blank page/lined book combination for writing. Blank page books often work best for math. However, lined books can also be used. Once you become familiar with the main lesson book experience, you can choose your own books according to your preference.

Copyright Earthschooling: This document cannot be shared & is only available with the purchase of the accompanying curriculum. This document was created with AI assistance. Please excuse any errors.

FOURTH GRADE WRITTEN CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

All items below have a direct link, but can also be accessed by using your [main fourth-grade page](#)

REQUIRED ITEMS	REQUIRED
I have downloaded my curriculum from the fourth-grade page by the year , or I will download each month individually . I understand this is all I need to complete the year and that everything else is extra resources. I understand there is also a page that has all the daily planners individually on an archived (older page) here .	
I understand that if I download the planners by the month that I also need to download the document called "Introduction to All Months" as this will help guide me in using the curriculum. If I download the curriculum by the year, this document is included in that download.	
I have downloaded the Ultimate Fourth Grade Written Curriculum Guide PDF. This checklist can be found within this guide so I might be using this file now.	
I understand that EarthschoolingHelp.com is the only place to submit support questions.	
I understand that if I use more lessons beyond the required curriculum, I risk becoming confused or overwhelmed. I will proceed slowly and cautiously through all extra materials. If I start to feel overwhelmed or confused, I will take a step back and consider using only the required lessons or will add extra lessons and teacher education at a much slower pace. Earthschooling provides extra resources, so I have <i>choices</i> , not because they expect me to use them all.	
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BELOW	PRIORITY
I have visited the Teacher Support Page for fourth-grade and have browsed or watched the videos on that page that will help me in my journey (Package Members only – this is not available for Core Bundles)	
I have browsed the START HERE page to become familiar with those resources and have read or listened to the ones that I need at this time.	
ALL EXTRA AND OPTIONAL BELOW	EXTRAS
I have visited the Introduction page for fourth-grade for help with organizing and record keeping.	
I understand that I also have the option to use the archived fourth-grade blocks . However, the material in these blocks is not as complete as the planners.	
I have visited the Teacher Essentials Page and have skimmed through some of the important materials there for future reference such as: Waldorf 101, My Waldorf Year, Member FAQs, Planning Essentials, Classroom Essentials, and more	
I have skimmed the Fourth Grade Music page to be aware of the extra resources I have there such as charts, sheet music, extra verses, and mp3s	
I am aware of the member galleries here on the Member Gallery page. However, I also know I can access all the member galleries from the EarthschoolingHelp.com page.	
I am aware that Earthschooling provides extra lessons for fourth-grade if I need them on the Extra Lessons page	
I have looked at the optional book list for fourth-grade on the Book List page .	
I am aware that students will need to practice the math they learn in the planners and that Earthschooling provides practice problems on the Math Problems page. However, I am also aware I can find math problems for all grades linked from the EarthschoolingHelp.com page.	
I know where to find the Fourth Grade FAQs page . However, I am also aware I can link to this page from EarthschoolingHelp.com.	
I am aware there is a Cultural Enrichment page for all members and have skimmed the content to be aware of what is available.	