

DOLPHIN RESEARCH CENTER

Florida Grade 4 Teachers

Dear Florida Fourth Grade Teachers,

Thank you for considering bringing your students to the Dolphin Research Center. We have a variety of educational opportunities available to you and they are all listed on our website. However, just coming on site allows you to meet a variety of educational standards that are a part of your educational curriculum.

We have narrated sessions and theater presentations all day long. Attending these sessions will meet many of the Language Arts Florida Standards (LAFS) for speaking and listening including:

- **LAFS.5.SL.1.1** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 5 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. a. Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion. b. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles. c. Pose and respond to specific questions by making comments that contribute to the discussion and elaborate on the remarks of others. d. Review the key ideas expressed and draw conclusions in light of information and knowledge gained from the discussions.
- **LAFS.4.L.3.6** Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases as found in grade level appropriate texts, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., *wildlife, conservation, and endangered* when discussing animal preservation).

Additionally we have educational signs stationed throughout the grounds. These signs alone can meet many of the LAFS related to the reading of informational text. Such as:

- **LAFS.4.RI.1.2** Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.
- **LAFS.4.RI.1.3** Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
- **LAFS.4.RI.2.4** Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 4 topic or subject area*.
- **LAFS.4.RI.2.5** Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.
- **LAFS.4.RI.3.7** Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.



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- **LAFS.4.RI.3.8** Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.

In addition to meeting the LAFS our narrations and signs also provide information that is related to the following Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Science (NGSSS):

- **SC.4.L.16.2** Explain that although characteristics of plants and animals are inherited, some characteristics can be affected by the environment.
- **SC.4.L.16.3** Recognize that animal behaviors may be shaped by heredity and learning.
- **SC.4.L.17.2** Explain that animals, including humans, cannot make their own food and that when animals eat plants or other animals, the energy stored in the food source is passed to them.
- **SC.4.L.17.3** Trace the flow of energy from the Sun as it is transferred along the food chain through the producers to the consumers.
- **SC.4.L.17.4** Recognize ways plants and animals, including humans, can impact the environment.
- **SC.4.E.6.4** Describe the basic differences between physical weathering (breaking down of rock by wind, water, ice, temperature change, and plants) and erosion (movement of rock by gravity, wind, water, and ice).
- We thank you for your consideration and sincerely hope that you will take the time to bring your students to visit our dolphins in our wonderful naturalistic classroom!
- **SC.4.N.1.3** Explain that science does not always follow a rigidly defined method (“the scientific method”) but that science does involve the use of observations and empirical evidence.
- **SC.4.N.1.7** Recognize and explain that scientists base their explanations on evidence.
- **SC.4.N.1.8** Recognize that science involves creativity in designing experiments.
- **SC.4.E.6.3** Recognize that humans need resources found on Earth and that these are either renewable or nonrenewable.

You may opt to have students take what they have learned here and apply it to a research project (informational or persuasive) back at your school, allowing for the integration of additional writing standards. You may find a detailed list of these standards by visiting the grade appropriate standards letter for the state of Florida.

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Dolphin Research Center Education Team

