

Overview Chart

Science 4, Box 1

Title	Genre – Writing Form	GRL	DRA	Science Standards	Curriculum Focus Science	Comprehension	Language & Vocabulary	Writing	Extension
Brain Power	explanation, sidebar facts, glossary, index	Q	40	Life Science – functions of the brain; learned and inherited characteristics	human brain – how it works, main functions	providing supporting sentences	proofreading for spelling and punctuation	writing about a talent in a factual account	recalling likes/dislikes relating to senses
Bubbles and Balloons	explanation, procedural text, glossary, index	R	40	Physical Science – what is air? How do we use air?	properties of air, how air is used	writing a summary of the book	recalling words with double consonants	writing a letter to the editor about conserving air	thinking of and recording different ways balloons are used
Cast of Thousands	descriptive report, sidebar close-ups, glossary	R	40	Life Science – understand that organisms have life cycles; how organisms meet their needs for survival	insects – life cycles, how organisms survive	locating information to complete a quiz	composing similes about insects	composing “Did You Know?” statements	writing about a favorite insect
Into the Swamp!	dramatic report, diary and scrapbook format	P	34–38	Life Science – how changes to their environment influence plants and animals; day/night; ecosystems	wetland ecosystems, organisms	recalling information about wetlands	adding adjectives to form alliterations	writing about an imaginary trip in diary format	composing a checklist for a trip
It’s Electric	explanation, diagrams, bullet points, glossary	S	40	Physical Science – electricity as it relates to light, heat, sound, and magnetism; transfer of energy	electricity – creation, usage, and storage	finding fascinating facts about electricity	locating and using homophones	composing a conservation checklist	categorizing different kinds of electrical devices
Matter Matters!	explanation, procedural text, glossary	R	40	Physical Science – what is matter?; properties of matter; different states of matter	matter – properties, different states	locating and recording significant information	recognizing syllables in glossary entries	writing a quick quiz for others to answer	stating advantages and disadvantages of plastics
Our Super Star	explanation, myth, glossary, index	R	40	Physical Science – energy; renewable and non-renewable resources	the sun’s energy – usage and storage on Earth	summarizing main sections of text	recognizing and using multi-function words	summarizing a traditional story in own words	researching aspects of solar energy
Planet Water	descriptive report, maps, glossary	P	34–38	Earth and Space Science – Earth’s oceans; Earth’s water cycle	Earth’s oceans – using water, water cycles	explaining different uses of fresh water	adding adjectives and adverbs	writing a set of instructions	researching a body of water
Then and Now	comparative report, biography, glossary, index	S	40	Technology – science and technology in the past and present; analyze use of tools and inventions	science and technology in the past and present	comparing different branches of science	using suffixes that indicate professions	comparing life “then and now”	researching becoming a scientist
The Sea and Me	dramatic report, glossary, index	Q	40	Life Science – how organisms survive in different environments; conservation of wildlife	ocean organisms – adaptation, conservation	writing questions for stated answers	creating acronyms for personal items	composing an imaginary story about a night dive	researching the world’s coral reefs
Weather Wise	explanation, chart, procedural text, index	S	40	Earth and Space Science – kinds of weather; processes that create weather; clouds	weather – types, effects on people	recognizing main and supporting points	creating a mini weather glossary	comparing likes and dislikes to do with each season	keeping a record of the weather using graphs
What Cat Is That?	descriptive report, maps and keys, glossary	Q	40	Life Science – how animals meet their needs for survival; how environment influences their behavior	large and small cats – kinds, habitats, adaptation	matching information about cats	composing definitions for “cat” words	giving advice on cat care	designing a “super cat”

