

BRANCBURG TOWNSHIP
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Grade Level
Benchmarks
for the
Standards Based
Progress
Report Cards**

1st Trimester



4

Grade 4 Bench

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Branchburg Township Schools' new report cards are now "Standards Based". This means that you will get very specific feedback concerning your child's progress in meeting the benchmarks for your child's grade level. These benchmarks change over the course of the year as the students learn new content and master new skills. Because of this, you will need to consult a different guide each trimester to see which items are being assessed on your child's report card. These benchmarks have been developed to ensure that all students are meeting the goals set by the Core Content Curriculum Standards. We hope that you appreciate the more detailed picture you will receive concerning your child's achievement. If you need help interpreting any part of the report card or have any questions about your child's progress, please contact your child's teacher for assistance.

Branchburg Township Schools

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Grade 4 Language Arts

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Reading: Literature	
Key Ideas and Details	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize the text. • Describe character traits; identify time and place (setting), a main event in a story, drawing on details in the text.
Craft and Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the meaning of teacher selected words and phrases as they are used in a text. • Compare and contrast the point of view of basic story elements.
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make connections between texts, including written, audio, and visual texts. • Compare and contrast similar themes and topics.
Range of Reading and Text Complexity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of trimester 1, read and comprehend texts at a level Q-R.

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Reading: Informational Text	
Key Ideas and Details	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain events, ideas, or concepts based on specific information in the text.
Craft and Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the sequence of events in a text or part of a text.
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpret information and explain information related to a text.
Range of Reading and Text Complexity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the first trimester, read and comprehend basic elements of informational texts at a level Q-R.

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Reading: Foundational Skills	
Phonics and Word Recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know and apply grade level phonics (should be in Syllable Juncture) and word analysis skills in decoding words.
Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read on-level text with purpose and understanding.

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Writing Standards	
Text Types and Purposes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply qualities of writing consistent with a score of 22.5-33 as indicated by the 4th grade Teacher’s College Rubric for Narrative, Information or Opinion Writing.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a topic or text clearly to support the writer’s purpose.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn techniques to provide a concluding statement.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a personal narrative that conveys ideas clearly.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link ideas using appropriate transition words.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use precise language to inform about or explain the topic.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write narratives to develop real experiences or events using descriptive details and clear event sequences.
Production and Distribution of Writing	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work towards the production and publication of a written piece.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With guidance and support, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With guidance and support, 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.
Research and Distribution of Writing	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply grade 4 Reading standards to literature.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply grade 4 Reading standards to informational texts.
Range of Writing	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write routinely over extended time frames for a range of content area related tasks, purposes, and audience.

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Speaking and Listening Standards	
Comprehension and Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin collaborative discussions on grade 4 topics and texts.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come to discussion prepared having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement agreed-upon rules for discussion and carry out assigned roles.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pose and respond to specific questions.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud.
Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner.
Language Standards	
Conventions of Standard English	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the basic conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work towards producing complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use capitalization, punctuation, and spelling grade level words correctly within written work.
Knowledge of Language	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose descriptive words and phrases to convey ideas.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose punctuation for effect.
Vocabulary Acquisition and Use	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use context clues to help determine meaning of unknown or difficult words.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn to use basic reference materials to find the pronunciation or determine meaning of key words.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be able to use antonyms and synonyms.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work towards subject-verb agreement.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choose words and phrases for effect.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Correctly use frequently confused words.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choose punctuation for effect.

Adapted from Teacher's College Reading Writing Project.

Grade 4 Mathematics

MATH	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Operation and Algebraic Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems. • Gain familiarity with factors and multiples. • Generate and analyze patterns.
Number and Operations in Base Ten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generalize place value understanding for multi-digit whole numbers. • Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic.
Number and Operations- Fractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin to understand decimal notation, and compare decimal fractions.
Measurement and Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solve problems involving measurement and conversion of measurements from a larger unit to a smaller unit. • Represent and interpret data. • Understands basic concepts of angles.
Geometry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw and identify lines and angles, and classify shapes by properties of their lines and angles. •

Grade 4 Mathematics Standards

Common Core State Standards for Mathematical Practice:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard Mathematical Practice 1: Makes Sense of Problems and persevere in solving them
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard Mathematical Practice 2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard Mathematical Practice 3: Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard Mathematical Practice 4: Model with mathematics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard Mathematical Practice 5: Use appropriate tools strategically
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard Mathematical Practice 6: Attend to precision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard Mathematical Practice 7: Look for and make use of structure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard Mathematical Practice 8: Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

Grade 4 Science

Science	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Science Practices	
Understand Scientific Explanations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate understanding of the interrelationships among fundamental concepts in the physical, life, or Earth systems sciences. (The following units will be rotated and shared through fourth grade: Land and Water, Floating and Sinking, and Animal Studies)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use outcomes of investigations to build and refine questions, models, and explanations.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use scientific facts, measurements, observations, and patterns in nature to build and critique scientific arguments.
Generate Scientific Evidence Through Active Investigations	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and follow simple plans using systematic observations to explore questions and predictions.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure, gather, evaluate, and share evidence using tools and technologies.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate explanations from evidence.
Reflect on Scientific Knowledge	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and reflect on one’s own knowledge regarding how ideas change over time.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise predictions or explanations on the basis of learning new information.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present evidence to interpret and/or predict cause-and-effect outcomes of investigations.
Participate Productively in Science	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively participate in discussions about student data, questions, and

