

Illinois Lutheran Elementary School Curriculum Overview

Grade 4



Kindergarten – 6th Grade Curriculum

Our goal at Illinois Lutheran is to educate the whole student academically, spiritually and physically. It is our privilege to currently have over 140 students enrolled in our preschool through 6th grade classes. For nearly a century we have provided Christ-centered education for children of the south Chicago suburbs, serving as an extension of the home and a partner with the church in providing Christian education.

Elementary Academics

As a Lutheran school, our goal is to proclaim, teach, and apply faithfully the Word of God in all courses of instruction in keeping with the Holy Scriptures. In doing so, we strive to meet or exceed guidelines provided by the State of Illinois and the Wisconsin

Our Mission

Illinois Lutheran Schools provides a quality, Christian education to students of the Church and community and the world by nurturing and reaching souls for time and eternity.

Illinois Lutheran Elementary School

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Religion/Word of God

ChristLight

- Christ-Light studies the major stories of the Bible in chronological order. The study alternates between Old and New Testament stories. Applying the lessons of these stories to the lives of the students is a very important part of this class.
- The study of Christian hymns and memory treasures (selected Bible passages) are also part of this class.



Reading & Language Arts

The study of reading in Grade 4 continues on the reading skills built in earlier grades. A variety of fiction and non-fiction resources are used to teach skills such as story elements, main idea and details, author's purpose and point of view.

Strategies to improve comprehension are also studied. Spelling/vocabulary words from the reading selections help students increase their personal vocabulary.

English

Grade 4 English continues building on the skills of students learned in earlier grades:

- Work with the six basic parts of speech (noun, verb, adjective, adverb, pronoun, and preposition) is extensive.
- The steps of writing process including prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading, and publishing are practiced.
- Writing topics include personal narratives, stories, instructions, persuasion paragraphs, and research reports.
- Writing activities include personal narratives, a fiction story, writing instructions and writing a description.



Social Studies

Grade 4 Social Studies has the students focus on the United States of America.

- The five regions, Northeast, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, and West.
- A brief history and geography study accompanies each region of the U.S.A.
- Reading various maps, time lines, and graphs is also included.
- Location of states and capitals are practiced with map quizzes.



Mathematics

Saxon Math

Saxon Math is used throughout Illinois Lutheran Elementary School. Highlights of the Grade 4 curriculum include:

- Extensive work with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- Long division with and without remainders.
- Comparing fractions and simple adding and subtracting.
- Decimal numbers.
- Place value in whole and decimal numbers.
- Measurement using metric and English units.
- Word problems requiring the use of all mathematical operations.



Science and Health

Grade 4 Science continues to reinforce basic concepts in earth science, life science, and physical science. The main areas in life science include the study of plants and animals.

- Earth Science stresses the study of the solar system, rocks, weather, and water.
- Physical Science focuses on matter, energy, electricity, magnetism, and motion.
- Life Science focuses on the study of plant parts and animals.



Fine Arts

Music

- Students have the opportunity to experience personal musical performance and basic musicianship. Students also continue to strengthen their skills in reading music notation and understanding music theory.



Art

- Students study and create two and three-dimensional projects using multiple different media.
- Students study and use the elements of art and the principles of design.

Technology

Our Fourth Grade students have access to Chromebooks. With them we learn:

- Simple shortcut functions used in productivity software.
- Digital citizenship principles and identifying cyber-bullying and how to avoid it.
- Continued use of productivity software to create documents, presentations, and reports.
- Simple image editing.

Physical Education

Students develop life-long fitness skills as well as use several sports to develop an understanding of rules, self-control, and physical coordination.

Students learn basic rules and skills and participate in sports such as soccer, jump rope, basketball, volleyball, and softball.