# McMinnville School District
## Fourth Grade
# Standards and Curriculum

## Sample Grade Level Informative Writing that Meets Standard

### Conserving Water

Conserving water is a great way to help the Earth. Plants, humans, and animals would not be able to live without our water. We need to save water because we will eventually run out of it. Then we will have to use and drink salt water. It is extremely expensive to filter salt water. This is why we need save water. What can you do to save water?

One way you can save water is by getting a rain barrel. Rain barrels collect water so that you can water your plants with recycled water. Recycled water is better for plants because it is more natural. Recycled water also has good nutrients.

Another way you can save water is by getting an aerating faucet and showerhead. These items use less water but make it feel the same because they have more pressure. One more way you can save water is to make sure sprinklers are placed where they are watering the lawn in the summer.

One way my family saves water is by turning off the water when we brush our teeth. Water is the most important natural resource of all. Without water, we would die. If we ran out of water, as I said, we would die. So if you think dying is bad, try to conserve water as best you can.

## Sample Grade Level Opinion Writing that Meets Standard

### Which is Better?

Many people have a dog for a pet. Some people have cats. Which is better? I say dog. Maybe you say cat. I just might be able to persuade you in the following.

Dogs are great companions for lonely people. They can go for a rousing walk in the park or take a good long nap. Playing games of catch or fetch every day makes good fun. Even a jog on the hottest day could be enjoyable, too.

Dogs don't just provide fun, though. They can also provide protection. Dogs are very intelligent. They can be trained to find people or save them. Some don't even need to be trained. For instance, if someone is trying to break in, your dog might bark and scare them off. Dogs are great for many different reasons.

Overall, dogs are awesome pets to have. Have I convinced you, though? If you are convinced, then great! If you're not convinced, then that's okay. It's really up to you. So which one is it going to be?

Source: http://achievethecore.org

## Sample 4th Grade At Level Reading Text

Van Leeuwen, Jean. Bound For Oregon. Puffin Books, 1994. p18-19.

Mother had a little flower garden next to the front door. Sometimes, when her critical eye decided that their colors clashed, she would dig up one or another and move it to a different spot. Some of the plants popped right out of the ground. But others seemed anchored where they were, clinging with tiny curling root fingers to their small piece of earth. Maybe I was like one of those plants, I thought, holding fast to home.

I thought of Grandma. She would not have hesitated a minute, I knew. She had left her father's farm in Pennsylvania and going off to settle in the wilderness of Indiana. You wouldn't know it to look at her, she was so tiny and frail-looking, like a gust of wind would blower her away, but Grandma was strong. With Grandpa she had chopped down trees to build a log cabin, and in it had raised eight children. She could paddle a canoe or shoot a rifle as well as any man, she always said proudly. One time, when Grandpa was away, she shot a panther out of a tree.

And after Grandpa died, when she still had the five youngest to raise, Grandma had moved to town and opened up a grocery store. Oh, how I wished I was a little more like Grandma.

While I thought and worried, the preparations for our journey went on. A new bright-white canvas cover was stretched over the bows of the wagon. Then the packing began.

## Sample 4th Grade Math Problem Solving

James and Benito each have a bag of pencils. Some pencils are sharpened and some are not. James' bag of pencils has a total of 5 pencils and exactly 2 sharpened pencils; Benito's bag of pencils has a total of 10 pencils and exactly __ sharpened.  Benito has the same fraction of sharpened pencils in his bag as James has in his bag.

Part A Exactly how many of Benito's pencils are sharpened?

Part B In the space below, draw pictures of the pencils in James' bag and the pencils in Benito's bag. Use numbers to show the fractions of sharpened and unsharpened pencils in each bag.

Part C Benito's bag has a total of 10 pencils inside, and James' bag has a total of 5 pencils inside. How can the fraction of sharpened pencils in James' bag be the same as the fraction of sharpened pencils in Benito's bag, even though they have a different number of pencils? Explain your answer using both numbers and words.

Source: http://commoncore.fcoe.org/sites/commoncore.fcoe.org/files/resources/All%20grade%204%20SBAC_0.pdf

## Reading Focus

- DETERMINE the main idea of a text and EXPLAIN how it is supported by key details; SUMMARIZE the text
- REFER to details and examples in a text when EXPLAINING what the text says explicitly and when DRAWING inferences from the text
- DETERMINE a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; SUMMARIZE the text
- REFER to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text
- DETERMINE the meaning of general academic & domain- specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area

## Writing Focus

- With guidance and support from peers and adults, DEVELOP and STRENGTHEN writing as needed by PLANNING, REVISING, and EDITING
- WRITE opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information
- DEMONSTRATE command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing
- WRITE narratives to DEVELOP real or imagined experiences or events USING effective techniques, descriptive details, and clear event sequences
- WRITE informative/explanatory texts to EXAMINE a topic and CONVEY ideas and information clearly

## Speaking & Listening Focus

- 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
- 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 EX-PRESSING their own (ideas) clearly

## Math Focus

**Place Value**
- RECOGNIZE that in a multi-digit whole number, a digit in one place represents ten times what it represents in the place to its right
- READ and WRITE multi-digit whole. COMPARE two multi-digit numbers based on meanings of the digits in each place, using >, =, and < symbols
- USE place value understanding to ROUND multi-digit whole numbers to any place
- Fluently ADD and SUTRACT multi-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm

**Division**
- FIND whole-number quotients and remainders with up to four-digit dividends and one-digit divisors. ILLUSTRATE and EXPLAIN the calculation.
- MULTIPLY or DIVIDE to solve word problems involving multiplicative comparison
- SOLVE multistep word problems posed with whole numbers and having whole-number answers USING the four operations, including problems in which remainders must be interpreted.

**Fractions**
- EXPLAIN why fractions are equivalent USING visual fraction models
- COMPARE two fractions with different numerators and different denominators
- UNDERSTAND a fraction $a/b$ with $a > 1$ as a sum of fractions
- APPLY and EXTEND previous understandings of multiplication to multiply a fraction by a whole number
- EXPRESS a fraction with denominator 10 as an equivalent fraction with denominator 100
- USE decimal notation for fractions with denominators 10 or 100
- COMPARE two decimals to hundredths by reasoning about their size

**Multiplication**
- MULTIPLY a whole number of up to four digits by a one-digit whole number, and multiply two two-digit numbers. ILLUSTRATE and EXPLAIN the calculation
- INTERPRET a multiplication equation as a comparison (35=5 x 7 as a statement that 35 is 5 times as many as 7 and 7 times as many as 5)
- MULTIPLY or DIVIDE to solve word problems involving multiplicative comparison

## 8 Mathematical Practices

**#1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them**
Understand the problem, find a way to attack it, and work until it is done. The hardest part is pushing students to solve tough problems by applying what they already know and to monitor themselves when problem-solving.

**#2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively**
If students have a problem, they should be able to break it apart and show it symbolically, with pictures, or in any way other than the standard algorithm.

**#3 Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others**
Be able to talk about math, using mathematical language, to support or oppose the work of others.

**#4 Model with mathematics**
Use math to solve real-world problems, organize data, and understand the world around you.

**#5 Use appropriate tools strategically**
Students can select the appropriate math tool to use and use it correctly toproblems. In the real world, no one tells you that it is time to use the meter stick instead of the protractor.

**#6 Attend to precision**
Students speak and solve mathematics with exactness and meticulousness.

**#7 Look for and make use of structure**
Find patterns and repeated reasoning that can help solve more complex problems.

**#8 Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning**
Keep an eye on the big picture while working out the details of the problem.