



September 21, 2023

Hello 4th grade families,

We hope the school year is off to a great start for you! We are excited to share an enrichment opportunity with you that will be offered to interested 4th graders.

The WordMasters Challenge™ is a national competition for students in grades 3-8 that encourages growth in vocabulary and verbal reasoning. Each year, over 125,000 students from schools throughout the United States participate in the WordMasters Challenge. This year, we are offering the program to our 4th grader students at Stormonth.

Unlike other language arts competitions for this age group – which focus on grammar, punctuation, spelling and other language mechanics – the WordMasters Challenge™ helps students learn to think both analytically and metaphorically. The contest addresses higher-level word comprehension and verbal reasoning in two ways:

- It challenges students to complete analogies based on relationships among words they have learned.
- It bases the analogies on special vocabulary lists, developed for each grade and difficulty level by experienced teachers, which participants are encouraged to study before each meet.

Excellence in the competition will require both a mastery of the meanings of the vocabulary words (of a difficulty appropriate to a 4th grade level) and thoughtful reasoning about the relationships between these words and more familiar language used in the competition's analogies.

We ask students who are interested in participating in this Challenge to commit to attending our recess time meetings (October-April) as well as completing three quizzes. Interested students will meet every other Wednesday during recess in the STORM area to practice with analogies, word meanings, and to take the quizzes. It will be fun and challenging!

Please see the second page of this letter for the meeting schedule (subject to some changes if necessary). Also, please visit this [Google Form](#) to sign up for WordMasters by Monday, October 9th. We are looking forward to this enrichment opportunity!

Mrs. Cosgrove

Talent Development Teacher

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WordMasters Challenge Schedule

October 11, 2023 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50; intro to the program; receive Word List #1

October 25, 2023 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 to practice with Word List #1

November 8, 2023 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 for WordMasters Analogy **Quiz #1!**

November 29, 2023 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 for analogy practice

December 13, 2023 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50; review first quiz and receive Word List #2

January 10, 2024 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 to practice with Word List #2

January 24, 2024 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 to practice with Word List #2

February 7, 2024 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 for WordMasters Analogy **Quiz #2!**

February 21, 2024 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 for Quiz #2 review; analogy practice

March 6, 2024 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50; students will receive Word List #3

March 20, 2024 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 to practice with Word List #3

April 3, 2024 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 for WordMasters Analogy **Quiz #3!**

May 8, 2024 - Meeting from 12:20-12:50 for Quiz #3 review and celebration