



LITERACY

WHAT YOUR CHILD SHOULD KNOW AND BE ABLE TO DO



Throughout the school year, 3rd grade students will spend the most time working on the following topics. They should understand them well by the end of the year.

Learning to read and write:

- Matching letters and sounds to sound out and write out most words. Students should be able to decode accurately and write words with several syllables and know and use **suffixes** and **prefixes**.
- Writing complete sentences and simple paragraphs about what they are learning, with mostly correct spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
- Reading grade level texts smoothly and with expression, at a **fluency** rate of around 80-140 words per minute.

Learning about the world through text:

- Asking and answering questions about stories and texts read independently. Retelling what happened, explaining key ideas, and describing connections between ideas. Showing text evidence that supports their thinking.
- Figuring out the meaning of unknown words in text by using context or tools like dictionaries and glossaries. Determining or clarifying the meaning of unknown words, words with multiple meanings, or **figurative language** in context.
- Using linking words and phrases to connect ideas (such as “also,” “another,” “more,” “but”).
- Showing something new they have learned from a text or about a topic. This can be in any form: speaking and conversation, illustrations, letters, journals, stories, posters, or sentences on the page.
- Writing about what happened or information learned from the text. Children should include a title, an introductory sentence or section, well developed examples, and a conclusion sentence or section.



EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT LEARNING

- Turn on the closed captioning while watching TV to allow your child to read along with the dialogue.
- Encourage your child each day to choose a book they want to read on their own. Reading lots of books over time is more important than the type of text.
- Have “book talk” conversations. Ask your child to share the important ideas in their own words and show you what part of the text provided this information.
- Pick a topic to learn about together. Read books, look online, do things together. You can help your child build knowledge and develop a love of learning.
- Encourage your child to use writing regularly in the real world. This can include authentic writing (grocery lists, notes, chore lists, etc.) as well as writing in a journal, book response notebook, or other creative writing opportunities.



MATHEMATICS

WHAT YOUR CHILD SHOULD KNOW AND BE ABLE TO DO



Throughout the school year, 3rd grade students will spend the most time working on the following topics. They should understand them well by the end of the year.

- Remembering the product of any two single-**digit** numbers (remembering that $7 \times 9 = 63$).
Dividing mentally with ease for problems within the times tables ($56 \div 8 = 7$).
- Solving two-step word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. (For example, "You already have 12 pens. There are 5 new packs of pens with 6 pens in each pack. How many pens do you have now?")
- Beginning to multiply numbers with more than one **digit** (multiplying 9×80).
- Understanding the meaning of division. Relating division to multiplication. (For example, "I know that $63 \div 9 = 7$ because I remember $7 \times 9 = 63$.")
- Understanding fractions as parts of wholes. For example, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch is the length of 3 of the parts when 1 inch is broken into 4 equal parts.
- Understanding fractions as numbers. This includes representing fractions and whole numbers on a **number line** diagram; equating whole numbers and fractions ($\frac{6}{6} = 1$ and $3 = \frac{3}{1}$); and comparing fractions in simple cases where the **numerators** are equal or the **denominators** are equal ($\frac{2}{8}$ is less than $\frac{6}{8}$ because two parts of a given size are less than six parts of the same size).



EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT LEARNING

- Ask children real-world addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division problems with two steps. For example:
 - Your teacher, Mr. Dent, had 32 markers. He buys new boxes of markers that have 9 markers in each box. Now, he has 86 markers. How many new boxes did he buy?
 - Students in 3 art classes cut 728 inches of ribbon into 8-inch long pieces. Two of the classes together cut 656 inches of ribbon. How many 8-inch long pieces of ribbon did the other class cut?
- Use the language of unit fractions (one-fourth, one-half, one-third) when sharing. ("You get one-half of the cookie, and your brother gets one-half of the cookie.")
- Practice times tables (all products of two one-**digit** numbers) and relate the multiplication to an understanding of division (6×4 is 24, therefore, $24 \div 6$ is 4).
- Read story books about multiplication. Talk about how multiplication makes sense when dealing with groups of objects. Here is a list of some good books from which to choose: <https://www.the-best-childrens-books.org/teaching-multiplication.html>.