

SAINT JOSEPH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM MAP ELA - 4TH GRADE

Month & Overarching Question	Content	CONTENT		CATHOLIC IDENTITY Essential Questions	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS					
		Essential Questions	Books & Texts		Reading Literature	Reading Informational Text	Reading Foundational Skills	Writing	Speaking & Listening	Language
SEPTEMBER										
Word Study/Fundations	<p>Content:</p> <p>Using correct capitalization and punctuation</p> <p>Spelling units</p> <p>Greek and Latin Roots</p> <p>Vocabulary across the curriculum</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>2.a. Use correct capitalization when writing</p> <p>2.d. Spell grade-appropriate words correctly</p> <p>3.a. Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely</p> <p>3.b. Choose correct punctuation</p> <p>4.a. Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of a word.</p> <p>4.b. Determine or clarify meaning of words using common Greek and Latin affixes and roots</p> <p>6. Acquire and use grade-appropriate and general academic words and phrases</p> <p>MA.1.h. Write legibly by hand either in print or cursive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does capitalization and punctuation help the reader understand my ideas? How does editing for spelling improve my writing? How will knowing the meaning of Latin/Greek roots help me to understand words I don't know? 	<p>Words Their Way (Spelling)</p> <p>Wordly Wise (Vocabulary)</p>	<p>Why do I capitalize God and pronouns that refer to Him?</p> <p>Who/what are the important people, settings, and themes of Bible stories I've read?</p> <p>How can I reflect on my faith through writing?</p>	1, 2, 3, 4	1-7	3, 4	3, 5, 9, 10	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	2a, 2d, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 6, 1h
Literacy/Reading	<p>Content:</p> <p>Comprehension Strategy: Metacognition & Monitoring Comprehension</p> <p>Responding to Literature (Reader Response Journals, Poetry Journals, Discussion)</p> <p>Story Elements & Mapping (Characters, Setting, Plot, Problem, Solution, and Theme)</p> <p>Using context clues for story vocabulary</p> <p>Genre Focus: Realistic Fiction</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>1. Explain explicit meaning from the text</p> <p>2. Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, summarize the text</p> <p>3. Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story, drawing on specific details in the text</p> <p>4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What strategies can I use when I don't understand what I am reading? How does choral reading help me to read fluently? What must I do to prepare for literature discussion groups? How can I write about what I am reading? How will that help me to be a better reader? How does thinking about what I am reading help me to comprehend? 	<p>Mentor Texts</p> <p><i>Skimpy Bones</i> by Barbara Parks</p>							
Writing	<p>Content:</p> <p>6+Trait Focus: Ideas</p> <p>Using and elaborating on details</p> <p>Setting up Writer's Workshop and Writing Notebook</p> <p>Genre Focus: Personal Narrative</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>3. Write personal narratives</p> <p>5. Plan, revise, and edit writing</p> <p>9. Write about reading</p> <p>10. Write routinely</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will writing stories about my life help me to become a better writer? Where can I get ideas to make a list of things to write about? How does a writer's notebook help me to organize my writing life? How does writing in my reading journal help me think about my reading? 								

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NOVEMBER										
<i>Word Study/Fundations</i>	<p>Content:</p> <p>Compound sentences & comma usage Spelling units Greek and Latin Roots Vocabulary across the curriculum</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>1.f. Produce complete sentences 2.c. Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction in a sentence 2.d. Spell grade-appropriate words correctly 3.a. Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely 4.a. Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of a word 4.b. Determine or clarify meaning of words using common Greek and Latin affixes and roots 6. Acquire and use grade-appropriate and general academic words and phrases MA.1.h. Write legibly by hand either in print or cursive at student</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I remember to use frequently confused words correctly? How will I recognize and use complete sentences and not run-on sentences and sentence fragments? How can I recognize and use correct punctuation? 	<p>Words Their Way (Spelling) Wordly Wise (Vocabulary)</p>	How can I express gratitude through prayer, letter, and narrative writing?	1, 3, 4	1, 3, 4, 5, 7	3, 4	3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	2c, 2d, 3a, 4a, 4b, 6, 1h
<i>Literacy/Reading</i>	<p>Content:</p> <p>Comprehension Strategy: Visualizing & Questioning Literature Circles Mystery Vocabulary & Story Mapping Genre Focus: Continue Mysteries</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>1. Explain explicit meaning from the text 3. Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story, drawing on specific details in the text 4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I use the strategy of visualizing help me to understand what I am reading? How does asking questions before, during, and after reading deepen my understanding? Where do I see elements of a mystery in my reading? 	<p>Short-story mysteries Mysteries from one or more of the following authors: Avi, Sharon Creech, Gregory Maguire, Carole Marsh <i>Time for Kids</i> and other student periodicals</p>							
<i>Writing</i>	<p>Content:</p> <p>6+Trait Focus: Voice Letters to veterans Thanksgiving writing Personal narratives Writing about reading Genre Focus: Personal Narratives</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>3. Write personal narratives 4. Produce writing 5. Plan, revise, and edit writing 9. Write about reading 10. Write routinely</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I recognize voice by looking at examples? How can I add emotion to my writing to make it more personal and interesting? How can I reflect about my reading by writing about it? How can I make a friendly letter thoughtful and organized? 								

