



## FOURTH GRADE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

### In **Grammar & Composition** Lafayette students will:

- write three types of essays: informative, narrative, and persuasive
- learn basic grammatical elements of a sentence by sentence diagramming
- study Latin and Greek roots and their English derivatives (“English from the Roots Up”)
- learn the basics of composition: introduction, lines of argument, and conclusion

### In **Literature** Lafayette students will read and discuss:

- novels such as Johnny Tremain, Anne of Green Gables, Treasure Island, and Robin Hood
- poems such as “Concord Hymn” by Ralph Waldo Emerson and “Dreams” by Langston Hughes
- short stories such as Legend of Sleepy Hollow, Rip Van Winkle, and The Fire on the Mountain
- tales of Camelot, King Arthur, and the Knights of the Round Table

### In **History & Geography** Lafayette students will:

- explain the duties citizens have in a democratic republic: public service, voting, etc.
- examine how the Declaration of Independence argues for the existence of natural rights
- study the major events of China, Europe, and Africa in the Middle Ages
- understand the founding and spread of Islam and its interactions with Christendom
- study the early American presidents from George Washington to Andrew Jackson

### In **Level 4 Math** Lafayette students will:

- multiply fractions by whole numbers
- draw line graphs and line plots
- add and subtract using decimal tenths and hundreds
- work with angles, perpendicular lines, quadrilaterals, cuboids, and symmetrical figures

### In **Science** Lafayette students will:

- learn about the functions and processes of the circulatory and respiratory systems
- study the earth’s layers, types of rock, how mountains are formed, and erosion
- be introduced to the basic terms and concepts of chemistry
- perform hands-on experiments involving chemical reactions

### In **Art** Lafayette students will:

- study art history of the Middle Ages in Europe, Africa, China, and the Islamic world
- discuss the elements of Gothic architecture and observe how medieval towns were fortified
- create their own works of abstract art and mosaics modeled after masterpieces

### In **Music** Lafayette students will:

- listen to and discuss the music of the Middle Ages, particularly Gregorian Chant
- learn cross-cultural songs such as Auld Lang Syne and Waltzing Matilda
- memorize and perform the official anthems of each U.S. military branch
- explore the life and music of American composers John Phillip Sousa and Aaron Copland



## LITERATURE HIGHLIGHTS

### Classic Novels

Anne of Green Gables  
Johnny Tremain  
Treasure Island  
The Adventures of Robin Hood

### Poems

“Clouds” by Christina Rossetti  
“Concord Hymn” by R.W. Emerson  
“Dreams” by Langston Hughes  
“Paul Revere’s Ride” by H.W. Longfellow  
“Life Doesn’t Frighten Me” by M. Angelou

### Short Stories and Tales

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow  
Rip Van Winkle  
Tales of King Arthur  
The Wonderful Chuang Brocade

## IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES

### Field Trips

Curriculum Supporting Day Trips