### What’s Changing?
- Your Child will **read more non-fiction** in each grade level.
- Reading more non-fiction texts will help your child **learn about the world through reading**.
- Your child will **read challenging texts very closely**, so they can make sense of what they read and draw their own conclusions.
- Your child will **learn how to write from what they read**.
- Your child will have **an increased academic vocabulary**.

### What to Look for in the Backpack:
- Look for your child to have more reading assignments based on real-life events, such as biographies, articles and historical stories.
- Look for your child to bring home more fact-based books about the world. Fifty percent of the selections in the K-6 core reading program are non-fiction.
- Your child will have reading and writing assignments that might ask them to retell or write about key parts of a story or book.
- Students will be asked to reread in order to understand more deeply what the author is saying.
- Look for writing assignments that ask your child to draw on concrete examples from the text that serve as evidence. Evidence means examples from the book that your child will use to support an answer, response or conclusion. This is different from the opinion questions (“What do you think?”) that have been used in the past.
- Look for assignments that stretch your child’s vocabulary and teach the wealth of words available to express our thoughts and ideas.

### What Can You Do?
- Read non-fiction books with your child. Find ways to make reading fun and exciting.
- Ask your librarian what non-fiction books are grade-level appropriate and make sure your children have access to such books.
- Provide more challenging texts for your child to read. Show them how to figure out the author’s meaning by rereading difficult parts of texts and talking with you about them.
- Ask your child to provide evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements.
- Encourage writing at home. Write together using evidence and details.
- Read often to babies, toddlers, preschoolers and children.
- Use ‘academic’ words in daily conversations with your child.

Visalia Unified Schools
5000 W. Cypress Ave
Visalia, CA 93277
Phone: 559.730.7555

Tamara Ravalin, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Sarah Seymore
Curriculum Director

Visalia Unified School District
“We Create Futures”

Common Core Standards Parent Brochure

Fourth Grade
Fourth grade students read longer words and use roots, prefixes, and suffixes to determine the meanings of unknown words. They use details and examples in the text to determine the main idea and describe a character, setting, or event. Students produce writing that is developed, focused, organized, and edited. They group related ideas in paragraphs and sections, and provide a conclusion. Fourth grade students know when to use formal English, and when informal English is appropriate.

Reading
- Use details and examples in the text to determine the main idea and describe a character, setting, or event
- Use first person (e.g., I said) and third person (e.g., She said) narrative styles
- Read and understand literature and informational texts

Reading: Foundational Skills
- Use grade-level phonics and word analysis skills
  - Roots, prefixes, and suffixes
- Read words with multiple syllables
- Read with accuracy and understanding

Writing
- Write opinion pieces that include a conclusion related to the opinion
- Write informative pieces that group related ideas in paragraphs and sections, and provide a conclusion
- Write narratives that introduce a narrator and characters; write about what the characters say, feel, and think; use sensory details
  - Sight, sound, scent
- Produce writing that is developed, focused, organized, and edited
- Write a short research piece

Speaking and Listening
- Participate in discussions, carrying out assigned roles
- Paraphrase portions of information presented aloud
- Plan and deliver a presentation based on a personal experience
- Speak clearly, in complete sentences, and at an appropriate pace

Language
- Use correct grammar
- Use complete sentences
- Correctly use frequently confused words
  - To, two, too
  - There, their, they're
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
- Spell grade-level words correctly
- Know when to use formal English and when informal English is appropriate

Fourth graders use their knowledge of place value to generalize to 1,000,000 and learn to round multi-digit whole numbers to any place. They fluently add and subtract using the standard algorithm and multiply and divide with multi-digit numbers. Fourth graders extend understanding of fractions to include equivalence, ordering and simple decimal notation. Students measure angles and classify geometric shapes by lines (parallel, perpendicular, etc.) and angles (right, acute, obtuse, etc.).

- Use addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with whole numbers to solve word problems
- Learn about factors and multiples
  - Factors of 24: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12
  - Multiples of 4: 4, 8, 12, 16, 20
- Make and describe patterns with objects and numbers
- Understand and use place value to generalize to 1,000,000
  - Expanded form: 6783 = 6000 + 700 + 80 + 3
- Compute with multi-digit numbers
- Solve problems involving using multiplication of multi-digit by two-digit numbers
- Divide multi-digit numbers by one-digit divisor
- Round multi-digit numbers to any place
- Build understanding of equivalent fractions and ordering fractions
- Compare two fractions with different numerators and different denominators by making common denominators
- Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers with like denominators
- Understand the decimal notation for fractions
- Compare decimals
- Solve problems using measurement conversions
- Apply area and perimeter formulas for rectangles
- Organize and explain data using a line plot
- Understand and measure angles
- Draw and identify lines and angles
- Describe and sort shapes by their lines and angles
- Recognize lines of symmetry