

Common Core Alignment Overview

Junior Great Books Nonfiction Inquiry activities develop students' reading, critical thinking, writing, speaking and listening, and language skills. This document details the alignment of Nonfiction Inquiry activities with the Common Core State Standards for Grade 4.

Prereading

Speaking and Listening Standards

- SL.4.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 4 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- SL.4.4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.
- SL.4.6. Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion); use formal English when appropriate to task and situation.

Writing Standards

- W.4.1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- W.4.2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- W.4.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- W.4.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Language Standards

- L.4.1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- L.4.2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- L.4.3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

- L.4.6. Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., *wildlife*, *conservation*, and *endangered* when discussing animal preservation).

First Reading with Sharing Questions

Reading Standards: Informational Text

- RI.4.2. Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.
- RI.4.4. Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 4 topic or subject area*.
- RI.4.10. By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4–5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

Reading Standards: Foundational Skills

- RF.4.4. Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

Speaking and Listening Standards

- SL.4.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 4 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- SL.4.6. Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion); use formal English when appropriate to task and situation.

Language Standards

- L.4.1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- L.4.3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
- L.4.4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
- L.4.5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

- L.4.6. Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., *wildlife*, *conservation*, and *endangered* when discussing animal preservation).

Second Reading

Reading Standards: Informational Text

- RI.4.1. Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- RI.4.3. Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
- RI.4.4. Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 4 topic or subject area*.
- RI.4.7. Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.
- RI.4.8. Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.
- RI.4.10. By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/ social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4–5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

Reading Standards: Foundational Skills

- RF.4.4. Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

Writing Standards

- W.4.1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- W.4.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- W.4.9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- W.4.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Speaking and Listening Standards

- SL.4.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 4 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- SL.4.2. Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- SL.4.3. Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker provides to support particular points.
- SL.4.6. Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion); use formal English when appropriate to task and situation.

Language Standards

- L.4.1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- L.4.2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- L.4.3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
- L.4.4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
- L.4.5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
- L.4.6. Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., *wildlife*, *conservation*, and *endangered* when discussing animal preservation).

Shared Inquiry Discussion

Reading Standards: Informational Text

- RI.4.1. Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- RI.4.3. Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
- RI.4.4. Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 4 topic or subject area*.

- RI.4.7. Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.
- RI.4.8. Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.

Writing Standards

- W.4.1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- W.4.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- W.4.9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- W.4.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Speaking and Listening Standards

- SL.4.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 4 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- SL.4.2. Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- SL.4.3. Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker provides to support particular points.
- SL.4.4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.
- SL.4.6. Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion); use formal English when appropriate to task and situation.

Language Standards

- L.4.1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- L.4.2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- L.4.3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

- L.4.4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
- L.4.5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
- L.4.6. Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., *wildlife*, *conservation*, and *endangered* when discussing animal preservation).

Writing

Reading Standards: Informational Text

- RI.4.1. Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- RI.4.3. Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
- RI.4.7. Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.
- RI.4.8. Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.

Writing Standards

- W.4.1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- W.4.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- W.4.5. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
- W.4.6. With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of one page in a single sitting.
- W.4.9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

- W.4.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Language Standards

- L.4.1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
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- L.4.6. Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., *wildlife*, *conservation*, and *endangered* when discussing animal preservation).

Extension Activities

Reading Standards: Informational Text

- RI.4.1. Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- RI.4.2. Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.
- RI.4.3. Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
- RI.4.4. Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 4 topic or subject area*.
- RI.4.7. Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.
- RI.4.8. Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.
- RI.4.9. Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.

Writing Standards

- W.4.1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- W.4.2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- W.4.3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
- W.4.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- W.4.8. Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.
- W.4.9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- W.4.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Speaking and Listening Standards

- SL.4.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 4 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
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- L.4.6. Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., *wildlife*, *conservation*, and *endangered* when discussing animal preservation).