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DECEMBER										
<i>Word Study/Fundations</i>	<p>Content:</p> Punctuating dialogue & comma usage Consult dictionaries, thesauruses, and glossaries to build vocabulary Spelling units Greek and Latin Roots Vocabulary across the curriculum <p>Skills:</p> 2.b. Use commas and quotation marks to mark direct speech and quotations 2.d. Spell grade-appropriate words correctly 3.a. Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely 4.a. Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of a word 4.b. Determine or clarify meaning of words using common Greek and Latin affixes and roots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I use a dictionary and a thesaurus to build my vocabulary? How can I correctly punctuate text evidence to support my thinking? How can I correctly punctuate dialogue to make my writing clearer and more interesting? 	Words Their Way (Spelling) Wordly Wise (Vocabulary)	How can I share Advent and Christmas traditions and the spirit of the season with others through prayer and narrative writing?	1-4, 6	1, 3, 4, 5	3, 4	3-6,9,10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	1h, 2b, 2d, 4a, 4b, 4c, 6
<i>Literacy/Reading</i>	<p>Content:</p> Comprehension Strategy: Making Inferences Literature Circles Determining & comparing point of view Genre Focus: Realistic Fiction (holiday themes) <p>Skills:</p> 1. Explain explicit meaning from the text; draw inferences using details from the text 2. Determine the theme of a story 3. Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story, drawing on specific details in the text 4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text 6. Compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are narrated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I use text evidence and my schema to make strong inferences? How can I identify the author's point of view in a story? How does changing the point of view change a story? What are common themes in realistic fiction? 	Select text(s) from the following list: <i>Fig Pudding, Last Holiday Concert, Family under the Bridge Time for Kids</i> and other student periodicals							
<i>Writing</i>	<p>Content:</p> 6+ Trait Focus: Voice Point-of-view writing Genre Focus: Personal Narratives (holiday) <p>Skills:</p> 3. Write personal narratives 4. Produce clear and coherent writing 5. Plan, revise, and edit writing 9. Write about reading 10. Write routinely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I write a story from a different point of view? How can I use strong voice to improve my holiday writing? 								

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JANUARY										
<i>Word Study/Fundations</i>	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progressive Verbs Modal Auxiliaries Spelling units Greek and Latin Roots Vocabulary across the curriculum <p>Skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.b. Form and use the progressive tense. 1.c. Use modal auxiliaries. 2.d. Spell grade-appropriate words correctly 3.a. Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely 4.a. Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of a word 4.b. Determine or clarify meaning of words using common Greek and Latin affixes and roots 6. Acquire and use grade-appropriate and general academic words and phrases MA.1.h. Write legibly by hand either in print or cursive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I use different verb tenses to show time or condition? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Words Their Way (Spelling) Wordly Wise (Vocabulary) 	How can I use text features like maps and timelines to better understand the events of the Nativity and Epiphany?	1-5, 7, 8	1-5, 7-8	3, 4	1, 2, 4-10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	1h, 1b, 1c, 3a, 4a, 4b, 6
<i>Literacy/Reading</i>	<p>Content:</p> <p>Comprehension Strategy Focus: Making Inferences (non-fiction)</p> <p>Paired fiction & non-fiction passages</p> <p>Non-fiction text structure & features</p> <p>Genre Focus: Informational</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain explicit meaning from the text 2. Determine main idea, use support and key ideas 3. Explain key events, procedures, ideas, concepts, what happened and why in text across the curriculum 4. Determine the meaning of academic words or phrases in a 4th grade text 5. Describe chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution of events, ideas, concepts or information 7. Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively and explain how the information contributes to understanding the text 8. Explain how author uses reasons, and evidence to support key points in a text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is reading informational text different than reading fiction? How can noticing text structure and features help me better understand what I'm reading? How can I use text evidence and my schema to make inferences about a text? 	<p>Select text(s) from the following list: <i>Kids Discover, National Geographic, Eyewitness Time for Kids</i> and other student periodicals</p> <p>State fact books</p>							
<i>Writing</i>	<p>Content:</p> <p>6+ Trait Focus: Ideas & Presentation</p> <p>Using text features in non-fiction writing</p> <p>Conducting research with immigration narrative</p> <p>Genre Focus: Informational</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Write informative/explanatory text 4. Produce clear and coherent writing 5. Plan, revise, and edit writing 6. Use technology to publish writing 7. Conduct research 8. Gather information from print and digital sources, take notes 9. Write about reading 10. Write routinely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is the purpose of informational writing different than narrative? How can I use text features to help my reader understand my topic? How can I use research / an interview to prepare for informational writing? 								

