

What Your Child Will Learn in Third Grade

Grade 3 Learning Guide

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A guide to the skills typically taught and practiced during third grade.

Child's Name: _____

School Year: _____



Reading & Literature

Introduced Practicing Mastered

Read grade-level books with fluency and accuracy	☐	☐	☐
Identify main idea and key details	☐	☐	☐
Determine theme and lesson	☐	☐	☐
Describe characters and their actions	☐	☐	☐
Compare and contrast stories, settings, and themes	☐	☐	☐
Use text evidence to answer questions	☐	☐	☐
Summarize what they read	☐	☐	☐
Make predictions and explain reasoning	☐	☐	☐
Distinguish between fiction and nonfiction	☐	☐	☐
Interpret informational text features (headings, captions, diagrams, maps, graphs, etc.)	☐	☐	☐



Writing

Introduced Practicing Mastered

Write complete, organized paragraphs	☐	☐	☐
Write opinion pieces with supporting reasons	☐	☐	☐
Write informative/explanatory pieces with facts	☐	☐	☐
Write narratives with a clear beginning, middle, and end	☐	☐	☐
Use descriptive words and sensory details	☐	☐	☐
Organize ideas with an introduction, body, and conclusion	☐	☐	☐
Use correct capitalization and punctuation	☐	☐	☐
Revise and edit writing with guidance	☐	☐	☐
Improve word choice and sentence variety	☐	☐	☐
Write neatly with clear spacing and legible handwriting	☐	☐	☐



Phonics & Vocabulary

Introduced Practicing Mastered

Decode and read multisyllable words	☐	☐	☐
Use knowledge of prefixes and suffixes (un-, re-, pre-, dis-, -ful, -less, etc.)	☐	☐	☐
Use context clues to determine word meaning	☐	☐	☐
Use a dictionary or thesaurus effectively	☐	☐	☐
Understand and use figurative language (similes, metaphors, idioms)	☐	☐	☐
Build and use grade-level academic vocabulary	☐	☐	☐
Spell high-frequency and irregularly spelled words	☐	☐	☐
Recognize and use word families, roots, and spelling patterns	☐	☐	☐



Grammar & Language

Introduced Practicing Mastered

Identify and use nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs	☐	☐	☐
Use subject-verb agreement	☐	☐	☐
Use past, present, and future verb tenses	☐	☐	☐
Form and use regular and irregular plural nouns	☐	☐	☐
Use common and proper nouns correctly	☐	☐	☐
Use commas in a series	☐	☐	☐
Use commas in addresses and dates	☐	☐	☐
Use quotation marks in dialogue	☐	☐	☐
Use <i>and</i> , <i>but</i> , <i>or</i> , <i>so</i> , <i>because</i> in sentences	☐	☐	☐
Recognize and correct run-on and fragment sentences	☐	☐	☐



Mathematics

Introduced Practicing Mastered

Read, write, and compare numbers to 10,000	☐	☐	☐
Understand place value (ones, tens, hundreds, thousands)	☐	☐	☐
Add and subtract within 1,000 using place value strategies	☐	☐	☐
Multiply and divide within 100 using arrays and equal groups	☐	☐	☐
Understand the relationship between multiplication and division	☐	☐	☐
Recall and use multiplication facts (0-10)	☐	☐	☐
Solve one- and two-step word problems (all operations)	☐	☐	☐
Round numbers to the nearest 10, 100, and 1,000	☐	☐	☐
Represent and compare fractions (halves, thirds, fourths, etc.)	☐	☐	☐
Solve simple fraction problems (e.g., $1/2 + 1/4$)	☐	☐	☐
Tell time to the nearest minute	☐	☐	☐
Solve elapsed time problems	☐	☐	☐
Measure and estimate length, mass, and liquid volume	☐	☐	☐
Interpret scaled picture graphs and bar graphs	☐	☐	☐
Find area and perimeter of rectangles	☐	☐	☐
Identify and classify two-dimensional shapes	☐	☐	☐



Science

Introduced Practicing Mastered

Ask questions and make observations	☐	☐	☐
Plan and conduct simple investigations	☐	☐	☐
Understand life cycles and characteristics of living things	☐	☐	☐
Explore ecosystems and how living things interact	☐	☐	☐
Explore states of matter and properties of materials	☐	☐	☐
Learn about weather and climate	☐	☐	☐
Investigate Earth's features, natural resources, and changes	☐	☐	☐
Explore the sun, moon, stars, and basic space concepts	☐	☐	☐
Record and organize data (charts, graphs, drawings)	☐	☐	☐
Draw conclusions and share results	☐	☐	☐



Social Studies

Introduced Practicing Mastered

Understand communities and local government	☐	☐	☐
Learn about maps, globes, and geographic features	☐	☐	☐
Explore different regions of the United States	☐	☐	☐
Learn about historical events and timelines	☐	☐	☐
Understand basic economic concepts (goods and services)	☐	☐	☐
Identify rights and responsibilities of good citizenship	☐	☐	☐
Explore different cultures and how people live and work together	☐	☐	☐
Recognize and appreciate diversity in our community and world	☐	☐	☐

We teach for understanding, not speed.



Every new skill rests on a foundation the child can understand and use.

