



# Third Grade Newsletter

November 2023

## Important Dates

**Tuesday, November 7** - Marking period ends, Two-hour, 45-minute early dismissal for students.

**Wednesday, November 15** - Parent/ Teacher conference night - parent request. Look for a sign-up email on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Wednesday, November 22** - Two-hour, 45-minute early dismissal

**Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24** - School closed for students and staff - Happy Thanksgiving!

**American Education Week** - November 13th - 17th

Please see The LSE November newsletter for more information on American Education Week. We are suggesting that 3rd grade parents and guardians visit on Tuesday, November 14th.

## Reminders

Recess - students are outside for recess on most days. Please send a jacket as the days get colder.

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## What are we learning?

### **Math**

This month in math we will be finishing Unit 2, Addition, Subtraction, and Measurement. Students will continue to use what they know about place value to develop models for adding and subtracting within 1,000. Towards the end of the month, we will start our Equal Partitioning and Naming Fractions Unit. See attached parent letter for more information.

### **Science**

In Science we will continue our Forces and Interactions Unit, focusing on static electricity and magnetism.

### **Humanities**

In Humanities, we will continue in our Wonders Series. We will be reading a variety of texts. In Writing, we will be working on nonfiction pieces, as well as reading response prompts. We will also be working on parts of a sentence and will continue to practice quoting text. Students should be reading for 20 to 30 minutes most days of the week.

## Stay in Touch!

Please reach out to your child's teacher with any questions or concerns!

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# THIRD GRADE MATHEMATICS – Unit 3

Dear Parents,

During Unit 3, your children will develop an understanding of fractions, beginning with unit fractions. They will view fractions as being built out of unit fractions, and use fractions along with visual fraction models to represent parts of a whole. Your children will understand a fraction as a number on a number line and represent fractions on a number line.

## UNIT FRACTIONS AND MEASUREMENT

### Students need to:

- Understand a fraction  $1/b$  as the quantity formed by 1 part when a whole is partitioned into  $b$  equal parts; understand a fraction  $a/b$  as the quantity formed by  $a$  parts of size  $1/b$ .
- Partition shapes into parts with equal area. Express the area of each part as a unit fraction of the whole. For example, partition a shape into 4 parts with equal area, and describe the area of each part as  $1/4$  of the area of the shape.
- Understand a fraction as a number on the number line; represent fractions on a number line diagram.
- Represent a fraction  $1/b$  on a number line diagram by defining the interval from 0 to 1 as the whole and partitioning it into  $b$  equal parts. Recognize that each part has size  $1/b$  and that the endpoint of the part based at 0 locates the number  $1/b$  on the number line.
- Represent a fraction  $a/b$  on a number line diagram by marking off a lengths  $1/b$  from 0. Recognize that the resulting interval has size  $a/b$  and that its endpoint locates the number  $a/b$  on the number line.

### The importance of specifying the whole



Without specifying the whole it is not reasonable to ask what fraction is represented by the shaded area. If the left square is the whole, the shaded area represents the fraction  $3/2$ ; if the entire rectangle is the whole, the shaded area represents  $3/4$ .

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND EXAMPLES FOR PARENTS

Understand a fraction  $1/b$  as the quantity formed by 1 part when a whole is partitioned into  $b$  equal parts...

**NOTE:** For CCPS videos, you **may** need to download the video to view it.

[Unit Fractions](#)

## KEY VOCABULARY

- Fraction:** A number that represents one or more equal parts of a whole
- Unit fraction:** A fraction in which its numerator is 1 and its denominator is a whole number
- Numerator:** The number of parts one selects from the whole
- Denominator:** The number of parts the "whole" is partitioned into
- Halves:** either of two equal parts into which a whole can be partitioned
- Fourths:** one or more of four equal parts into which a whole can be partitioned
- Sixths:** one or more of six equal parts into which a whole can be partitioned
- Eighths:** one or more of eight equal parts into which a whole can be partitioned
- Tenths:** one or more of ten equal parts into which a whole can be partitioned
- Thirds:** one or more of three equal parts into which a whole can be partitioned
- Unit interval:** on a number line, it is the whole that is the interval from 0 to 1, as measured by length

## WAYS PARENTS CAN HELP

- Involve your child in cooking activities. Have them select the appropriate measuring spoons and cups for the recipe. If ingredients need to be doubled or halved, ask them to figure out what the new quantity would be for the recipe.
- When food items need to be cut or shared equally by your family or a group of people, have your child consider how many parts there will be and what fractional part each person will get.
- Divide a large pile of objects (cereal, plastic animals, blocks, etc.) equally into 4 piles to illustrate one-fourth. Recombine the group to divide into other fractions.
- Fold a piece of paper into halves, and then into halves again with your child. Open it up to show the division of fourths. Fold the paper again into fourths then make another fold to show eighths.
- Count the rooms in your house and make up some fraction facts about them. One-half of the rooms have windows; one-third of them have pillows; etc.
- While in the car, mark the passing of time with fractions. "We are one-third of the way there." "It will take us 20 minutes to get to the library." "In how many minutes will we be half-way there?"