

Curriculum for Grade 3

Reading

Students will be exposed to a wide variety of literature as they read books that cover a wide variety of literary genres; biographies, historical fiction, fairy tales, mysteries, science, and social studies, as well as a wide choice of fiction books. The students will be participating in the Reader's Workshop program which consists of focus lessons that focus on a reading strategy, as well as one to one conferring with the teacher, guided reading groups, strategy groups, and literature circles. The Students will learn to talk about books while improving their reading comprehension and reading fluency.

Writers Workshop

Like Readers workshop, students will participate in a focus lesson that models a specific writing skill or concept. Students will then practice this skill or concept into their own writing. Students will learn about nouns, pronouns, verbs and adjectives. They will learn to write a complete sentence with proper punctuation and a good, well written paragraph. Students will be encouraged to write two or more paragraph essays as well as a friendly letter. Poetry is another important component. Writing, reading, and listening to good poetry are emphasized throughout the year.

Word Study

Word Study is the study of spelling, new vocabulary, word meaning, and word structure. Grade three is using a spelling program called Instant Spelling Words for Writing by Curriculum Associates. Grade three spelling assessments are based on tests and daily writing activities. In addition to spelling, students will also be using a program called Text Talk to learn new words and become familiar with compound words, synonyms, antonyms, homophones, figurative language, contractions, possessives, prefixes, suffixes, and root words. The goal of a word study program is to improve everyday spelling and understand written language.

Math

1. Mastery of addition and subtraction facts through 18.
2. Regrouping with addition and subtraction of 3 and 4 digit numbers.

3. An introduction to basic geometry concepts, including perimeter and area, as well as a review of basic geometric shapes.
4. Students will experience and gain confidence with various problem solving strategies.
5. Review expansion of the concept of patterns.
6. Introduction and development of multiplication and division skills

Social Studies

Students will:

1. Study the voyage and the settlement of the pilgrims in New England.
2. Study the geography, customs, history, and the cultures of countries in Asia.
3. Study biographies of famous people who contributed significantly to our society, world, or country.
4. Study the geography and history of Massachusetts.

Science

Students will study:

1. The lifecycle of the Frog
2. The Solar System
3. Rocks and Minerals
4. Magnets
5. The Water Cycle
6. Simple Machines
7. Matter

Penmanship

Third grade will learn the Benbow Technique of cursive writing. Benbow is a kinesthetic approach to learning the cursive alphabet.