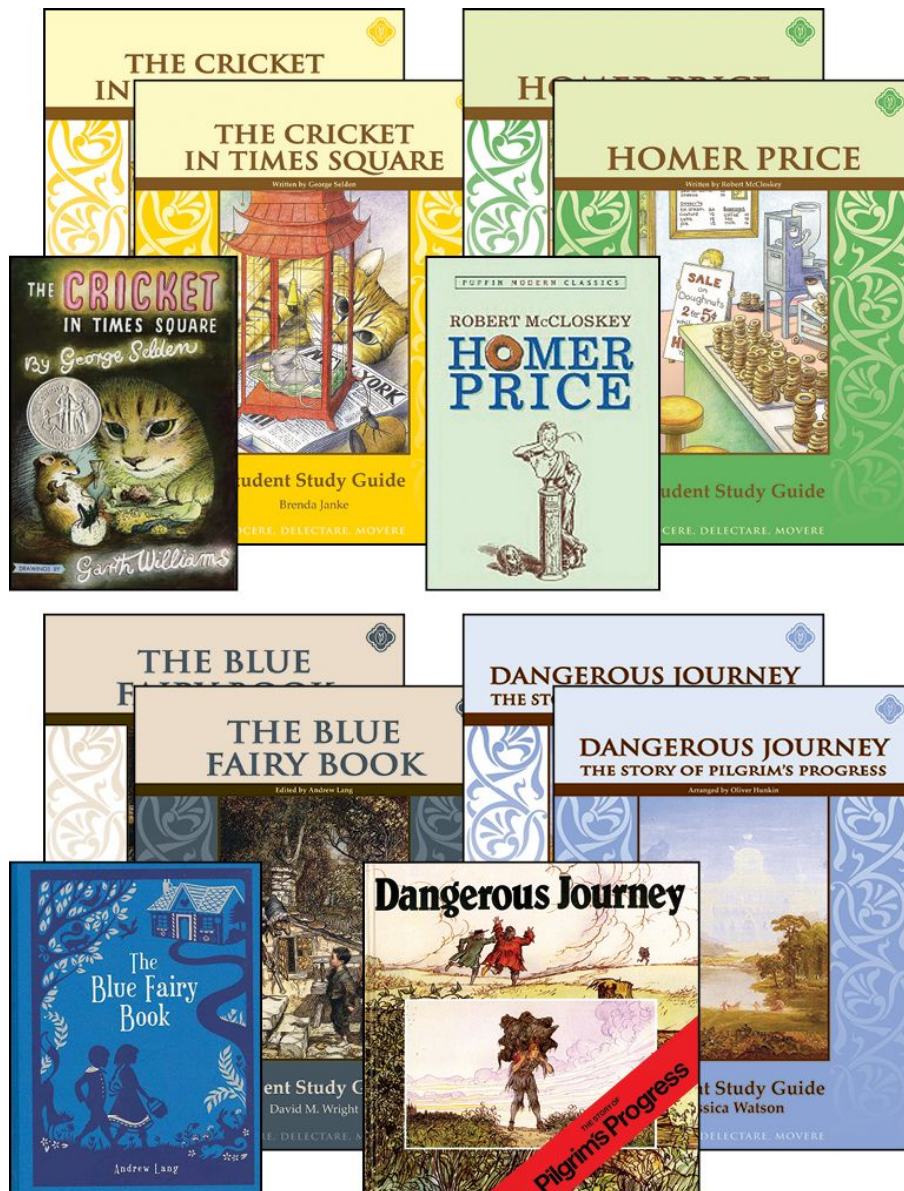


4th Grade Literature

Vocabulary and Definitions



A

Abandoned - left by the owner

Abrupt - very sudden and not expected

Accompanist - someone who plays an instrument while another sings

Accomplished - highly skilled

Accused - charged; blamed

Accustomed - used to; familiar with

Acquaintance - someone known, but not a close friend

Aghast - filled with horror

Agility - quickness; liveliness

Ambling - walking slowly; sauntering

Amid - in the middle of; among

Amnesia - memory loss

Anxious - earnestly wishing

Appeal - make an earnest request

Arbitrate - help settle; decide

Aroma - scent

Arson - crime of setting fire to something

Avalanche - a massive or overwhelming amount

B

Balancing the demand with the supply - providing the amount buyers
want

Benighted - overwhelmed by darkness or night

Brinish - salty

Browse - to look over casually

Bustle - a lot of busy activity

C

Calamity - disaster
Celebrity - a famous person
Chauffeur - a paid driver
Chiding - reproaching
Chromium - shiny, decorative
Chute - slide
Clustered - a group of things grouped close together
Coax - tempt
Commission - fee
Commentators - announcers
Commuters - people who travel to and from a place
Conductors - people who collect money on a train
Contrived - plotted or planned
Convincing - believable
Copiously - abundantly
Create the market - make buyers desire a product

