Fourth Grade Parent Guide for Your Child's Success

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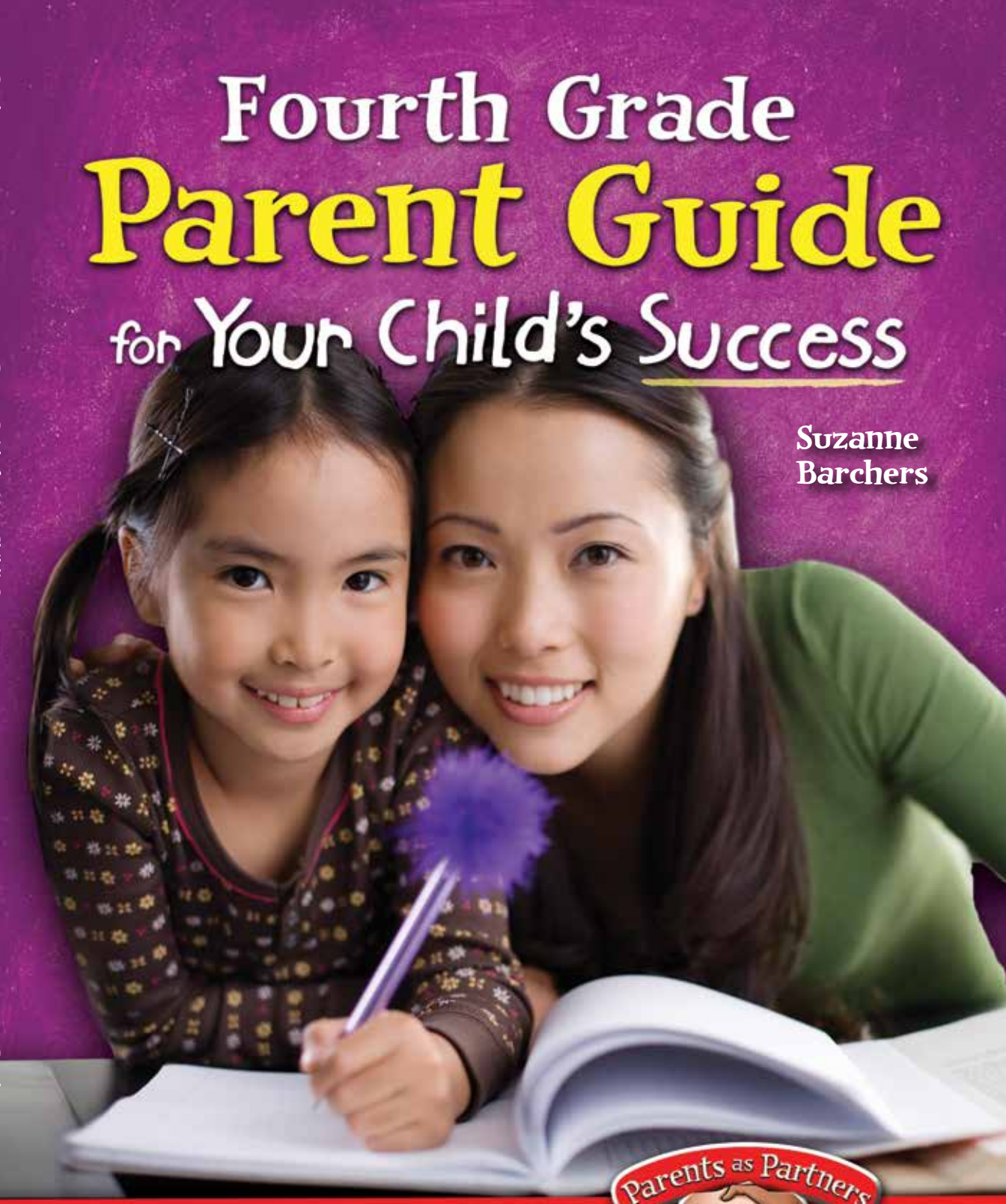

Parents as Partners

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Table of Contents

Dear Family 2

Home Habits and Routines 4

Top 10 Things Your Fourth Grader Needs to Know. 12

Language Arts Activities 14

Math Activities. 24

Science Activities. 30

Social Studies Activities 32

Learning on the Go 34

Family Fun. 38

Thank you! 40

Dear Family,

Welcome to fourth grade! This is an important transition year for your child. In fourth grade, students are expected to read more challenging textbooks. You'll no doubt be hearing more about history and science as your child begins doing some research projects as well. Oh, and you'll probably be brushing up on those long division skills very soon, too!

Your child's after-school interests may become more demanding. Things like sports, music, and organized groups all take time. Your child may want to have more time for friends, perhaps wanting to do school projects together. This is a great year to begin releasing more responsibility to your child, like taking the lead for his or her school requirements. This parent guide will give you some tips for starting that transition, too.

Take a bit of time to find out how your child's teacher prefers to communicate with families. You'll want to stay in touch and build a partnership so that the year will go smoothly. It will pay off on those busy days when other demands (e.g., errands, jobs, other children) keep you on the run.

One last thought...

Your child may seem old enough to be more independent. But, he or she still needs adults—parents, grandparents, or other caretakers—who ensure that fourth grade is a year of learning and fun!

Getting a Good Start

Capitalize on those school expectations of your child taking on more responsibility. Teachers expect that students at this age will be increasingly self-sufficient. You should expect the same at home.

These ideas will help everyone begin and end the day more smoothly.

Time Management

Good habits aren't built overnight. If your child struggles with time management, be ready to step in and monitor after-school activities.