

Kolbe Academy Home School

GRADE FOUR READING *Catholic National Reader Book 4*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Syllabus	2
II. Daily Course Plan	
A. Quarter 1	4
B. Quarter 2	6
C. Quarter 3	8
D. Quarter 4	10
III. Tests	
IV. Answer Keys	

Teacher's Notes: Begin every class with a prayer. This is a good way to help the child memorize new prayers. Repeat the same ones every day until they are known. Be sure to explain the meanings of the prayers. Repetition in all areas of study is most beneficial. In most cases, Fridays have been left open. You may do a four day week or use Friday as a "catch-up" day. While art and music should be worked in during the week, Friday is also a good day to concentrate on those subjects.

Your student may not need all of Week 8 for review. You can use this time to catch up if necessary and then go over the subject matter. If you intend to use the sample tests provided, look them over before teaching the subjects and make sure you teach the material in the tests. Some children have a difficult time doing written exams, but it is important for them to learn how to take them. If your fourth grader does poorly on them, give them to him orally a couple of days after he has taken them and average the grades.

COURSE TITLE: Reading

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course presents a selection of readings appropriate to the level of the student. The reading program is based on mutual response: teacher reading and students listening; student reading and teacher and other students listening. Vocal reading skill is to be practiced and developed.

The Catholic National Reader (CNR), Book Four is the primary reader for this level. The child should read orally every day. Go through the vocabulary making explanations when necessary. It is good for him to read the story to himself first so it will not be a cold reading.

Read carefully and follow the *Introduction to the Teacher's Edition of Questions for the Catholic National Reader, Book Four*. The *Catholic National Reader* is quite challenging so if necessary, proceed more slowly than the course plans suggest. It is not unusual for a student to be reading the book that is a year below his grade level. Make sure the student understands the vocabulary and the content of the stories. He should also have another reader or a book from the *Kolbe Academy Recommended Reading List* for his grade level. Some that I can recommend for fourth graders are: Any lives of the saints that are at the fourth grade level, *The Jungle Book* and others by Rudyard Kipling, *The Narnia Series* by C.S. Lewis, Howard Pyle books, *The Boxcar Children Series* by Gertrude Chandler Warner, *Peter Pan* and others by James Barrie, books by Bethlehem Press, Frances Hodgson Burnett books, *Through the Looking Glass* and *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll, books by Colum Padraic, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator*, *The Fantastic Mr. Fox*, *The BFG*, *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, and *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl, any of the Ingrid D'Aulaire books, and there are many others. Use your own discretion.

The Quarterly Exam passages are taken from the McGuffey Reader, so that they will be new to the student who is using the Catholic National Reader. If you are using the McGuffey Reader, please contact Kolbe for an alternative.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ Develop in the student a love for reading.
- ❖ Introduce the student to reading as the most natural way of learning.
- ❖ Help the student understand how learning develops from good reading habits.
- ❖ Illustrate to the student the assimilation of word meanings and vocabulary in the easiest and most natural method: reading.
- ❖ Show the student how to identify characters and simple plots.
- ❖ Develop in the student the ability to describe what took place and the point or objective of the author.
- ❖ Train the student to write book reports.

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE:

1. The scope of reading begins with an introduction to the different types of literature: prose, poetry, short stories, essays, etc. All these are contained in abundance in the *Catholic National Reader*.
2. Cover progressively more difficult material.
3. Read a minimum of two books per quarter.
4. Write a book report for each book read.

Keep a log of new words learned from each book read, with definitions from a dictionary. These can be tested periodically (weekly is best).

SKILLS TO BE DEVELOPED:

- ❖ Recognition of good literature.
- ❖ Practice of finishing each book that is begun
- ❖ Progressively refined oral reading with proper inflections and good eye contact with the audience.
- ❖ Ability to retell the story in his own words.
- ❖ Identification of the moral and/or objective of the story.
- ❖ Ability to locate the main idea of a given reading.
- ❖ Identification of the selection's major details.
- ❖ Recognition of relationships.
- ❖ Development of critical thinking skills.
- ❖ Emphasis on these skills:
 - Ability to locate the main idea
 - Identification of major details
 - Recognition of relationships
 - Development of critical thinking

COURSE TEXT: *Catholic National Reader Book, Book Four*

Note: the *McGuffey's Fourth Reader* can be used instead of, or in addition to CNR.

COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY: *Catholic National Reader Book 4* is represented by the abbreviation **CNR**. Each weekly assignment is summarized in the first line of the week's daily course plan. The specific daily assignments are outlined in the following lines indicated by the **MON**, **TUES**, **WED**, and **THUR** abbreviations.

Kolbe Academy has worked diligently to create the best possible course plans with the home schooling family in mind. Remember, however, that our program is intended to be flexible. Per the principle of subsidiarity, these course plans are a **suggested** course of study. As the teacher, you should adapt and modify these course plans to meet the individual learning needs of your child. **Do not feel obligated to follow these course plans exactly.**

◆◆◆ FIRST QUARTER ◆◆◆

WEEK 1	
Go through the vocabulary and explain as necessary. Read the questions in the student's question book before reading the story. Have the student write the answers to the questions in complete sentences after having read the story orally. These instructions should be followed with CNR unless otherwise instructed.	
CNR	Lessons I – III
MON	Lesson I
TUE	Lesson II
WED	Read from an outside book of your choice. If it is a reader, have him write a short summary of the story. If he is reading a chapter book, have him write a short summary of each chapter. Do this with the outside reading each week. From now on, it will be shown as Outside Reading.
THUR	Lesson III
Notes	
WEEK 2	
CNR	Lessons IV – VI
MON	Lesson IV
TUE	Lesson V
WED	Outside Reading
THUR	Lesson VI
Notes	
WEEK 3	
CNR	Lessons VII – IX
MON	Lesson VII
TUE	Lesson VIII