

## Fourth Grade Curriculum – Brief Summary

The ICMA curriculum will be rigorous and relevant to students' life experiences, which will stimulate critical and creative thinking in our students. These will help them to build their Islamic identity and become contributing members of our society.

Each lesson will begin by uncovering an **Islamic Connection**. The Islamic Connection will bring in either a Quranic perspective, a Hadith, or a well-known Islamic concept practiced by Muslims. (See below for an example of an Islamic Connection).

### Language Arts (LA)

- Fourth grade students will follow the scope and sequence laid out by **Benchmark Advance** for LA.

#### *LA Reading*

- Fourth graders will be able to identify the key details and main ideas in a text. They will analyze an author's evidence, identify key events, and summarize the text. Students will also draw inferences from story details. They will compare and contrast texts on the same topic, fables, and fairy tales, characters from different stories, and narrative points of view. Students will then analyze differences between prose and poetry. After a close reading of a historical event, students will evaluate evidence and argument and use a firsthand account to explain historical details. Fourth graders will analyze sensory language to draw inferences and draw conclusions from firsthand and secondhand accounts.

#### *LA Writing*

- Students will draft informative essays using text evidence. Fourth grade students will plan, write opinion essays, and create journal entries. They will formulate and evaluate guided research questions. Then they will research a topic using various sources such the Internet, textbooks, newspapers, and magazines. Students will take notes on index cards and incorporate supporting quotations to write a compare/contrast essay using linking words. They will learn to paraphrase text and use direct quotes, credit and list their sources to avoid plagiarism. They will plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish writing, using their opinion and teacher guidance.

### Mathematics

- Fourth grade students will follow the Scope and Sequence laid out by **Eureka Math**.
- Initially students will learn place value, rounding, and algorithms for addition and subtraction. They will learn unit conversions and problem solving with Metric Measurement. They will learn multi-digit multiplication and division. They will also learn geometric concepts of lines, angles, angle measurement, two-dimensional figures, and symmetry. Students will learn fraction equivalence using multiplication and division. Also, students will learn fraction comparison, addition, subtraction, and decimal fractions.

### Science

- Fourth graders will engage, explore, explain, elaborate, and evaluate in their study of the miracle of the world around them created by Allahﷻ. In physical sciences, students learn about matter: its forms, the changes it undergoes, its nature and examples of the forms of matter. This topic also covers the concept of energy, motion, electricity, magnetism, and simple machines. In earth science students learn about the solar system, stars and constellations, rocks, the rock cycle, and the layers of the earth. In life science, students learn about the interdependence of life, life cycles, the cycling of matter in ecosystems, and the characteristics of several types of ecosystems. Students will work on hands-on projects that relate to what they learned in class and to enhance their learning.

### Social Studies

- Fourth grade students will learn about the history of Maryland from the early tribes and colonization to modern day Maryland. Students learn about the geography of the United States, landforms, weather, climates, etc. Students will identify different maps and globe symbols, use and understand location related terms, interpret and use directional terms, locate places and positions on maps, and use and understand terms to describe relative size and distance. Students will also work on projects as a form of assessment.

### Physical Education

- Physical Education takes place twice a week. Fourth grade students will participate in physical activities and sports that provide the opportunity to develop skills at a higher level. Fourth graders will have the skills to play sophisticated games with an understanding of the rules, nuances of the games and follow the proper rules of sportsmanship.

### Quran

- Fourth grade students will memorize short surahs from the Quran that are essential for our daily prayers. Students will review surahs they learned in third grade. They will learn to

read the Quran properly and engage in discussions of selected verses that expand on different themes. They will learn the rules of Tajweed and review the rules learned in third grade. They will also review some names of Allah ﷻ learned in third grade and then learn additional names of Allah ﷻ.

### Arabic

- ICMA is using the textbook *Our Language is Our Pride*.
- Fourth grade students will learn the basic vocabulary of the Arabic language, with a list of new vocabulary words with pictures or meanings through related activities to ensure using them in the right way. The new vocabulary words learned in this grade will allow students to communicate and to express themselves easily and with understanding in real-life situations. They will also learn basic grammar through conversation, sentence structure and grammar rules, through different activities.

### Islamic Studies

- ICMA will be teaching lessons mostly from the textbook *I Love Islam*.
- Fourth graders will learn more detailed lessons about Islamic principles and character-building themes taken from the Quran, hadeeth, and the Seerah. At this grade level, students will learn the Articles of Faith including the concept of free will and choosing from right and wrong. In deeper discussions on prayer, students will understand the true meaning of why we pray, the importance of staying focused while praying, and our connection to Allah ﷻ during prayer. They will expand on the five pillars and learn values such as kindness, respect, appreciation, and the love of Allah ﷻ through actions. They will learn about Prophets Ibrahim, Hud, Saleh, Dawoud, and Isa with the story of Maryam. Students will study the history of Prophet Mohammad's (ﷺ) family, his revelation, character, the spread of Islam, hardships, Hijra, and some of his companions.

### Technology

- Fourth grade students will familiarize themselves with computer terms and build on the topics introduced in third grade. Students will learn to open and use basic computer application such word excel. They will learn to code and to solve problems with block coding and other visual coding tools. By fourth grade, students should learn keyboarding skills to produce grade-appropriate projects, use a variety of media and technology resources for directed and independent learning activities.

### Arts

- Students will study a variety of artwork through the use of images and stories about renowned artists and their art. They will use various art mediums such as: pastels, watercolor, mosaic, clay, wire, print making, ceramics and chalk to create their own masterpieces. Students will create an art project for class presentations.

### **Example of an Islamic Connection:**

- Students will learn about the environment and role of trees in science class; therefore, the following Islamic Connection would be very appropriate to introduce before starting the lesson.
  - A well-known hadith regarding planting trees states that "Whoever plants a tree and then a bird, or a person, or an animal eats from it, is considered to have given charity," narrated by Anas bin Malik, highlighting the positive reward for planting trees as an act of charity in Islam.