

4th Grade (9-10 Years)

Expressive Language / What the Child Says

- Uses language effectively for a variety of purposes/situations
- Participates in group discussions
- Gives accurate directions to others
- Summarizes and restates ideas
- Organizes information for clarity
- Uses subject area information and vocabulary for learning
- Give effective oral presentations
- Can explain relationships between meanings of multiple-meaning words (analogies) (9-12 years)
- Uses more abstract and specific vocabulary and grammar, complex sentences in writing than in conversation (9-12 years)
- Uses a variety of words, not just the same ones over and over
- Gives synonyms and categories in word definitions
- 4 out of 5 words have a prefix or suffix
- Uses more figurative language in conversation

Examples:

"I am in hot water."

"That math problem is a bear."

Total # of words in 100 utterance speech sample: 496-687 (9 years)

Total # of different words in 100 utterance speech sample: 183-235 (9 years)

Receptive Language / What the Child Understands

- Listens to and understands information presented by peers
- Form opinions based on evidence
- Listens for specific purposes
- Demonstrates understanding of grade level content material
- Understands jokes and riddles based on sound similarities

Examples:

"What kind of shows do cows like to watch?"

"Moo-sicals"

- Understands jokes and riddles based on word ambiguity (9-12 years)

Examples:

"Last night I shot an elephant in my pajamas. How he got in my pajamas, I'll never know." - Groucho Marx

- Understands most common idioms

Examples:

"You're a couch potato."

"Break a leg."

"I'm tied up."

Narrative Development

- Complex Episodes / Multiple Episodes
- Stories include complex, embedded and interactive episodes

Reading

- Reads for specific purposes
- Reads grade level books fluently
- Use previously learned information to understand new information
- 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
- Explain the author's purpose and style
- Read and understand a variety of literature
- Compare and contrast in content areas
- Make inferences from texts
- Paraphrase content, include main idea and details
- Read 120-150 words per minute (wpm)

Writing

- Write effective narratives and explanations, and several paragraphs on the same topic
- Develop a plan for writing, beginning, middle, end
- Organize writing to convey a central idea
- Edit final copies for grammar, punctuation, spelling

Social

- Opens and closes conversations appropriately
- Stays on topic, takes turns, and uses eye contact during conversation
- Clarifies and explains words and ideas when conversation breaks down, gives background information or definitions of words
- Uses language to inform, persuade, and entertain
- Ability to take others' perspectives increases which also increases the ability to persuade (7-9 years)
- Uses language to establish and maintain social status (7-9 years)