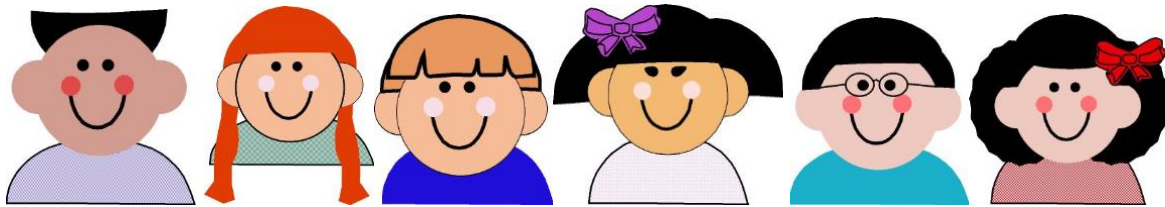


*East Hills and Harbor Hill  
SCHOOLS  
Roslyn Public Schools*



*Grade 4  
Curriculum Outline*

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensely and to think critically. Intelligence plus character that is the goal of true education."

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

<p>East Hills / Harbor Hill Schools Fourth Grade Program Overview</p>
---

The fourth grade begins the intermediate years of elementary school. Fourth graders are expected to follow both oral and written instructions and complete work responsibly and independently. They must master, integrate, and apply the skills acquired in the early elementary grades. The students' abilities are evaluated through formalized state assessments in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

The children continue to make the transition to independent students. They are encouraged to progress at their own rate and to achieve their personal best.

Mathematics and science build upon critical thinking and problem solving, involving students in inquiry, experimentation, and finding solutions.

Students in the fourth grade become more self-sufficient and able to organize their learning.

## **Reading / Language Arts**

The Reading / Language Arts Curriculum is directly aligned and supports the Next Generation Learning Standards. The Next Generation Standards for English Language Arts can be accessed through the following web address:

<http://www.nysed.gov/next-generation-learning-standards>

It is the district's goal to provide students with the framework of the reading and writing process and address all components of a balanced literacy approach. This includes word work, vocabulary, grammar, read aloud and reading and writing. Students are empowered by skill mastery, inspired by authentic award-winning texts and are confident in their critical thinking skills and their ability to analyze complex texts. Throughout the year, students will build skills in all three categories of literacy: Informational, Narrative and Opinion/ Persuasive.

## **Social Studies**

Grade 4 Social Studies is focused on New York State and local communities and their change over time, incorporating the study of geography, history, economics, and government. The course is divided into seven Key Ideas that span the state's history from before the European colonial era to the modern period.

The Grade 4 Social Studies program is directly aligned and supports the applicable New York State Standards for Social Studies. Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/k-12-social-studies-framework>

The units of study, which address the k-12 standards are as follows:

Unit 1: Three Worlds Meet in New York State

Unit 2: The Impact of the Colonial and Revolutionary War

Unit 3: National and Local Government

Unit 4: Change Comes to New York

## Mathematics, Science and Technology

The Mathematics Program in Roslyn aligns and supports the New York State Next Generation Standards through the application of the Go Math! Program. The Next Generation Standards for mathematics can be accessed through the following web address:

<http://www.nysed.gov/next-generation-learning-standards>

### Mathematics

Through the Go Math program, students will participate in hands-on activities and real world problems to solve. The units of study in the curriculum are as follows:

- Place Value, Addition, Subtraction to 1 Million
- Multiply by 1 Digit Number
- Multiply by 2 Digit Numbers
- Divide by 1 Digit Number
- Factors, Multiples and Patterns
- Fraction Equivalents and Comparisons
- Add and Subtract Fractions
- Multiply Fractions by Whole Numbers
- Relate Fractions and Decimals
- 2 Dimensional Figures
- Angles
- Relative Sizes of Measurement Units
- Algebra: Perimeter and Area

### Science

The Science program in Roslyn aligns and supports the New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards. Learning involves real world investigations along with engineering and design. The Roslyn School District will utilize resources to address the standards through the following units:

Unit 1: Speed and Collision

Unit 2: Energy Conversion

Unit 3: Waves

Unit 4: Animal Structures

Unit 5: Earth's Processes

For more information about the NYS Science Standards, go to:

<http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/science-learning-standards>

### Technology

All students will be provided with a 1:1 device. They will continue to complete STEM projects as well as develop their proficiency in various computer programs. In addition to these computer programs, teachers will use websites to help enhance instruction. Each classroom teacher will create a Google Classroom for their students to view and post assignments.

