

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY



Grade Level  
Curriculum Guide  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade



Liberty University Online Academy  
Distance Learning Administration  
1971 University Blvd.  
Lynchburg, VA 24502

## PROFILE SHEET

**Description:** Liberty University Online Academy is a grade 3-12 unit school dedicated to maintaining high academic standards within the framework of a technology-based educational program. The school is physically housed at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, with students attending from national and international sites. The school believes in and is dedicated to preparing young people to fulfill elementary and secondary academic objectives that will enable them to pursue post high school goals.

**Accreditation:** The Academy is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI). SACS CASI, an accreditation division of its parent organization AdvancEd, accredits nearly 13,000 public and non-public institutions in 11 southeast states, Mexico, Central and South America, and islands of the Caribbean.

**Faculty:** Academy teachers are degreed in their subject area and state licensed as prepared professionals. They provide support to parents and students through electronic correspondence. Assessment of student work is provided by the teacher, and grades are available to students and parents twenty-four hours daily through an online grade-book.

**School Year:** A school year is considered to be 180 days, or 90 days per semester.

**Unit of Credit:** While there is flexibility in doing schoolwork in a distance format, the Academy requires 180 days of instructional work for full academic credit to be granted.

**Curriculum:** Liberty University Online Academy offers courses for elementary and high school students (grades 3-12) with an emphasis on individualized learning. The Christ-centered curriculum is provided through an Internet-based format that utilizes the latest in online technology including a wide variety of interactive educational activities—movies, animations, instructional games, and audio clips—to engage students actively in the learning process. Dual enrollment credits are available to qualified high school students through a partnership with Liberty University's Distance Learning Program.

**Achievement Tests:** Students at Liberty University Online Academy are administered annual achievement testing, using the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition.

**Diplomas:** Two high school diploma options are available – standard and advanced diplomas.

### **GRADING SCALE**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| A | 93 – 100 |
| B | 85 – 92  |
| C | 77 – 84  |
| D | 70 – 76  |
| F | Below 70 |

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Scope and Sequence

| <b>Bible</b>                    | <b>Language Arts</b>        | <b>Mathematics</b>                   | <b>Science</b>                         | <b>Social Studies</b>      |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| How Can I Live for God?         | Reading and Writing         | Numbers and Operations               | Plants                                 | Our Earth                  |
| God's Knowledge                 | Reading and Meaning         | Estimating, Rounding, and Operations | Animals                                | Seaport Cities             |
| Saul Begins to Live for God     | Word Play                   | Numbers and Operations               | Man and His Environment                | Desert Islands             |
| The Bible and Me                | Words in Season             | Geometry and Operations              | Machines                               | Grasslands                 |
| God Cares for Us                | Reading and Writing Stories | Division                             | Electricity and Magnetism              | Tropical Rainforests       |
| How Can I Know God Exits?       | Rhymes and Reports          | Operations and Fractions             | Changes in Matter                      | The Polar Regions          |
| Geography and the Old Testament | Forms of Literature         | Operations and Fractions             | Weather                                | Mountain Countries         |
| God-Given Worth                 | Language in Literature      | Fractions and Measuring              | Our Solar System and the Universe      | Living in Island Countries |
| Witnessing for Jesus            | Reading and Researching     | Fractions and Decimals               | The Planet Earth                       | North America              |
| God's Way is Perfect            | Review                      | Statistics and Review                | Understanding God's Wonderful Creation | Our World in Review        |

# **Bible: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Christian Discipleship**

## **Course Overview**

Fourth grade Bible continues to provide a developmental and in-depth academic study of the teachings of the Old and New Testaments. It focuses on the lives of Peter and Paul (also known as Saul), the existence and knowledge of God, Bible study methods, Psalm 23, Old Testament geography, and Christian witnessing. These areas target five content strands: theology, the attributes of God, biblical literature, biblical background, and Christian evidences.

## **Learner Objectives**

Upon completion of the course, students:

- Understand the nature and benefits of the knowledge of God.
- Describe the lives and ministries of the apostles Peter and Paul.
- Learn and memorize the Bible more effectively.
- Explain the design and message of Psalm 23.
- Provide evidences for the existence of God.
- Demonstrate an understanding of Old Testament geography.
- Witness for Christ with more knowledge and effectiveness.

