

## MATERIALS TO SUPPORT LEARNING IN GRADE 4

The goal of Emirates National Schools is to nurture and develop future leaders of the UAE. This requires that students learn differently, use different and varied materials and apply these materials in differing contexts. The development of independent thinkers who have a global view requires that students learn to see knowledge as an interrelated whole. Global insight develops with inquiry and creative production. Students must understand the similarities and differences between different approaches across cultures. Students must apply disciplinary knowledge to different contexts. Solving world problems and challenges necessitates the use of authentic and current materials.

Textbooks, even newly published textbooks, have information that is a minimum of four to five years old. With a rapidly changing world and technologies, it is imperative that students have access to appropriate authentic materials and technologies to assure that the knowledge and information gathered is as accurate and current as possible. It is access to these current and deep sources that allow students to develop a true perspective of international mindedness. Internationally minded people recognize their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet and they can help to create a better and more peaceful world (adapted from the International Baccalaureate Guide, PYP A Basis for Practice, 2009).

To this end, teaching practices and materials used must adapt to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This means that students require wider and deeper access to a variety of materials from a variety of resources to include print and electronic materials. Electronic resources provide frequently updated, current and historic sources as well as a much wider range of access to a variety of materials. This means that students have the equivalent of hundreds of thousands of books, research, journals, simulations, games and activities related to their learning. These resources give children opportunities to access and study information in a variety of ways, at any time and any place. This is what learning needs to be for our children to truly become local leaders and global citizens.

In Grade 4, students are using many materials that support International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP) in the classroom. This includes reading libraries in the classroom [that can also be loaned to students to take home], centers that focus on home, community, content areas such as mathematics, science and social studies, or on spatial and temporal development, and activities that give students opportunities to develop fine motor and gross motor skills.

This is a detailed explanation of the primary resource materials used to instruct students.

1. **English:** The primary source for teaching English Language Arts is the Reading Street program. This program provides resources for all aspects of English Language Arts that support the development of reading, writing and English spoken language skills. This is accomplished through books and libraries in classrooms. The advantage of the Reading Street program is that it provides teachers with rich materials and resources to provide standards-aligned coverage of English Language Arts. The materials are connected to very specific academic outcomes as related to the English Language Arts Common Core Standards to assure reading, speaking and written English fluency. Students have access to Reading Street from School and Home. The teacher can structure lessons and the child can complete them from home.
2. **Mathematics:** Electronic EveryDay Math online for home and school, Texts issued to Students: EveryDay Math Journals 1 & 2, Student Reference Book & Geometry Template
3. **Science:** Interactive Science is the primary source of science instruction. This program is supported via rich teaching materials that allow teachers to address science content within the PYP framework. The program is connected to very specific academic outcomes as related to the Science standards to assure understanding in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
4. **Social Studies:** Print text issued to students: For a Better World
5. **Ministry Courses:** [Islamic, UAE Social Studies and Arabic]: Ministry textbooks are issued to students

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The materials that follow are available to students in school and at home to support instruction. The electronic materials can be accessed over the Summer and during the school year at the PowerSchool e-Learning Portal. The details of logging in are shown below.

- Web Address: <http://ensps.sch.ae/public/>
- Login Information: User Name: **Student ID Number** (contact the school if you need this number) and Password: **ens**
- On the left is a menu. Click the **e-Learning Portal** link for access to the electronic materials.

Grades	Subject	Print Materials	Electronic Materials	Additional Materials
KG to 5	English	Reading Street Readers	Online Reading Street: Home and School access to presentation materials, textbooks, animations, videos, books, writing exemplars, TumbleBooks and Tumble Clouds, Etisalat Library, Visual Thesaurus, Children's Library	In-class print libraries
KG to 5	Arabic	ISS Materials and Ministry Materials	iTunes texts available	In class Arabic literature libraries
KG to 5	Mathematics	EveryDay Math Student books: Journals, Home, Text	Online EveryDay Math: Home and School, games, animations, homework, and Math Visual Dictionary	Kinesthetic EveryDay Math Materials
KG to 5	Science	Interactive Science Readers	Interactive Science Online: In School presentation materials, textbooks, animations, videos, books, writing exemplars, and Science Visual Dictionary	Laboratory Materials: 70% hands-on inquiry-based laboratories and in-class Science book libraries
KG to 5	Social Studies	For a Better World Textbook	Britannica encyclopedia	
KG to 5	UAE Social Studies/Islamic	Ministry Materials	Texts with free app download from iTunes	
KG to 5	Technology	None	Microsoft Suite, Google Tools, PhotoStory [Microsoft Suite]	
KG to 5	All Subjects		Britannica, Annenberg Learner, PBS Resources, Neo K12, Discovery Education, Khan Academy, BrianPop Jr. and BrainPop ESL, and n school computers: KidSpiration and KidPix	