



North Dakotans
FOR
**student
success**



North Dakota Academic Content Standards What Parents Need to Know

Parents are a child's first teacher; your involvement in your child's education opens opportunities for them for the future. It is important for parents to have a clear understanding of their child's learning expectations for the year. This guide outlines North Dakota's Academic Content Standards for 4th grade in English and Math.

4TH GRADE

What are the North Dakota Academic Standards?

The North Dakota Academic Standards, were analyzed, annotated, and approved by North Dakota teachers and community leaders, and are based on the Common Core State Standards. The North Dakota Academic Standards set clear and consistent expectations for students, parents, and teachers on the knowledge and skills our students will learn in school. If your child meets the expectations outlined in these standards by the end of the year, he or she will be well prepared for 5th grade.

Setting standards for what students should know at the end of each year is important because it helps ensure that when students are ready to

move to the next grade level or when they might be falling behind, allows schools and parents to help students catch up rather than give up. The North Dakota Academic Standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed.

In addition to setting academic goals, the North Dakota Academic Standards emphasize the ability to collaborate and communicate effectively. These skills will help your child gain the critical thinking and problem-solving skills that are valuable in life, both in relationships and in the workplace.

What is my child learning this year?

The following is a sample of what your child will be learning this year. Use this list with your child's teacher to set goals and identify when your child needs help or a greater challenge. You can also talk to your child's teacher about how you can supplement your child's learning at home.



English Language Arts & Literacy

- Write complete sentences with correct capitalization and spelling.
- Read to find main ideas and supporting details in a variety of texts.
- Write summaries or opinions about topics supported with a set of well-organized facts, details, and examples.
- Produce, expand and rearrange simple, compound and complex sentences when writing. (A complex sentence is made up of an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses connected to it. Dependent clauses cannot stand alone as a sentence.)

Mathematics

- Develop fluency in adding and subtracting multi-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm (set of rules) and other place-value strategies.
- Understand and apply equivalent fractions (e.g., recognizing that $\frac{1}{4}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$ because $\frac{2}{8}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$).
- Develop an understanding of operations with fractions, including addition and subtraction with common denominators.
- Measure angles and find unknown angles in a diagram.

Help Your Child Learn at Home

Talk about the news together. Pick one story in the news, read it together, and discuss with your child what it means.

Help develop strong reading habits. Have your child read a non-fiction book or text that he is interested in for 20 minutes a day.

Ask your child to help you compare fractional amounts — for example, if one recipe calls for $\frac{2}{3}$ of a cup of oil, but another recipe calls for $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cup of oil, which recipe calls for more oil? (In 5th grade, your child will learn ways to determine just how much more oil.)

What resources are available to help my child?

Be A Learning Hero—Contains helpful tips for families and resources in math and English language arts that can be used at home to support students.

» www.bealearninghero.org/

Great Schools Videos: Watch grade-level and content-specific videos of learning in action.

» www.greatschools.org/gk/milestones

Scholastic Parent Page—Offers book recommendations, homework help, and more to make learning fun.

» www.scholastic.com/parents

Parent Toolkit – This toolkit will help you navigate your child's journey from pre-kindergarten through high school. It is designed to help you track and support progress at each stage

» www.parenttoolkit.com

North Dakota Academic Content Standards – North Dakota's Academic Content Standards are available in English and Math as well as other subject areas.

» www.nd.gov/dpi/students-parents/standards/