D

Dally - to waste time by moving slowly
Daubed - spread; smeared
Deducing - reaching a conclusion by reasoning
Deduction - arriving at a conclusion by reasoning
Defied - challenged
Delectable - delightful; pleasing
Demolishing - destroying
Deride - to mock or poke fun
Descended - moved downward
Despond - a state of discouragement
Devices - machines
Diameter - the distance across a circle

Diametrically - extremely opposite
Din - a loud, confusing mixture of noises
Dire - urgent
Discourse - discussion
Discoursing - engaging in conversation
Distinctive - one-of-a-kind
Diversion - distraction or entertainment
Doleful - sad, mournful
Dominion - territory under one's rule
Drowsy - sleepy
Douse - to throw liquid on; to drench
Dwindled - become gradually less

E

Edible fungus - safe to eat mushrooms
Editorial - an opinion based article
Eerie - mysterious
Encores - extra music performed by request
Encountered (encounter) - to meet someone
Engagement - a job as a performer
Enmeshed - entangled
Entreaties - earnest pleadings
Especial - specific; particular
Espied - observed or discovered

F

Felicity - happiness; bliss
Flustered - nervous; confused; agitated
Forlornly - in a miserable, wretched way

Formal - respect for proper form or manners

Frantically - rapidly; with nervous activity

Frittered away - wasted

Fugitive - escaped criminal

G

Gaping - looking at with mouth open in wonder

Gesture - something done to show a particular attitude

Gilded - covered with a thin layer of gold

Gingerly - carefully

Grisly - gruesome

Groped (grope) - to feel about with the hands

H

Haunches - the upper parts of an animal's rear legs

Hermit - one who lives alone

I

Ideal - perfect

Illustrious - outstanding in achievement

Imperative - absolutely necessary

Implore - to ask urgently; to beg

Inconvenienced (inconvenience) - to cause difficulties or trouble

Incredible - unbelievable

Ingenuity - cleverness; inventiveness

Intently - showing concentration

Investigate - to examine carefully

Invigorating - energizing

J

Jinx - something that causes bad luck

Jocund - cheerful

Judicious - showing good judgement

K

Keen - very excited about something

Kumquats - a fruit that looks like a small orange

L

Lamentable - mournful, sad

Leery - showing a lack of trust in something

Limbered - caused to become flexible

M

Malevolent - wishing evil to others

Maneuvering - changing movement or direction

Mechanism - working parts

Merchandising - selling; advertising

Modest - bashful; shy

Monogram - symbol; initials

Muffle - to make quieter

Mulberry - a type of tree with edible purple berries

Mused - reflectively thought

Musicologist - one who studies music as a branch of knowledge

N

Niche - a comfortable habitat

Nimble - quickly

Notorious - famously bad

Novelties - something new or unusual

O

Object - disapprove of

Orchestra conductor - one who directs the performance of an orchestra

Ovation - enthusiastic applause

P

Painstakingly - with great care

Pathetic - sorrowful; melancholy

Peculiar - not usual or normal

Perplexed - puzzled

Picket - march in protest

Pied - multi-colored

Pivot - something on which a related part turns or rotates

Pixied - put a magic spell on

Principle - main idea; belief

Prophecy - to predict a future event

Q

Quavery - wavering, shaky

Quelled - stopped

Queried - questioned

R

Recant - to draw back from previously held beliefs or opinions

Receptive - receiving; willing to consider change

Refined - showing manners of a high social class

Replicas - copies; models

Reproaches - expressions of rebuke or disapproval

Resigned - given over without resistance

Resolutely (resolute) - determined

Rumple - having folds or wrinkles

Runagate - runaway

S

Sceptical - doubtful

Scrounging - to get by foraging

Scuffling - moving with a quick shuffling gait; scurrying

Scuttled - scurried

Sheen - a smooth and glossy surface

Skinflint - a person who hates to spend money

Slabbiness - muddiness; sloppiness

Soldered - attached with hot metal

Spurn - turn down; decline

Squalor - filth; misery

Stauched - stopped or checked the flow of

Stingy - not generous

Sturdy - built strongly

Sublime - lofty, grand, or exalted

Subsided - became less strong or intense

Surly - rude, unfriendly

Suspicious - distrustful

Suspiciously - distrustfully

T

Tedious - long and tiresome

Theme - the central subject of a composition

Throngs - large groups of people

Tiers - levels arranged one above another

Timetable - list of times a train is expected to leave or arrive

Torrent - flood

Trifle - a tiny bit

Trudged - walked wearily

Tuffets - clumps or tufts of grass

U

Undisputed - unarguable

Unkindly disposed - cross; irritated

Unprecedented - never before seen

Unsavory - disagreeable; distasteful

V

Valiant - courageous

Vehement - forceful, powerful

Venturing - going somewhere unknown or dangerous

Villain - criminal

W

Wan - ill looking

Whit - bit

X

Y

Z

Zoology - the study of animal life