

A sample of what your child will be learning in Fourth Grade Language Arts:

- Describing the basic elements of stories — such as characters, events, and settings — by drawing on specific details in the text
- Paying close attention to key features of informational books and articles: these include understanding the main and supporting ideas; being able to compare and contrast information; and
- Explaining how the author uses facts, details, and evidence to support particular points
- Comparing ideas, characters, events, and settings in stories and myths from different cultures
- Writing summaries or opinions about topics supported with a set of well-organized facts, details, and examples
- Independently conducting short research projects on different aspects of a topic using evidence from books and the Internet
- Paraphrasing and responding to information presented in discussions, such as comparing and contrasting ideas and analyzing evidence that speakers use to support particular points
- Reporting orally on a topic or telling a story with enough facts and details
- Writing complete sentences with correct capitalization and spelling
- Relating words that are common in reading to words with similar meanings (*synonyms*) and to their opposites (*antonyms*)

Here are some activities you can do with your child to support Language Arts learning at home:

- Make reading an enjoyable part of your child's daily routine. Designate a time free of technology for your child to read for pleasure.
- Encourage your child to read a variety of materials: magazines, newspapers, recipes, instructions, comic books, chapter books, etc.
- Encourage your child to write in a journal or diary, or write notes, letters, and e-mails to friends and family.
- Have your child write a response about what they read. Some questions you might ask are:
 - What was your favorite part of the story and why?
 - What do you think will happen next and why?
 - Describe the characters.
 - Summarize what you read.

A sample of what your child will be learning in Fourth Grade Math:

- Using whole-number arithmetic to solve word problems, including problems with remainders and problems with measurements
- Adding and subtracting whole numbers quickly and accurately (numbers up to 1 million)
- Multiplying and dividing multi-digit numbers in simple cases (e.g., multiplying $1,638 \times 7$ or 24×17 , and dividing $6,966$ by 6)
- Understanding and applying equivalent fractions (e.g., recognizing that $\frac{1}{4}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$ because $\frac{2}{8}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$)
- Adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions in simple cases (such as $2\frac{3}{4} - 1\frac{1}{4}$ or $3 \times \frac{5}{8}$), and solving related word problems
- Understanding simple decimals in terms of fractions (e.g., rewriting 0.62 as $\frac{62}{100}$)
- Measuring angles and finding unknown angles in a diagram

Here are some activities you can do with your child to support Math learning at home:

- Have your child estimate the total cost of the groceries before checkout.
- Provide opportunities for your child to manage money, such as budgeting an allowance, recording transactions after making a purchase
- Ask your child questions when using measurements. Some questions you might ask are:
 - If the football game starts at 5:15 and it takes 22 minutes to get to the field, what time do we need to leave?
 - If we need to make two batches of cookies and each batch requires $\frac{3}{4}$ cup

Barwell Elementary School School/Parent Compact

Fourth Grade Focus



For Student Success

Barwell Elementary School

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Teachers, Parents, Students – Together for Success

What does it mean to be a Title I school?

- The emphasis in a school-wide Title I school is on serving all students. Schoolwide programs maximize the impact of Title I funding in that all students in the school are served as funds are used to improve the entire educational program.

What is a family/school compact?

- A family-School Compact is an agreement between parents, students and teachers. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all students get the individual support they need to reach and exceed grade level standards.

Barwell's Goals for student achievement:

- Reading – By June 2015, all students will be reading on at least a level S.
- Math – By June 2015, all students will meet grade level

In The Classroom – As your child's teacher, I promise to...

- Use the latest research to teach students.
- Provide open communication through folders, conferences, phone calls and notes.
- Establish collaboration with the classroom teacher for student instruction and scheduling/pull-out.
- Provide materials that are interesting and motivating.
- Help parents understand instructional practices, class expectations, and grading policies.
- Plan meaningful lessons that meet individual student needs.
- Provide a safe school environment that promotes learning and encourages a partnership with the school.
- Employ effective classroom management skills.
- Promote a feeling of belonging for all.

At Home – As the child's parent/guardian, I promise to...

- Read nightly with my child.
- Help my child with his/her homework.
- Provide an appropriate area for doing homework.
- Engage in activities that encourage learning.
- Provide encouragement and positive reinforcement.
- Talk with my child about his/her school day.
- Attend school activities & parent-teacher conferences.
- Show respect with my words and actions for my child, other children, and their families, the teachers, and the school.
- Communicate and work with the school to encourage my child's learning and positive behavior.
- Ask specific questions to stimulate my child's conversation/oral language skills.
- Encourage regular & prompt attendance.

Students – As a student, I promise to...

- Complete my homework.
- Read nightly with my parents.
- Participate in activities that help me learn.
- Participate in classroom activities.
- Ask questions when I need help.
- Help others.
- Be at school on time and regularly.
- Be responsible with my books, folders and school supplies.
- Be responsible for my actions and behavior each day.
- Be a good citizen by doing what is right because it is the right thing to do for myself and others.