

Our State, Our Stories

How does the story of Oregon change depending on who's telling it?

Sherwood Charter School | 4th Grade | 2026–2027

	Trimester 1: Building Our Story <i>September – November Who are we? Where are we?</i>	Trimester 2: Understanding Stories <i>December – February What's the problem? What happens?</i>	Trimester 3: Changing the Story <i>March – May What's different now?</i>
Writing	Personal narratives Students write about their own experiences, learning to share who they are through vivid detail and voice.	Informational & Opinion writing Students research Oregon topics, then learn to form an opinion and back it up with clear evidence.	Historical fiction set in Oregon Students write a story set in Oregon's past or future, then reflect on their full year of growth as writers.
Reading	Novel Study: A Wolf Called Wander Students discover their identity as readers and explore this story of survival and belonging set in the Pacific Northwest.	Novel Study: City of Ember A problem-driven adventure that teaches students to think critically, infer, and wrestle with big ideas.	Reader's Theater & Book Clubs Students perform scripts together, then lead their own Book Clubs — choosing books and driving conversations.
Math	Place value, addition, subtraction & multiplication Students build a healthy math mindset and a strong numerical foundation.	Multi-digit multiplication, division & fractions Students extend their skills with larger numbers and begin working with fractions.	Fractions, decimals, measurement & geometry Students apply math concepts to real-world problems and review the year's learning.
Science	Oregon ecosystems Students investigate the plants, animals, and habitats of Oregon, exploring organisms as the 'characters' of the natural world.	Rocks, soils & landforms Students explore how rock and soil types form Oregon's landscape, and how erosion and deposition slowly change it.	Energy & human impact Students experiment with circuits, light, and magnetic force, then examine how human decisions affect Oregon's ecosystems.
Social Studies	Oregon's first peoples & early history Students learn about the Atfalati/Kalapuya people and the explorers and settlers who shaped early Oregon.	The Oregon Trail Students follow westward expansion, exploring the survival challenges and many perspectives of people who made the journey.	Oregon government & economics Students explore how laws and decisions create change — and how Oregon's economy and resources shape daily life.
Health	Community safety, dental health & digestion Students learn how to stay safe, care for their teeth, and how the digestive system works.	Personal safety & healthy choices Students explore personal boundaries, the effects of smoking, and how to keep their bodies healthy.	Germs, hearing & staying active Students learn how germs spread, how to protect their hearing, and the lifelong benefits of exercise.
Year Highlights	Novel: A Wolf Called Wander Field trip / guest speaker opportunities Personal narrative writing celebration	Novel: City of Ember Oregon Trail research & opinion writing Middle-of-year reading assessment	Reader's Theater performances Student-led Book Clubs ★April: Celebration of Learning: 'The Story So Far'

★ **Celebration of Learning (April): 'The Story So Far':** Our spring celebration happens before state testing. It's a showcase of learning in progress; not the end of the year! Questions? Reach out anytime.