50 Fourth Grade Writing Prompts

Fourth-grade writers can develop stronger paragraphs, use evidence from experiences or sources, and revise for clarity. Ask what the writer wants the reader to understand, then focus feedback on that purpose.

How to use them: offer two or three and let the writer choose, or change one. Talk first, then plan, draft and share. A writer can always pick another prompt, answer with a made-up story, or pass.

1. What makes you happy and cheerful no matter what your mood is?
2. Describe what the perfect pet would be like.
3. Invent a silly surprise that makes a character giggle whenever they remember it.
4. What would you do if you find out that your neighbour was a werewolf?
5. Tell us your favorite spot for summer holidays.
6. Share your favorite part of history? What do you like about it?
7. Rewrite your particular song talking about your school. Express your likes and dislikes with us.
8. Are you excited when it’s almost your birthday? How does it feel? Write a poem about it.
9. Do you like homework? Why or why not?
10. Can you tell us the name of the most exciting book you ever read? What did you love about it?
11. What is the best thing about your family?
12. Explain the worst school lunch you can imagine. How do you and your friends react to it?
13. You wake up one morning and find that your pets can talk. Write a short story about it.
14. How did you find your best friend at school? How long have you known one another?
15. Write a fictional story about a character deciding whether to share an important secret with a trusted adult.
16. What is the best quality that you like about yourself?
17. What makes you feel better when you’re upset? Express yourself in the form of a poem or a story for feeling better.
18. Do you like sports or video games? Which one do you like to play the most? Why?
19. You’re walking on a path through the countryside and suddenly it splits into two directions. Write a poem about how you choose which way to go.
20. Why do things break? Give some examples of things in your life that have broken. How does that make you feel?
21. How would you feel if you woke up one day with bird wings instead of arms? Would that be a good or bad thing? What would you do?
22. Who is the best singer in the world? Why do you like him/her?
23. Any particular thing you do at home to make your family happy. Do they like it?
24. If you had one wish what would you ask for? Why?
25. When was the last day you were home sick? What does it feel like?
26. Is it tough to be friends with your school friends after arguing? How do you fix it?
27. What is your favourite hobby? When was the last time you were able to do it?
28. What do you appreciate about an adult who supports you?

29. Do you like rainy days? Why or why not?
30. If you ever got a chance to visit any country, where would you go? What would you like to do there?
31. Are boys and girls different from each other? What do you think about it?
32. What is the most exceptional food? Why do you like it?
33. Make a list of 5 things you would love to do every month. Write down a short note on it.
34. Describe three qualities you value in a family member or trusted adult.
35. How can family members communicate respectfully when someone is upset?
36. Do you know how to cook? If yes, what have you cooked? Explain the steps involved in it.
37. Write a poem about the last time you got hurt. How long did the pain last?
38. Do you find homework useful for learning? Why or why not?
39. Your dog turns into a human, and you're the only one who can see it. What would you do?
40. If you were the ruler of this planet, how would you live your day?
41. Describe a time a test or assignment was difficult. What might help next time?
42. One day you are blessed with a special ability to understand what dogs say when they bark. What would you do and would you tell anyone about it?
43. What makes you go to school every day? Do you like it? Why or why not?
44. If you could design an outfit for a special occasion, what would it look like and why?
45. Imagine you are going on a trip with your friends for a day.
46. What is the best gift you've ever received? Do you still like it? Why or why not?
47. What is the hardest part of 4th grade?
48. The first page of your book disappears every time you open the book, and you see a single word. It's the same thing with every book you try to read. What is the name and why does it keep appearing?
49. Explain how to learn a skill you know well.
50. What is one change that could make your community more welcoming?

When a prompt becomes a story

Plan it: growmindgrow.com/tools/story-starter builds a beginning, middle and end you can print.

Revise it: growmindgrow.com/blog/articles/revising-writing-examples-for-kids shows a draft becoming a revision, with a free revision card.