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FEBRUARY										
Word Study/Fundations	<p>Content:</p> <p>Subject-Verb Agreement</p> <p>Pronouns</p> <p>Relative Pronouns</p> <p>Vocabulary across the curriculum</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>1.a. Use relative pronouns (who, whom, whose, which, that) correctly</p> <p>2.d. Spell grade-appropriate words correctly</p> <p>3.a. Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely</p> <p>4.a. Use context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase</p> <p>4.b. Determine or clarify meaning of words using common Greek and Latin affixes and roots</p> <p>6. Acquire and use grade-appropriate and general academic words and phrases</p> <p>MA.1.h. Write legibly by hand either in print or cursive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I use pronouns to make my sentences sound smooth and clear? 	<p>Words Their Way (Spelling)</p> <p>Wordly Wise (Vocabulary)</p>	How can I express the message of the Great Commandment and God's unconditional love in my prayer and letter writing?	1-5, 7-9	1-5, 7-9	3, 4	2, 3, 3A, 4, 5, 9, 10	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	1h, 1a, 2d, 3a, 4a, 4b, 6
Literacy/Reading	<p>Content:</p> <p>Comprehension Strategy Focus:</p> <p>Determining Importance</p> <p>Main idea & detail</p> <p>Summarizing</p> <p>Genre Focus: Non-fiction (Informational and (Auto)Biography)</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>1. Explain explicit meaning from the text</p> <p>2. Determine main idea, use support and key ideas</p> <p>3. Explain key events, procedures, ideas, concepts, what happened and why in text across the curriculum</p> <p>4. Determine the meaning of academic words or phrases in a 4th grade text</p> <p>5. Describe chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution of events, ideas, concepts or information</p> <p>7. Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively and explain how the information contributes to understanding the text</p> <p>8. Explain how author uses reasons, and evidence to support key points in a text</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I determine the main ideas of an informational text and how can I explain by finding key ideas in the text? How can I use main ideas to summarize? 	<p>Student selected non-fiction texts. Select text(s) from the following list: <i>Kids Discover</i>, <i>National Geographic</i>, <i>EyeWitness</i>, Jean Fritz (historical fiction) <i>Time for Kids</i> and other student periodicals</p>							
Writing	<p>Content:</p> <p>6+ Trait Focus: Sentence Fluency</p> <p>Valentine letters</p> <p>Lenten journaling</p> <p>Note-taking across subject areas</p> <p>Planet essay</p> <p>Genre Focus: Informational</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>2. Write informative/explanatory text</p> <p>4. Produce clear and coherent writing</p> <p>5. Plan, revise, and edit writing</p> <p>9. Write about reading</p> <p>10. Write routinely</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I vary my sentences and use transitions to make my writing easier to follow? How should I research a topic before writing about it? How should I choose which details to include in my writing? 								

