



# Common Core State Standards for Washington

## Fourth Grade Highlights

### The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts

#### Overview

These standards describe what students should know and be able to do in order to be college and career ready in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Students who master the standards will be fluent readers, critical thinkers, informative writers, effective speakers, and engaged listeners. They will effectively comprehend complex informational and literary texts and respond, as warranted by the task, using technology as a source of information and a means of communication.

The standards are divided into four strands: reading, (including literature and informational text and foundational skills), writing, speaking and listening, and language. The standards are organized by grade level for kindergarten through grade eight and by two grade spans for high school.

The foundational skills standards for kindergarten through grade five foster students' understanding and knowledge of concepts of print, the alphabetic principle, and other basic conventions. Developing phonological awareness, phonics and word recognition, and fluency are addressed in these standards.

Specific information on the CCSS can be found at: <http://www.corestandards.org>

\*Individual grade-specific standards can be identified by their strand, grade, and standard number. For example, RL.4.3 stands for Reading Literature Text, grade 4, standard 3.



As Washington State moves to the Common Core State Standards, **fourth grade** students will continue to learn current Washington GLEs while transitioning to the CCSS. This snapshot features some of the shifts, however, it is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of changes in the standards.

#### Reading

- Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions). (RL.4.3)\*
- By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts. Read and comprehend proficiently in the grades 4–5 text complexity band, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range. (RI.4.10)

#### Writing

- Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information. (W.4.1)
- Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform or explain the topic. (W.4.2d)

#### Speaking and Listening

- Engage effectively in a variety of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. (SL.4.1)
- Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker provides to support particular points. (SL.4.3)

#### Language

- Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., wildlife, conservation, and endangered when discussing animal preservation). (L.4.6)