## **Course Sequence**

### **Unit 1: How Can I Live for God?**

5 Lessons, 2 Projects, 2 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Peter Found Jesus
- Peter Fished for Men
- Born into God's Family
- Fruitful through the Spirit

### **Unit 2: God's Knowledge**

10 Lessons, 1 Project, 4 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Knowledge to Create
- Learning God's Knowledge
- The Benefits of God's Knowledge
- Using God's Knowledge

### **Unit 3: Saul Begins to Live for God**

6 Lessons, 1 Project, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Saul Persecutes Christians
- God Changes Saul
- Saul Preaches about Jesus
- Paul Belongs to Christ

### **Unit 4: The Bible and Me**

8 Lessons, 1 Project, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Reading and Learning the Bible
- Thinking about the Bible

- Memorizing the Bible
- Living the Bible

### **Unit 5: God Cares for Us**

9 Lessons, 4 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Psalm 23
- Jesus and the Sheep
- David as a Shepherd
- Daniel as a Helper

### **Unit 6: How Can I Know God Exists?**

7 Lessons, 2 Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- God's Plan for the Jews
- A Jewish Savior
- Man Searches for God
- Man Needs God

### **Unit 7: Geography of the Old Testament**

10 Lessons, 2 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Bible Geography
- Description of the Land
- Abram's Nomadic Life
- Abraham's Descendants

### **Unit 8: God-Given Worth**

8 Lessons, 1 Project, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Who Am I?
- God is My Creator
- God is My Father
- Knowing God's Love

### **Unit 9: Witnessing for Jesus**

10 Lessons, 2 Projects, 2 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Loving God and Others
- Following Jesus
- Knowing Who Jesus Is
- Following Paul's Example

### **Unit 10: God's Way Is Perfect**

10 Lessons, 4 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Seeking Knowledge
- Science and Geography
- Living God's Way
- Loving God's Way

# Language Arts: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Course Overview

Fourth grade Language Arts continues to build on the sequential development and integration of communication skills in four major areas—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. It most specifically focuses on deepening and furthering students' understanding in the following ways:

- **Reading-** introduces students to basic reading skills, including the identification of main ideas, supporting details, sequence, and facts and opinions; shows students how to identify parts of speech in sentences; develops students capacity for identifying basic elements of narrative prose; introduces students to types of nonfiction, including biographies, autobiographies, and short essays; helps students develop basic literary comprehension skills through the reading of short stories, nonfiction pieces, and poetry.
- **Writing-** develops student's understanding of sentence structure, providing hands-on experience with subject-verb agreement and parts of speech; emphasizes parts of speech and their roles, including adjectives, nouns, and verbs; familiarizes students with roots and affixes, and basic word relationships, including homonyms, synonyms, and antonyms; develops students' vocabulary and spelling skills; gives students the opportunity to develop their abilities in writing paragraphs, four-line poetry, and short stories; guides students through planning, organizing, writing, and revising a report.
- **Listening-** teaches effective listening comprehension skills, weaving these throughout the lessons.
- **Special Topics-** teaches basic research skills, including dictionary, encyclopedia, and safe Internet usage.

## Learner Objectives

By the end of the course, students:

- Demonstrate skill in report development and writing.
- Demonstrate skill in dictionary usage.
- Correctly use punctuation marks in writing.
- Understand word development using prefixes and suffixes.
- Identify poetic expressions in given writings.

There are 108 lessons, 14 projects, 65 quizzes, and 10 tests divided among 10 total units of instruction.

## Course Sequence

### Unit 1: Reading and Writing

10 Lessons, 1 Project, 8 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Sources of English Words
- Reading Fluency
- Study Skills
- Writing a Report

## **Unit 2: Reading for Meaning**

10 Lessons, 1 Project, 6 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Dictionary Usage
- Learning Personal Qualities in Reading: Envy, Greed, Selfishness, Honor
- Haiku Poems

## **Unit 3: Word Play**

12 Lessons, 8 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Root Words: Prefixes and Suffixes
- Homonyms
- Poetic Expressions: Synonyms and Antonyms
- Accentuated Syllables in Poetry

## **Unit 4: Words in Season**

15 Lessons, 8 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Possessive Words
- Fiction and Nonfiction
- Kinds of Sentences
- Writing Study Notes

## **Unit 5: Reading and Writing Stories**

11 Lessons, 2 Projects, 8 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Paragraph Structure
- Punctuation Marks
- Writing Stories