Overview Chart

Science 4, Box 2

Title	Genre – Writing Form	GRL	DRA	Science Standards	Curriculum Focus Science	Comprehension	Language & Vocabulary	Writing	Extension
Big Jobs Need Big Machines	descriptive report, labeled diagrams, glossary	S	40	Science and Technology – use of different technologies for specific purposes	machines – making work easier, big projects	locating facts about a range of machines	recognizing and explaining idioms	writing journal entries	locating and writing information about a major project
Dig That!	descriptive report, Q&A, glossary, index	Q	40	Life and Physical Science – archaeology and paleontology; inquiry skills used by scientists	archaeology and paleontology – skills, scientific tools	distinguishing between the roles of different scientists	creating new compound words	writing a dinosaur discovery newspaper article	suggesting items for a personal time capsule
Eureka!	explanation, Q&A, style, glossary	S	40	Science and Technology – how technology and tools assist people to work more efficiently	problem solving – how science can be useful	ranking inventions and giving reasons for ranking	rewriting past-tense text as present-tense text	writing a description of a new invention	writing about inventions in the home
Fabulous Fungi	explanation, procedural text, glossary, index	S	40	Life Science – investigate how fungi meet their needs for survival; their life cycles	fungi – properties, kinds, dangers, and uses	locating information about fungi	recognizing and recording unusual plurals	composing a quick quiz for others to answer	recording information about some kingdoms of living things
G-Forces Galore	descriptive report, fast facts, glossary, index	S	40	Physical Science – the position and motion of objects; investigate the motion of objects in relation to time	effects of g-forces – mass, weight, and motion	summarizing main sections of text	providing antonyms for words from the book	composing an imaginary space-travel story	finding out more about g-forces
Kitchen Science	explanation, procedural text, glossary	S	40	Physical Science – recognize scientific principles in use in everyday life	chemical reactions involving common kitchen items	providing questions for stated answers	using clues to complete a chemistry crossword	writing a recipe for a favorite snack	writing safety tips for various rooms
Lizard Layabouts	descriptive report, facts, glossary, index	Q	40	Life Science – investigate how organisms meet their needs for survival; their life cycles	lizards – habitats, survival, comparisons	finding four fascinating facts about lizards	completing a word search	writing in diary format – a day in the life of a lizard	researching animal defense strategies
Penguin Power	descriptive report, penguin facts, glossary	Q	40	Life Science – investigate how organisms meet their needs for survival in different environments	penguins – adaptation, habitats, survival	searching for answers to questions posed by the book	proofreading for spelling and punctuation	writing about the behavior of penguin parents	finding out more about Antarctica
Science at the Circus	dramatized explanation, Q&A, glossary	S	40	Physical Science – recognize scientific principles in use in everyday life	forces – as seen in circus acts; light and sound energy	finding circus acts which illustrate scientific forces	substituting adjective synonyms	composing persuasive text	describing a favorite circus act
Shark	descriptive report, interview, glossary, index	R	40	Life Science – the life cycles of organisms; how organisms meet their needs for survival	sharks – nature and types, life cycle, habitats	comparing aspects of humans and sharks	providing names for baby animals	writing safety tips in and around water	expressing an opinion about sharks
Skin Deep	descriptive report, quick facts, glossary, index	Q	40	Life Science – role of human skin; how organisms meet their needs for survival; adaptation	skin – main purpose, caring for skin, skin damage	recalling specific information about skin	using verb synonyms in sentences	writing a poem about an animal and its skin	researching functions of parts of the body
Weird Mammals	descriptive report, “Did You Know?” glossary, index	S	40	Life Science – investigate how organisms meet their needs for survival	mammals with unusual characteristics	writing animal “Did You Know?” statements	completing a weird animal alphabet	designing and labeling a new weird mammal	using information from maps to classify animals

Overview Chart

Social Studies 4, Box 1



Title	Genre – Writing Form	GRL	DRA	Social Studies Standards	Curriculum Focus Social Studies	Comprehension	Language & Vocabulary	Writing	Extension
31 Chestnut Street	dramatic recount, diary format	P	34–38	Time, Continuity, and Change – events/concepts that change the course of history	family dynamics – changes over time, immigration, transportation	recalling significant events	proofreading for spelling and punctuation	writing a postcard to a friend in Ireland	conducting an interview on family history
A Germ of an Idea	historical explanation, mini bios, glossary	S	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – events/concepts that change the course of history	medical advances – key people in the history of medicine	providing questions for stated answers	completing an alphabet of medical terms	explaining choice of most important discoveries	summarizing main contributions of featured people
Coordinate Your Coordinates	explanation, Q&A, glossary	S	40	Space and Place – recognize a variety of maps; understand scales and symbols used in maps	mapping – types, terminology, development	providing questions for stated answers	using adjectives to enhance text	reporting on a favorite place to visit	drawing a map of neighborhood, with key
Good Citizens	explanation, “Have Your Say” section, glossary	R	40	Power, Authority, and Governance – explain the concept of equal rights	citizenship – responsibilities, rights, advantages	summarizing thoughts on a range of issues	matching words and their definitions	writing about the qualities of a good school citizen	forming and justifying opinions about youth issues
In Print	historical recount, “Did You Know?”	R	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – impact of technology on history	printing – development, effects of change	recalling advances in print technology	composing alternative page headings	writing a newspaper article	researching the jobs at a newspaper
New Nation, New Home	dramatic biographies, sidebar facts, glossary	R	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – role of immigrants in development of a nation	immigration – people who have made a difference	summarizing information about people	finding and using homophones	writing interview questions	finding out more about an immigrant
On Opposite Sides	historical recount, biography, glossary	S	40	Culture – changing concept of freedom in history; contribution of national and cultural heroes	Civil War – comparing Grant and Lee	comparing the lives of two generals	recording character traits and their opposites	imagining the thoughts of two generals	writing a time line for the Civil War
The Big Apple	descriptive report, facts, glossary	R	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – history of a city/state; communities; differences among cultures	major city dynamics – people and change	recalling significant information	completing a word search	composing a quick quiz for others to answer	matching cities with nicknames
The Class Act	contemporary fiction, glossary	R	40	Power, Authority, and Governance – concepts of student government, nomination, and election	elections – student government, rights, responsibilities	exploring importance of election issues	recognizing the use of the apostrophe	writing policy statements	writing a task checklist for an election committee member
The Four Corners	descriptive report, sidebar facts, glossary	S	40	Space and Place – places of geographical significance; how natural resources determine jobs	history – southwest, Native American perspective	locating answers for true and false questions	finding and using adverbs	writing about a favorite place, using diary format	composing an advertisement for a special attraction
The Lone Star State	descriptive report, index, biography, glossary	R	40	Space and Place – places of geographical significance; how natural resources determine jobs	Texas – diversity, culture, and inclusion	locating and recording fascinating facts	locating compound words and dividing them	writing a recipe for a favorite dish	recording special personal characteristics
When Times Were Tough	dramatic recount, sidebar, glossary	R	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – economic factors in development of a nation	Great Depression – adversity, working together	locating and recording fascinating facts	rewriting text in different tenses	writing a depression-era letter to a friend	explaining how to help out in hard times