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MARCH										
Word Study/Fundations	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepositional Phrases Spelling units Greek and Latin Roots Vocabulary across the curriculum <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.e. Form and use prepositional phrases 2.d. Spell grade-appropriate words correctly 3.a. Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely 4.a. Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of a word 4.b. Determine or clarify meaning of words using common Greek and Latin affixes and roots 6. Acquire and use grade-appropriate and general academic words and phrases MA.1.h. Write legibly by hand either in print or cursive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can using prepositional phrases make my writing more smooth and interesting? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Words Their Way (Spelling) Wordly Wise (Vocabulary) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I reflect on my Lenten journey in my writing? How can I use prayer to grow closer to Jesus during Lent? 	1-9	1-9	3, 4	1, 2, 3A, 4, 5, 9, 10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	1h, 1e, 2d, 3a, 4a, 4b, 6
Literacy/Reading	<p>Content:</p> <p>Comprehension Strategy/Skill Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue Summarizing Primary and secondary sources <p>Genre Focus: Non-fiction (Informational & Auto(Biography))</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain explicit meaning from the text 2. Determine main idea, use support and key ideas 3. Explain key events, procedures, ideas, concepts, what happened and why in text across the curriculum 4. Determine the meaning of academic words or phrases in a 4th grade text 5. Describe chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution of events, ideas, concepts or information 6. Compare/contrast a firsthand and secondhand account of the same event or topic 7. Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively and explain how the information contributes to understanding the text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I integrate information from primary and secondary sources on the same topic? How will I determine importance and summarize informational texts in other subjects, like social studies and science? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student selected non-fiction texts Select text(s) from the following list: <i>Kids Discover</i>, <i>National Geographic</i>, <i>EyeWitness</i>, Jean Fritz (historical fiction) <i>Time for Kids</i> and other student periodicals 							
Writing	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6+ Trait Focus: Organization (opinion writing) Writing to persuade Biographical essays Lenten/Easter writing Note-taking (Determining importance) Writing across the curriculum Genre Focus: Opinion <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts 2. Write informative/explanatory text 4. Produce clear and coherent writing 5. Plan, revise, and edit writing 9. Write about reading 10. Write routinely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I organize my essay to make it persuasive? How can I use evidence to back up my reasons? How can I choose which information to include in a biography? 								

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MAY													
<i>Word Study/Fundations</i>	<p>Content:</p> <p>Adjective Order Synonyms & Antonyms Spelling units Greek and Latin Roots Vocabulary across the curriculum</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>1.d. Order adjectives within sentences according to conventional pattern 3.a. Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely 4.a. Use context as a clue to the meaning of a word. 4.b. Determine or clarify meaning of words using common Greek and Latin affixes and roots 5.c. Demonstrate word understanding by relating them to their antonyms and synonyms. 6. Acquire and use grade-appropriate and general academic words and phrases MA.1.h. Write legibly by hand either in print or cursive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I use synonyms and antonyms to relate vocabulary words? How can I correctly use adjectives to add detail to my writing? 	<p>Words Their Way (Spelling)</p> <p>Wordly Wise (Vocabulary)</p>	<p>How do Bible stories celebrate mothers and fathers?</p> <p>How can I reflect on the 4th Commandment in my prayer, journal, and letter writing?</p>	1, 3, 4, 6, 10	1-10	3, 4	2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	1d, 1h, 3a, 4a, 4b, 5c, 6			
<i>Literacy/Reading</i>	<p>Content:</p> <p>Comprehension Strategy Focus: Synthesizing Figurative language in novels Theme Literature circles Author Study: Kate DiCamillo</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>1. Explain explicit meaning from the text 3. Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story, drawing on specific details in the text 4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text 6. Compare and contrast the point of view from which stories are narrated, difference between first and third-person narrations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does my thinking change as I read? How can authors use figurative language to make their writing more interesting? How can I compare and contrast similar themes and topics in what I read? 	<p>Select Katie DiCamillo books from the following list: <i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i> <i>Because of Winn Dixie</i> <i>The Tale of Despereaux</i></p>										
<i>Writing</i>	<p>Content:</p> <p>6+ Trait Focus: Presentation Writing process Conducting research on a self-selected topic Good Night themed research books Mother's Day writing Genre Focus: Informational</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>2. Write informative/explanatory text 4. Produce clear and coherent writing 5. Plan, revise, and edit writing 8. Gather information from print and digital sources, take notes 9. Write about reading 10. Write routinely</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can I apply my research skills to a topic of my choosing? How do I organize my research to prepare for writing? How does going through all the steps of the writing process improve my writing? 											

