

T FOURTH GRADE

BY THE **END** OF FOURTH GRADE YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

LISTENING

- Listen to and understand information presented by others
- Form opinions based on evidence
- Listen for specific purposes

SPEAKING

- Use words appropriately in conversation
- Use language effectively for a variety of purposes
- Understand some figurative language
- Participate in group discussions
- Give accurate directions to others
- Summarize and restate ideas
- Organize information for clarity
- Use subject area information and vocabulary (e.g., social studies) for learning
- Make effective oral presentations

READING

- Read for specific purposes
- Read grade-level books fluently
- Use previously learned information to understand new material
- Follow written directions
- Take brief notes
- Link information learned to different subjects
- Learn meanings of new words through knowledge of word origins, synonyms, and multiple meanings
- Use reference materials (e.g., dictionary)
- Explain the author's purpose and writing style
- Read and understand a variety of types of literature, including fiction, nonfiction, historical fiction, and poetry
- Compare and contrast in content areas
- Make inferences from texts
- Paraphrase content, including the main idea and details

WRITING

- Write effective stories and explanations, including several paragraphs about the same topic
- Develop a plan for writing, including a beginning, middle, and end
- Organize writing to convey a central idea

- Edit final copies for grammar, punctuation, and spelling

T SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS

IN LATER ELEMENTARY GRADES (3-5)

- Continue to encourage reading; find reading material that is of interest to your child
- Encourage your child to form opinions about what he or she hears or reads and relate what is read to experiences
- Help your child make connections between what is read and heard at school, at home, and in other daily activities
- Talk aloud as you help your child understand and solve problems encountered in reading material
- Help your child recognize spelling patterns, such as beginnings and endings of words (e.g., pre- or -ment)

- Encourage your child to write letters, keep a diary, or write stories