## Health Education and Physical Education

The fourth grade programs in Health and Physical Education are aligned with and support the New York State Standards:

Standard 1:	Personal Health
Standard 2:	A Safe and Healthy Environment
Standard 3:	Resource Management

### Health Education

Our health curriculum helps students work towards achieving a healthy lifestyle by providing current and age-appropriate information. The curriculum prepares students for a lifetime of good health while developing their life skills and building good character. In addition, the health curriculum is aligned with our district's wellness and food allergy policies.

### Physical Education

The Physical Education Department enhances the growth and development of each student by providing experiences and challenges in the following areas:

- Review and refinement of basic skills
- The concept of team sports and team spirit
- Social and cooperative skills
- Team games
- Lifetime and leisure sports
- Fitness awareness and testing
- Safety

## Library

The library program continues to promote an appreciation for all types of literature and to expand upon fundamental library and research skills. The library media specialist works cooperatively with the classroom teachers to link library skills to all content areas during weekly 40 minute periods.

Included areas of study are:

- appreciating literature (fiction and nonfiction)
- utilizing appropriate resources
- demonstrating an understanding of library procedures and responsibilities
- using computer technology for research

### Character Education

Character Education permeates the building and classrooms each and every day. Both formal and informal discussions are always taking place. We are using a multitude of resources to address the social-emotional needs of our students. Some of these resources include: Bucket-filling, Peaceful Bus, Growth Mindset, Books of the Month, Friendship Clubs, as well as the Second Step Program.

- Bucket-Filling is based on the award-winning book Have You Filled a Bucket Today? Written by Carol McCloud. This book takes an abstract concept (caring) and creates a concrete symbol (bucket) that children can recognize and will readily emulate. The book shows us that each of us carries an invisible bucket. The choices we make help us fill others' buckets ... or empty ours. This book uses a bucket to express how we can share happiness and bring it to ourselves.
- Peaceful Bus Program *The Peaceful School Bus Program* is a whole-school program designed to decrease inappropriate behavior on school buses while creating a climate of respect and cooperation. The adults in school take the primary responsibility of educating and training students in the program so students can, in turn, act responsibly on school buses when staff members are not present. The program also teaches students about bullying and their role in preventing it.

- Growth Mindset: A **growth mindset** comes from the belief that your basic qualities are things you can cultivate through effort. The goal is for children to use the following stances in coordination as part of a toolkit when faced with challenges:
  - Empathy: Ability to feel how another person is feeling and imagine what it would be like to be in another's position. "You have empathy when you feel someone's feeling in your own heart."
  - Optimism: Feeling hopeful that risks are worth taking and that problems will work out. When you do something new, you think, "**I can try,**" and give it your best shot because that's how you grow.
  - Flexibility: Seeing and trying many possible actions within a task. "When one thing doesn't work you try a different way." The ability to see a problem from different perspectives.
  - Persistence: Sticking with something even when it is challenging. "Having persistence means you try and try again even when it feels hard."
  - Resilience: Ability to bounce back and recover from setbacks or failure. "When you have trouble, you bounce back and try again."
- Book of the Month- Books are selected throughout the year which address social emotional learning. Through read-alouds, students and teachers discuss ways in which characters interact and solve problems. They then compare how they may emulate or differ from the characters in the stories to make appropriate choices.
- Friendship Clubs- School psychologists in building meet with small groups of students to discuss strategies for appropriate social interaction. Peer role models are often used to model appropriate behaviors and support the students in social situations, such as recess and lunch.
- The Second- Step program teaches students the skills that strengthen their ability to learn, develop empathy, manage emotions and solve problems. Through whole class interactive lessons, students develop self-regulation skills, social-emotional competencies and have the opportunity to practice their role as members of a school community.
- Beautiful Me Program-The Beautiful Me Program is a social-emotional learning curriculum proven to build resilience and self-esteem. The Beautiful Me Program teaches female students to love and care for themselves; to identify their genuine qualities and work on those qualities that could use some improvement; and most importantly, improve their self-esteem.

