

PARKWAY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

4TH GRADE CURRICULUM

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- ▶ Fourth Grade covers a vast array of subject matter, which includes Bible, reading, spelling, Language Arts, handwriting, math, social studies, and science, as well as physical education, vocal-music, art, computer, and library. Each subject is taught through the lens of a Biblical Worldview while meeting the framework of the Common Core Standards. Students learn through assignments, projects, activities and field trips. Students learn through a demonstration of scientific concepts through illustrations, performance, models, exhibits, and activities.

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- ▶ In the two-year Bible curriculum, studies alternate year to year from Old Testament stories and events to New Testament stories and events. Scripture memorization, Bible related activities and weekly chapel services enhance our Biblical program. Students are given opportunities to develop their gifts and talents through participation in various "Ministry Groups."

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- ▶ In reading, students are nurtured through a variety of genres designed to peak the interest of the frustrated reader as well as challenge and motivate all levels. They learn to read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently. A few of the novels read throughout the year include *Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard and Florence Atwater, and *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell.

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- ▶ In Language Arts, students learn to do research, organize information, edit, and revise, enjoying the final product of a well-written piece. Through Shurley English and Write Steps curricula, students write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences. All the while they are applying their mastery of grammar acquired in the exciting and interactive Shurley Grammar.

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- ▶ In handwriting, students continue practicing cursive writing using the Zaner-Bloser method.

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- ▶ Through Saxon Math, students develop a strong foundation, learning to reason abstractly and quantitatively as well as strengthening their ability to fluently add, subtract, multiply, and divide multi-digit numbers using the standard algorithm. As students build upon their knowledge of geometric shapes, they begin to recognize/measure angles, apply area and perimeter formulas, and recognize relative sizes of measurement units.

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- ▶ Through the Scott-Foresman social studies text, students take imaginary trips across the United States as they study its various regions. Students gain a foundational knowledge of this great country by designing and constructing landforms and playing the role of a tour guide through creations representing American places of interest. Students learn to embrace our country's stand on rights and responsibilities as they dive into a study of our government, its branches and levels.

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- ▶ Through the Scott-Foresman science text, students study a variety of topics including: plant and animal classification, rocks and minerals, electricity, matter, sound and light energy, solar system, and weather. From the tiny cell to the distant planets, fourth graders discover through hands on exploration, group projects, and field trips. Students demonstrate scientific concepts through illustrations, performance, models, exhibits, and activities.