Overview Chart

Social Studies 4, Box 2



Title	Genre – Writing Form		DRA	Social Studies Standards	Curriculum Focus Social Studies	Comprehension	Language & Vocabulary	Writing	Extension
Breaking the Ice	descriptive report, Q&A, glossary	R	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – impact of geography on history; events/concepts that change the course of history	polar regions – exploration, fragile environments	comparing the Arctic and Antarctic	recording weather vocabulary using the letters in “hailstone”	writing a postcard from one of the poles	researching facts about global warming
Glorious Gold	historical dramatization	Q	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – events/concepts that change the course of history	history of gold – uses, quest for gold	searching for specific information	adding adjectives and adverbs	summarizing two excerpts from the book	understanding the meaning of idiomatic sayings
Neighbors	descriptive report, fast facts, glossary	R	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – impact of geography on history; compare rural/urban lifestyles	Canada – people, geography, similarities to U.S.A.	summarizing information about Canada	composing a mnemonic for the Great Lakes	recording information about a sport	designing a school flag
The Face of Friendship	historical dramatization, facts	Q	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – events/concepts that change the course of history; national and cultural heroes	Native American history – loyalty, friendship	rewriting events in the correct sequence	recognizing and composing similes	writing a journal for a typical day	researching facts about a famous woman
The First Flute	historical recount, traditional tale	R	40	Culture – how cultural characteristics include customs, folk art, nationalism, and traditions	Native American history – Plains Indians, lifestyle	searching for specific information	understanding and using multi-function words	conducting an interview with Chief Sitting Bull	exploring customs and traditions
The Passing of the Buffalo	historical explanation, facts	R	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – impact of cultures/locations on history; how people may view the same event in different ways	government – Buffalo War, controversy	locating information to complete a quiz	recognizing a variety of plural forms	writing a letter about the Buffalo War	recording “for and against” reasons
The Tale of London Bridge	historical recount, sidebar information	R	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – events/concepts that change the course of history; how people’s lives change over time	landmarks – history of London Bridge	locating and recording main points	proofreading for spelling and punctuation	recording views on a time in history	researching a famous landmark
They Came From Spain	historical dramatization, facts	R	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – events/concepts that change the course of history	Spanish explorers – Ponce de León, Florida exploration	matching dates with events	changing first person to third person	writing a letter about the Spanish invasion	creating a new name for a state and providing reasons
Ticket to Another Time	descriptive report, fictional elements	S	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – impact of technology on a nation’s history; space exploration	space exploration – people, impact of technology	locating fascinating facts about space	identifying syllables in words	reporting on a significant event	locating and categorizing useful materials
To Market	descriptive report, maps, facts, glossary	R	40	Production, Distribution, and Consumption – how goods are brought to market; concepts of producers and consumers	markets – global comparisons, producers and consumers	comparing markets in different countries	composing and using verb synonyms	composing a plan in point form	designing a poster for the school fair
Trade It	contemporary fiction, Q&A	S	40	Production, Distribution, and Consumption – concept of trade; supply and demand; consumer advertising methods	trade – types, supply and demand, advertising	providing questions for stated answers	using the words <i>number</i> and <i>amount</i> correctly	writing persuasive arguments	recording pros and cons for a range of activities
Travelers and Traders	historical recount, map references, glossary	S	40	Time, Continuity, and Change – events and concepts that change the course of history	trade – history, exploration, global expansion	choosing correct sentence endings	using adjectives and adverbs to enhance text	writing an imaginary account	identifying valuable qualities in people and things