## **Unit 6: Rhymes and Reports**

9 Lessons, 3 Projects, 6 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Fact and Opinion
- Writing a Summary
- Paraphrasing Parables
- Analyzing Poetry

## **Unit 7: Forms of Literature**

10 Lessons, 2 Projects, 6 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Biographies
- Fables
- Tall Tales

## **Unit 8: Language in Literature**

11 Lessons, 1 Project, 6 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Reading: The Power of God's Word
- Figurative Language
- Paragraph Writing
- Digraph Words

## **Unit 9: Reading and Researching**

11 Lessons, 3 Projects, 6 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Reasons for Reading
- Reading Skills

- Steps in Planning and Writing a Report

## Unit 10: Review

9 Lessons, 1 Project, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Using a Dictionary
- Word Parts and Word Play
- Punctuation
- Study Skills and Note Taking
- Writing a Letter and a Report

## Course Focal Components

### Reading Comprehension Skills

- Determining Cause and Effect
- Determining Author's Purpose—Reading for Entertainment and Reading for Information
- Identifying Facts and Opinions
- Identifying Main Ideas and Supporting Details
- Predicting Outcomes
- Reading Poetry
- Determining Reading Rates
- Reading Short Stories
- Reading for Sequence

### Composition

- Book Report—Summary
- Paragraph Elements and Structure
- Paraphrasing Parables
- Writing Four Line Poetry
- Writing Friendly Letters and Invitations
- Writing Haiku
- Writing a Report—Outlining, Writing, and Revising
- Writing Short Stories—Narratives, Tall Tales, and Fables

### Grammar and Usage

- Adjectives—Making Comparisons, Using Articles, and Changing Nouns to Adjectives
- Kinds of Sentences—Statement, Question, Command, and Surprise/Excitement
- Nouns—Singular and Plural, Possessive, Subjects, and Common and Proper Nouns
- Punctuation—Commas, Exclamation Points, Periods, Question Marks, Quotation Marks, and Apostrophes
- Sentence Structure—Subject-Verb Agreement
- Verbs—Being Verbs, Tense, and Contractions

### Literature Studies

- Fiction
  - Definition—Short Story
  - Elements—Structure, Character, Plot, and Setting
  - Genre/Type—Allegory, Fable, and Tall Tale
    - Spyri, Johanna. *Heidi*.

- Nonfiction
  - Definition
  - Genre/Type—Autobiography, Biography, and Essay
  - Literary Device—Figures of Speech
- Poetry
  - Definition
  - Elements—Structure, Rhyme, Meter, Diction, and Mood
  - Haiku
  - Literary Device—Alliteration
    - Cooper, George. “Come, Little Leaves.”
    - Stevenson, Robert. “Bed in Summer.”

## Speaking and Listening

- Listening Skills—Following Directions

## Spelling

- Abbreviations
- Compound Words
- Contractions
- Days of the Week
- Homonyms
- Hyphenated Words
- Possessives
- Roots and Affixes
- Vowel Combinations
- Word Endings
- Words with Silent First Letters
- Words with Silent and Irregular Vowels

## Vocabulary

- Alphabetizing
- Capitalization
- Dictionary Skills
- Word Relationships—Synonyms, Antonyms, and Homonyms
- Word Structure—Roots and Affixes

## Special Topics

- The Bible as Literature
- Origin/Development of Language
- Research Skills—Reference Materials, Library Skills, and the Internet
- Study Skills—Note Taking

# Mathematics: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Course Overview

Fourth grade math continues students' mathematical growth in number skills and numerical literacy. In it, students will gain experience with number theory and operations, including decimals and fractions. This course also integrates geometric concepts and skills throughout the units, teaches measurement skills, and introduces students to statistical concepts. It presents instruction under the spiral method, with regular review and reinforcement of previous content.

## Learner Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be expected to:

- Perform all four operations on whole numbers.
- Compare and order numbers, using place value and rounding.
- Add and subtract fractions and decimals.
- Understand measurement concepts, including the metric system.
- Calculate perimeters and areas of regular plane shapes.
- Represent data on varied statistical charts.

There are 140 lessons, 2 projects, 49 quizzes, and 10 tests divided among 10 total units of instruction.

