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What is Curriculum?

Curriculum is all of the tools/resources (academic and non-academic), books, online academic supports, pacing guides, assessments, strategies, and instructional practices used within a classroom and throughout the district that are aligned with and to state standards in an effort to ensure that students acquire academic proficiency and/or mastery in any and all academic and social areas.
English Language Arts

Southfield Public Schools believes reading is the bedrock of most or all academic actions. Reading is the complex act of constructing meaning from print. It serves a variety of purposes in school and in life in general.

The Common Core asks students to read stories and literature, as well as more complex texts that provide facts and background knowledge in areas such as science and social studies. Students will be challenged and asked questions that push them to refer back to what they’ve read. This stresses critical-thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills that are required for success in college, career, and life.

Curriculum

Fourth grade classrooms use Wonders by McGraw Hill as its comprehensive English Language Arts curriculum. Wonders provides a wealth of print and digital resources that supports building a strong literacy foundation, accessing complex texts, and writing to sources.

To access the digital resource please ask your student’s teacher for the simplified login.

Supplements

Exact Path: access via Clever Portal (see page 8)
Study Island: access via Clever Portal (see page 8)
Reading Eggs: access via Clever Portal (see page 8)
Mathematics

Southfield Public Schools views children as sense-makers. Our educators strive to know students as individuals and leaners. As a result, students confidently engage in complex mathematical tasks, drawing on knowledge from a wide variety of mathematical topics, sometimes approaching the same problem from different mathematical perspectives.

The Common Core concentrates on a clear set of math skills and concepts. Students will learn concepts in a more organized way both during the school year and across grades. The standards encourage students to solve real-world problems.

Curriculum

Fourth grade classrooms use Everyday Math by McGraw Hill as its comprehensive mathematics curriculum. Everyday Math was developed by the University of Chicago and is used every year by about 220,000 classrooms across the nation.

To access the digital resource please visit: https://connected.mcgraw-hill.com/connected/dashboard.do

Supplements

Exact Path: access via Clever Portal (see page 8)

Study Island: access via Clever Portal (see page 8)
Science

In Southfield Public Schools, important ideas in science are about the relationships between a natural phenomenon and a causal explanation that helps us understand why something in the world unfolds the way it does. Studying events or processes rather than “things” or abstract ideas intrigues students.

The new Next Generation Science Standards are really a set of student performance expectations. These performance expectations incorporate three main elements: disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and cross-cutting concepts. These expectations are also interwoven across disciplines, including connections to language arts and mathematics.

Curriculum

Fourth grade classrooms use Interactive Science by Pearson as its comprehensive Science curriculum. Interactive Science engages students with an innovative write-in student edition that makes learning personal, relevant, and engaging.

To access the digital resource please visit: http://pearsonsuccessnet.com/

Supplements

Study Island: access via Clever Portal (see page 8)
Social Studies

Southfield Public Schools approaches Social Studies learning as an intellectual process in which learners develop what they know by fitting new ideas together with ideas they already have learned from previous experience.

The revised Social Studies standards amplifies the need for students to construct meaning, highlight purpose, explore and process learning with depth in the classroom.

Curriculum

Fourth grade classrooms use My World Social Studies by Pearson as its comprehensive Social Studies curriculum. My World Social Studies brings the content to life by engaging students through reading, writing, and exploring every day.

To access the digital resource please visit: http://pearsonrealize.com/

Supplements

Study Island: access via Clever Portal (see page 8)
Assessment

Fourth grade students are assessed with various district assigned assessments.

NWEA Growth

The NWEA Reading and Math Growth Assessments are adaptive computerized tests that measure what students know and informs what they’re ready to learn next.

Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA)

The DRA is individually administered by your student’s teacher to assess his or her reading level, accuracy, fluency, and comprehension.

M-STEP

The Michigan Student Test of Education Progress (M-STEP) is an online test given every spring to students in grades 3-8. It is designed to gauge how well students are mastering the state standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics.
Access

Many of our resources can be accessed online. The best way to access these resources is to use the Clever portal (see link below).

- Go to clever.com/in/southfieldpublicschools
- Click “Log in with Google”
- Enter your Southfield email address and password.
- Click on any of the apps to continue learning all year long

Don’t know your Southfield email address?

Email: SFD, Last Name, First initial, last two digits of student’s ID number.
EX: Lebron James would be SFDJamesL23@sfldk12.org

Password: Capital first initial, lowercase last initial, 6 digit birthday
EX: Lebron James would be Lj123084
How to Help at Home

Build the Habit of Good Attendance

Too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school. Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.

Read at Home

Students who read more than 20 minutes per day at home score in the 90th percentile on standardized tests. If a student reads 20 minutes per day starting in kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade he or she will have read for 3 school days.

Explore Math at Home

Math is everywhere. Math is measuring, sorting, building, noticing patterns, making comparisons, and describing the environment as well as counting and knowing the names of shapes. Here are a few examples of easy ways to integrate math into your everyday lives:

1. Bake something together, allow your child to count the chocolate chips or discuss the measuring tools
2. Measure, count, and record anything around you
3. Build something together; any project that involves measuring includes counting, adding and multiplying.
Standards

Educational content standards describe what students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

English Language Arts


Mathematics


Science


Social Studies

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