## **Art and Music Programs**

The art and music programs for the fourth grade align with and support the New York State Standards:

- Standard 1: Creating, Performing and Participating in the Arts
- Standard 2: Knowing and Using Arts Materials and Resources
- Standard 3: Responding to and Analyzing Works of Art
- Standard 4: Understanding the Cultural Contributions of the Arts
- Standard 6: Interconnectedness: Common Themes in Music

### **Art**

The Art Program emphasizes creativity and self-expression. Students are encouraged to explore and employ a variety of techniques in order to develop a better understanding of spatial and visual relationships. Varied projects include:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Collages
- Sculptures

### **Music**

The goal of the general music program is to offer a variety of musical experiences from which to build a personal appreciation of singing.

In general music, students' knowledge of the instruments of the orchestra and the roles of the conductor and composer, prepares them for an in-depth study of notation and the different possibilities of instrument combinations. Students will begin to write their own musical compositions and will conduct their classmates in performance. In addition, the music, lives and times of three important composers: J.S. Bach, W.A. Mozart and L. van Beethoven are highlighted in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.



## **Home-School Connection**

The link between home and school is vital for all students. Strong ties can be established and maintained throughout the grades when they begin in the primary grades. Homework, discussion about field trips, and on-going communication between parent and teacher in the form of conferences and progress reports are opportunities to strengthen this home-school connection.

### **Homework**

Homework assignments are a reinforcement or extension of class work. In the intermediate grades, it is an opportunity to establish good student habits and skills, as well as to develop a sense of pride in students' work. Parents should encourage students to fulfill this academic responsibility by completing all assigned work.

Mutually setting up a schedule for homework and long-term projects is a way to let your child know that his/her work is important to you. In this way, he/she can do his/her personal best.

It is important that your child has:

- a quiet, well lit, distraction-free space in which to work
- time which is set aside for completing homework
- pencils, crayons, ruler, paper, and other basic supplies
- organizational aids that will keep work neat and accessible: (folders; book bag; pencil case; assignment calendar)

### **Field Trips**

Students are involved in field trips that enrich classroom experience. Parents are notified of specific trips and asked to sign a consent form. Discuss these adventures with your child to enhance his/her learning as he/she shares experiences with you.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### ENL (English as a New Language)

The composition of today's classrooms reflect the ethnic, linguistic, and cultural diversity of the world. Creating a classroom environment in which students' cultures are acknowledged and valued is a fundamental characteristic of our English as a New Language (ENL) program designed and implemented by the Roslyn School District.

Through immersion in the classroom, receptive and communicative competence is fostered. Instructional services and personal support are provided by a language development instructor. In order to ensure understanding and facilitate various opportunities for academic and social verbal interaction, the ENL teacher offers language acquisition techniques via two models, Integrated and Stand-Alone.

### Remedial Reading and Mathematics Programs

The Roslyn School District offers comprehensive remedial reading and mathematics programs providing intervention through intensive direct instruction reinforcing academic skills. A variety of strategies and techniques are introduced based on each child's learning style.

Our reading and math specialists work in a collaborative partnership with the classroom teacher to ensure that each child is consistently monitored and evaluated. Children in these programs meet in specially designed, small group settings. Teaching strategies and instructional materials parallel and support classroom instruction.

### Special Education

Students with disabilities who are designated to receive special education services are educated in the least restrictive environment (LRE). This legal principle encourages the integration/inclusion of students with disabilities into general education classrooms, according to their Individual Educational Plans (IEP's).

The individual needs of each student are determined by the Committee on Special Education (CSE) made up of professional educators and parent representatives. The areas addressed through this program design are:

- Academic or educational achievement
- Social development
- Physical development
- Behavioral / management needs

Supportive services may include:

- General education class placement with Resource Room support
- General education class placement with Consultant Teacher support
- Co-Teaching Classroom
- Speech / language therapy
- Physical therapy (total physical functioning)
- Occupational therapy (fine motor skills)
- Adaptive physical education (therapeutic)
- In-school counseling (individual or group)
- Itinerant services (visual / hearing impairments)
- Cluster class (East Hills only)
- ABA class
- Self-Contained (East Hills only)

The Roslyn Public Schools are dedicated to the education of the children in our classrooms. Programs are carefully planned to embrace each unique learner. Diverse learning styles require a variety of instructional approaches to ensure student success. Assessments (e.g., evaluations; individual and group work; tests; projects) are an integral part of the curricula in all grades to determine student performance and needs. On-going evaluation and instruction ensures that each student's work indicates that he/she is prepared for a variety of State Assessments in grades 3 – 8.

The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn.

- John Lubbock