## Course Sequence

### Unit 1: Number Operations

18 Lessons, 5 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Place Values to the Thousands
- Single- and Multi-Digit Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication Facts
- Family of Facts
- Time
- Number Words
- Patterns
- Cardinal and Ordinal Numbers
- Reading and Writing Fractions
- Counting Money
- Operations

### Unit 2: Estimating, Rounding, and Operations

17 Lessons, 5 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Operations and Operation Signs
- Multiplication Facts—6-10
- Using Standard Measure
- Place Values to the Ten-Thousands
- Missing Number Problems
- Adding and Subtracting Fractions
- Rounding and Estimating Numbers to the Hundreds
- Equivalent Fractions

### **Unit 3: Numbers and Operations**

17 Lessons, 5 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Place Values and Rounding and Estimating Numbers to the Tens, Hundreds, and Thousands
- Multiplying with Carrying to the Tens
- Multi-Digit Addition and Subtraction
- Fractions Equal to Whole Numbers
- Operation Signs
- Fractions and Equivalent Fractions
- Adding and Subtracting to the Ten-Thousands
- Checking Your Answers
- Learning Numbers to 100,000
- Equations and Solid Shapes
- Reading and Writing in Math
- Line Graphs

### **Unit 4: Geometry and Operations**

12 Lessons, 5 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Dimensions with Flat and Solid Shapes
- Practicing Addition and Subtraction
- Place Values and Rounding
- Multiplying with Carrying to the Hundreds
- Lines, Segments, End Points, Rays, and Angles
- Lines, Directions, and Maps
- Equivalent Fractions and Fraction Sequencing
- Missing Number Problems
- Operations Symbols

### **Unit 5: Division**

16 Lessons, 5 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Introduction to Division and Division Facts
- Multiplication
- Addition and Subtraction
- Linear Measurement
- Capacity—Dry and Liquid Measurement
- Reading a Calendar
- Perimeter and Area
- Missing Number Problems
- Roman Numerals

### **Unit 6: Operations and Fractions**

13 Lessons, 5 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Prime and Composite Numbers
- Multiples and Place Values
- Operations
- Equations and Grouping
- Proper, Improper, and Equivalent Fractions
- Multiplication Facts for 11 and 12
- Fractions and Mixed Numbers
- Division
- Measurements
- Rounding and Shapes

## **Unit 7: Fractions and Operations**

13 Lessons, 5 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Multiplication and Division
- Factors, Multiples, and Expressions
- Multiplication and Fractions
- Averages and Number Rules
- Measurements, Place Values, and Lines
- Missing Number Problems
- Rounding Numbers and Place Values
- Shapes, Perimeter, and Area
- Fractions and Patterns
- Operations and Money

## **Unit 8: Fractions and Measuring**

13 Lessons, 5 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Factoring and Place Values
- Multiplication and Operation Signs
- Fractions
- Division
- Missing Number Problems
- Multiplication and Addition
- Division and Polygons
- Metric Measurements
- Fractions and Division
- Time and Missing Numbers

## **Unit 9: Fractions and Decimals**

13 Lessons, 5 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Money
- Multiplication and Numbers on a Grid
- Division and Averages
- Adding and Subtracting Decimals
- Fractions with Different Denominators
- Place Values and Equivalent Fractions
- Mixed Numbers
- Sensible Answers

## **Unit 10: Statistics and Review**

8 Lessons, 4 Quizzes, 2 Projects, 1 Test

- Collecting and Posting Data
- Predicting Data
- Graphs
- Whole and Decimal Numbers
- Fractions
- Sizes, Shapes, and Measurements
- Word Problems and Equations

# Science: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Course Overview

Fourth grade science is a basic elementary course intended to expose students to the designs and patterns in God's physical universe. This course builds on concepts taught in third grade science, providing a broad survey of the major areas of science, including the life, earth, space, and physical sciences. It also seeks to hone students' observational skills through experimentation and projects, preparing students for higher levels of science.

## Learner Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students:

- Use their main senses for observation of the world around them.
- Describe different uses for plants.
- Discuss the differences between ways that different animals act.
- Understand how man is responsible for preserving and conserving nature.
- Explain the different types of simple machines.
- Describe an electrical current and how it relates to magnetism.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the different properties of water.
- Observe weather and how it affects man.
- Describe our solar system.
- Discuss the three different spheres of the earth and how they interact.
- Explain the changes in seasons and time.

There are 78 lessons, 67 lab projects, 27 quizzes, and 10 tests divided among 10 total units of instruction.