	understandings.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work collaboratively to pose, refine, and evaluate questions, investigations, models, and theories.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how to safely use tools, instruments, and supplies.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handle and treat organisms humanely, responsibly, and ethically.
Physical Science:	
Properties of Matter	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the weight and volume of common objects using appropriate tools. (Floating and Sinking)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predict if an object will sink or float using evidence and reasoning. (Floating and Sinking)
Changes in Matter	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively participate in discussions about student data, questions, and understandings.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work collaboratively to pose, refine, and evaluate questions, investigations, models, and theories.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how to safely use tools, instruments, and supplies.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handle and treat organisms humanely, responsibly, and ethically. (Animal Studies)
Life Science	
Organization and Development	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and use evidence-based criteria to determine if an unfamiliar object is living or nonliving. (Animal Studies)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and contrast structures that have similar functions in various organisms, and explain how those functions may be carried out by structures that have different physical appearances.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the interactions of systems involved in carrying out everyday life activities. (Animal Studies)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the consequences of rapid ecosystem change. (Land and Water)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare the physical characteristics of the different stages of the life cycle of an individual organism, and compare the characteristics of life stages among species. (Animal Studies)
Earth Systems Science	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine if landforms were created by processes of erosion (e.g., wind, water, and/or ice) based on evidence in pictures, video, and/or maps. (Land and Water)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe methods people use to reduce soil erosion. (Land and Water)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a model to represent how soil is formed. (Land and Water)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predict the types of ecosystems that unknown soil samples could support based on soil properties. (Land and Water)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locate areas that are being created (deposition) and destroyed (erosion) using maps and satellite images. (Land and Water)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model how the properties of water can change as water moves through the water cycle. (Land and Water)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a model of ecosystems in two different locations, and compare and contrast the living and nonliving components. (Animal Studies)

Grade 4 Social Studies

Social Studies	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
History, Culture, and Perspectives	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify state symbols and how they represent New Jersey’s uniqueness within the United States.
Geography, People, and the Environment	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare and contrast information that can be found on different types of maps, and determine when the information may be useful.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use physical and political maps to explain how the location and spatial relationship of places in New Jersey, the United States, and other areas, worldwide, have contributed to cultural diffusion and economic interdependence.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain how and when it is important to use geographic tools, political maps, and globes to measure distances and to determine time zones and locations using latitude and longitude.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how landforms, climate and weather, and availability of resources have impacted where and how people live and work in different regions of New Jersey and the United States.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how human interaction impacts the environment in New Jersey and the United States.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare and contrast characteristics of regions in New Jersey.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the major cities and landforms in New Jersey.
Economics, Innovation, and Technology	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare different regions of New Jersey to determine the role that geography, natural resources, climate, transportation, technology, and/or the labor force have played in economic opportunities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how the development of different transportation systems impacted the economies of New Jersey and the United States.

Grade 4 Music

Music	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Sing and play instruments with appropriate techniques while maintaining a steady beat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sing, alone and with others, with correct pitch, rhythm, timbre, diction, posture and range.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play alone and with others on instruments (pitched and unpitched) with good rhythmic and ensemble skills.
Acquire beat and rhythmic competency skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate rhythmic independence by combining rhythm patterns in solo/ensemble situations/movement.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore simple meter groupings (aurally, visually in notation and through conducting patterns).
Identify basic musical notation and symbols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make music by reading notation and musical symbols.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notate simple melodic and rhythmic patterns, using standard musical notation
Observe, discuss, analyze and make critical judgments about artistic works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify theme and variation and verse/refrain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the sounds of more familiar instruments, as well as treble and bass voices
Show Increased Awareness of diverse peoples and cultures through visual and performing arts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study and perform music from various cultures with an emphasis on historical and cultural connections.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify specific musical characteristics unique to a country or cultural style of music
Contribute to communities by sharing expertise in dance, music, theatre/drama and visual arts and by participating in the activities of cultural institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model appropriate audience behavior at live concert performances.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in appropriate school programs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share and develop cultural experiences.

Grade 4 Visual Arts

VISUAL ARTS	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Knowledge and Skills of Arts Elements and Principles	
	Create and complete drawings that are representational and non-representational with an emphasis on the following elements of art: lines, textures, and shapes.
Performance, Response and Critique	
	Demonstrate understanding of the concept of critique as a positive tool and process.

Grade 4 Physical Education

Physical Education	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Knowledge of Wellness /Skill Content and Concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the physical, social, and emotional benefits of regular physical activity. (CPI 2.6.4.A.1)
Motor Skills/Fitness Concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how the body systems respond to vigorous exercise. (CPI 2.6.4.A.2) • Demonstrate weight transfer, balance, coordination, and agility while employing various movement skills. (CPI 2.5.4.A.3)
Life Skills (Responsibility, Perseverance, Cooperation, Communication)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply a learned skill to another movement setting. (CPI 2.5.4.A.10) • Describe and demonstrate the effective use of communication skills, including refusal, negotiation, and assertiveness. (2.2.4.A.3)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge the contributions of group members and choose appropriate ways to celebrate their accomplishments. (CPI 2.2.4.E.2)

Grade 4 Health Education

Health Education	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Health Promotion Concepts and Skills	
	<p>Distinguish among violence, harassment, gang violence, discrimination, and bullying and demonstrate strategies to prevent and resolve these types of conflicts.</p> <p>Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication when responding to disagreements or conflicts with others.</p> <p>Use the decision-making process when addressing health-related issues.</p>
	<p>Explain why core ethical values (such as respect, empathy, civic mindedness, and good citizenship) are important in the local and world community.</p>

Grade 4 Technology

Technology	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Technology Operations, Concepts, Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interview a classmate, and using PowerPoint, create a presentation about that person.
Digital Citizenship and Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access the Branchburg school computer network using the student's personal computer id and password

Grade 4 Library

Library	Benchmarks for Trimester 1
Research and Information Literacy	
	Locate, select, check out and return each cycle item(s) from the library.
	Use the library's automated catalog to search and locate materials.
	Learn to use basic reference materials (online and print) to locate information
	Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.