

St. Francis de Sales 4th Grade Writing Benchmarks

**The Benchmarks are expected to be achieved by the end of 4th Grade*

4th Grade Writing Benchmarks Across All Genres

By the end of 4th Grade students should be able to :

- Produce simple, compound, and complex sentences. (Master)
- Use correct capitalization and punctuation with titles and quotations. (Master)
- Compose a three paragraph writing piece with an introduction, body, and conclusion.(Approaching)
- Use at least three details and elaboration for each detail in each paragraph. (Master)
- Add transition words to writing (Master)
- Use strong word choice (verbs and adjectives) to add description and vivid details (Master)
- Create an engaging “hook” that draws the reader in. (Approaching)
- Write an introduction that provides a “hook” and a topic statement (Introducing)
- Add a closing paragraph to the writing piece (Introducing)
- Use conventional spelling for high-frequency and other studied words, and add suffixes to base words (e.g., sitting, smiled, cries, happiness). (Master)
- Use spelling patterns, rules, and generalizations (e.g., word families, position-based spellings, syllable patterns, ending rules, meaningful word parts) in writing words. (Master)
- Spell grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting references as needed. (Master)
- Use quotation marks, italics, or underlining to indicate titles of works as well as citations.(Approaching)

Response to Literature	Argumentative	Informational/Research	Narrative
<p>Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create a poem, story, play, artwork, or other response to a text, author, theme, or personal experience ● Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to respond and support analysis, reflection, and research ● Apply the grade 4th grade reading standards to both literary and informational text, where applicable 	<p>Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write an argument to support a claim(s), using clear reasons and relevant evidence ● Introduce a precise claim, supported by well-organized facts and details, and organize the reasons and evidence logically ● Use precise language and content-specific vocabulary ● Use transitional words and phrases to connect ideas within categories of information ● Provide a concluding statement or section related to the argument presented 	<p>Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write an informative/explanatory text to explore a topic and convey ideas and information relevant to the subject ● Introduce a topic clearly and organize related information in paragraphs and sections ● Develop ideas on a topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, or other relevant information; include text features when useful for aiding comprehension ● Use precise language and content-specific vocabulary ● Use transitional words and phrases to connect ideas within categories of information ● Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information 	<p>Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write a narrative to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, descriptive details, and clear event sequences ● Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters ● Use dialogue and description of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events to show the responses of characters to situations ● Use transitional words and phrases to manage the sequence of events ● Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely ● Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events.

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