## Course Sequence

### Unit 1: Plants

7 Lessons, 5 Experiments/Projects, 2 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Plants and Living Things
- Using Plants
- Parts of Plants
- The Function of Plants

### Unit 2: Animals

12 Lessons, 5 Experiments/Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Animal Structures
- Animal Behavior
- Animal Instincts
- Man Protects Animals

### Unit 3: Man and His Environment

10 Lessons, 13 Experiments/Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Resources
- Balance in Nature
- Communities
- Conservation and Preservation

## **Unit 4: Machines**

8 Lessons, 7 Experiments/Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Work and Energy
- Simple Machines
- Simple Machines Working Together
- Complex Machines

## **Unit 5: Electricity and Magnetism**

4 Lessons, 13 Experiments/Projects, 2 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Electric Current
- Electric Circuits
- Magnetic Materials
- Electricity and Magnets

## **Unit 6: Changes in Matter**

7 Lessons, 6 Experiments/Projects, 2 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Properties of Water
- Properties of Matter
- Molecules and Atoms
- Elements

## **Unit 7: Weather**

6 Lessons, 5 Experiments/Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Causes of Weather
- Forces of Weather
- Observing Weather
- Weather Instruments

## **Unit 8: Our Solar System and the Universe**

8 Lessons, 6 Experiments/Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Our Solar System
- The Big Universe
- Sun and Planets
- Stars and Space

## **Unit 9: The Planet Earth**

7 Lessons, 4 Experiments/Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- The Atmosphere
- The Hydrosphere
- The Lithosphere
- Rotation and Revolution

## **Unit 10: Understanding God's Wonderful Creation**

9 Lessons, 3 Experiments/Projects, 4 Quizzes, 1 Test

- The Earth and Solar System
- Matter and Weather
- Using Nature
- Conservation

# History and Geography: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Course Overview

Fourth grade history and geography continues the process of developing in students an understanding of and appreciation for God's activity as seen in the record of man and his relationships. The course focuses on World Geography, describing the surface of the earth and its natural features (biomes). It also teaches about cultural distinctive, placing special emphasis on North American geography and culture. These areas of focus target three major content strands: Geography, History, and Social Studies Skills.

## Learner Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students:

- Identify significant explorers, such as Prince Henry, Christopher Columbus, and Ferdinand Magellan, noting their accomplishments.
- Locate and describe different regions of the world, such as climactic and topographical regions.
- Understand the world in spatial terms (according to hemispheres and maps).
- Locate and describe U.S. regions made up of various groups of states, such as New England and the plains states.
- Identify cultural and geographic differences between various biomes and countries that are covered in the course.

There are 98 lessons, 15 projects, quizzes, and 10 tests divided among 10 total units of instruction.

## Course Sequence

### Unit 1: Our Earth

8 Lessons, 1 Project, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Maps and Globes, Charts and Graphs—Skills
- Maps and Globes, Charts and Graphs—Surface of the Earth
- Maps and Globes, Charts and Graphs—Exploration and Travel

### Unit 2: Seaport Cities

12 Lessons, 5 Projects, 4 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Sydney, Hong Kong, Istanbul, and London
- Life in Seaport Cities

### Unit 3: Desert Lands

6 Lessons, 3 Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Where Are the Deserts?
- What Are Deserts?
- How People Live in the Desert

## **Unit 4: Grasslands**

11 Lessons, 1 Project, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Grasslands of Europe, Africa, and South America
- How Are Grasslands Used?

## **Unit 5: Tropical Rainforests**

9 Lessons, 2 Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Rainforests of the World (Africa and South America)
- People of the Rainforest
- History of the Rainforest

## **Unit 6: The Polar Regions**

8 Lessons, 2 Projects, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- The Polar Regions—the Coldest Places in the World
- The Polar Regions—Plant and Animal Life

## **Unit 7: Mountain Countries**

10 Lessons, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Mountainous Regions—Peru and the Andes
- Mountainous Regions—Nepal and the Himalayas
- Mountainous Regions—Switzerland and the Alps

## **Unit 8: Living in Island Countries**

11 Lessons, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Island Countries—Cuba
- Island Countries—Iceland
- Island Countries—Japan

## **Unit 9: North America**

10 Lessons, 3 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Geography of North America
- Canada and Greenland
- United States
- Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies

## **Unit 10: Our World in Review**

13 Lessons, 1 Project, 4 Quizzes, 1 Test

- Maps and Globes, Charts and Graphs
- Seaport Cities
- World Regions—Desert, Grassland, Mountain, Rainforest, and Polar Regions
- Continents