



Student Success

The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of what your child will learn by the end of 3rd grade in mathematics and English language arts/literacy. It expands upon the key skills that are identified as performance indicators on the 3rd grade checklist and report card. If your child is meeting the expectations outlined by these performance indicators, he or she will be well prepared for 4th grade.

Mathematics

Below are samples of what your child will be working on in 3rd grade. **The two most important concepts are in bold.** The district expectations gradually increase as the year progresses.

- ***Multiplying and dividing up to 10×10 quickly and accurately, including knowing the facts from memory***
- *Solving word problems with more than one step using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division*
- *Beginning to multiply numbers with more than one digit (e.g. 9×80)*
- ***Understanding fractions as part of a whole and locating their place on number lines, and using models to compare fractions to each other***
- *Being able to tell time to the nearest minute and calculate elapsed time (e.g. If you live 25 minutes from school, and school starts at 8:15, what is the latest you can leave your house and still be on time?)*
- *Thinking about shapes and how they are related to each other (e.g. All squares are rectangles, but not all rectangles are squares.)*
- *Measuring and estimating weights and liquid volumes and solving word problems involving these quantities*
- *Finding areas of shapes and relating area to multiplication*
- *Understanding place value to add and subtract three-digit numbers*



English Language Arts/Literacy

Third Grade is a pivotal year for your child. Learning to read with fluency and confidence will serve as a foundation for the reading demands in later grades. Your child will be using the learning-to-read strategies they built in lower younger grades to make sense of longer words. They will be transitioning from picture books to chapter books or from beginning chapter books to longer novels. By the end of the year, your child will be writing clear sentences and paragraphs on a range of topics using a more expanded vocabulary.

Below are samples of what your child will be working on in 3rd grade:

- *Reading closely to find main ideas and supporting details in text*
- *Making connections between sentences and paragraphs to comprehend text (e.g. first, second, third; cause and effect)*
- *Comparing the most important points and key details presented in two books on the same topic*
- *Reading stories and poems fluently, without pausing to figure out words*
- *Distinguishing the literal and nonliteral meaning of words (e.g. figurative language: “something’s fishy” and “cold shoulder”)*
- *Asking and answering questions about information read or heard*
- *Writing stories that include details and a clear sequence of events that describe actions, thoughts, and feelings of characters*
- *Using the writing process of planning, revising, and editing written work with the help of a peer or adult*
- *Using proper rules of grammar (e.g. complete sentences, proper verb tense and subject-verb agreement)*
- *Using strategies to figure out the meaning of unknown words (e.g. synonyms, antonyms, sentence clues, root words, prefixes and suffixes)*
- *Using proper rules of capitalization (e.g. first word in a sentence, proper nouns, and titles) and punctuation (e.g. commas in addresses, dates, dialogue, and letters; compound sentences, quotations, apostrophes in contractions and possessive nouns)*

