

North Cobb Christian School

THIRD GRADE

3rd CURRICULUM

BIBLE

Third-grade students dig deeper into the lives of Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Ruth and Daniel. Their experiences teach students much about the rewards of living for God. Each of these men faced adversity, but by God's grace, they remained faithful. Students study the character, discipline, strength and wisdom given by God to these men, while also memorizing Scripture applicable to both Bible lessons and to life. To better utilize the Bible, students learn the order and spelling of all Old and New Testament books.

MATH

Illustrative Mathematics for 3rd grade is designed to further develop students' mathematical understanding and skills across various domains. Here's an overview of what you might find in an Illustrative Mathematics curriculum for 3rd grade:

Number Sense and Operations: Students work with larger numbers, up to 1,000 or beyond, understanding place value and number relationships.

They develop fluency in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division within 100.

Strategies for mental math, estimation, and solving word problems are emphasized.

Multiplication and division facts are practiced and mastered.

Geometry: Students explore geometric shapes in depth, including polygons, quadrilaterals, triangles, and circles. They learn about angles, lines, and symmetry, as well as concepts like congruence and similarity. Area and perimeter calculations become more advanced, using formulas and strategies to find measurements.

Fractions: Fractions are a key focus, including understanding fractions as parts of a whole and on a number line. Students compare and order fractions, find equivalent fractions, and add/subtract fractions with like denominators. They also begin working with fractions greater than 1 and mixed numbers.

Measurement and Data: Measurement concepts expand to include time, capacity, weight, and volume. Students solve problems involving measurement conversions and use tools like rulers, clocks, thermometers, and scales. Data analysis includes collecting, organizing, and interpreting data using tables, charts, and graphs.

Patterns and Algebraic Thinking: Students explore number patterns, sequences, and relationships. They learn about properties of operations, including commutative, associative, and distributive properties. Basic algebraic concepts are introduced, such as variables, expressions, and solving simple equations.

Problem-Solving and Mathematical Practices: Problem-solving tasks become more complex, requiring critical thinking, reasoning, and justification of solutions. Students engage in mathematical practices such as making sense of problems, persevering in solving them, modeling with mathematics, and using appropriate tools strategically.

Illustrative Mathematics for 3rd grade aims to deepen students' mathematical understanding and skills while promoting mathematical reasoning, communication, and problem-solving abilities. It provides a coherent and connected approach to learning math concepts and prepares students for more advanced math topics in higher grades.





READING

Third grade immerses students in reading comprehension skills, such as the main idea and supporting details, drawing conclusions and author's purpose, cause and effect, character, plot, sequence of events and summarization. Students learn to utilize visual tools to organize thinking and apply comprehension skills during teacher read-alouds of quality literature. Students also read fiction and nonfiction literature texts matched to their instructional level, create visual tools using the Elementary SPECS Log during independent practice, and participate in small groups to analyze what they have learned about the comprehension skill through the visual tool. During small groups, teachers create a group visual tool, compiling students' thoughts and modeling the tool, again. Instructional feedback is given during regular one-on-one reading conferences between teacher and student. Vocabulary instruction includes word knowledge, sentence usage, student word work and a student-drawn illustration of the word in the SPECS Log. Intellectual Art is utilized as a review for assessment.

SPELLING + VOCABULARY

Language acquisition in third grade focuses on spelling and vocabulary. Students memorize weekly spelling words and apply the words to oral and written vocabulary. The students use their knowledge of a word's meaning to engage in identifying synonyms and antonyms, using prefixes and suffixes to change word meanings, and learning Latin roots. Additionally, third grade utilizes the Orton-Gillingham approach for phonics instruction. This method systematically breaks down reading and spelling into smaller, sequential skills focusing on letters and sounds, with instruction being explicit, direct, sequential, and multi-sensory.



SCIENCE

Third-grade students engage in an interactive study of science. With the foundational understanding that God is the Creator and Designer of all, students continue developing the scientific skills of questioning, observing, hypothesizing and experimenting. Units of study include earth science (rocks, minerals, soils, and fossils), life science (pollution and habitats), and physical science (electricity and technology). Classroom content is enhanced via hands-on experiences, where students explore and investigate. STEAM activities are regularly integrated to encourage collaboration and critical thought.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students launch into the exploration and founding of the United States through the four strands of history, geography, government, and economics, taught from a biblical worldview. The geography strand focuses on developing map reading skills, including location of the equator, prime meridian, and other lines of latitude and longitude. The government strand considers the three branches of the federal government, as well as characteristics of a good citizen. The history strand explores Native Americans and early government. Students examine early American Indian cultures and the formation, growth and change of communities. The economic strand investigates the four types of productive resources and distinguishes between goods and services.



WRITING & GRAMMAR

Students explore writing through a variety of genres. The Writer's Stylus approach directs students to use the tools of grammar to become influential writers. Grammar skills, including capitalization, punctuation, and parts of speech, are interwoven with writing units. Student skills grow through the authentic analysis of published works and the intentional practice of essential grammar rules. Revision skills are taught through direct instruction, modeling and coaching.

3RD GRADE SPECIALS

ART | WEEKLY

In third grade, students learn new color combinations, such as intermediate and complementary colors, as well as tints and shades. They apply these principles through various media, techniques and processes, including drawing, painting, weaving, embroidery, ceramics and sculpture, while they also advance in their care and safety when using art supplies. Students move into proportion and perspective principles in their landscapes and portraits. Art and techniques from different cultures and master artists continue to be introduced, as well as biblical integration and examples.



MUSIC | WEEKLY

Students begin the study of ukulele and continue the use of other melodic classroom instruments. Students add the whole note to their rhythmic repertoire and continue using solfège and note names on the treble clef staff as they work on melody skills. Identifying orchestral instruments and classifying them by instrument family and sound is also studied, as is identifying musical form and using appropriate musical vocabulary to describe music. They also continue to develop performance skills through Grandparents Day, Christmas and Spring Programs. Students learn that music is a gift that they can use to worship God.

P.E. | WEEKLY

Physical Education emphasizes continued motor and movement skill development, and the development of an appreciation for participation in physical activity while fostering habits of lifetime wellness and inclusive social skills. Through individual, dual and group participation in physical activities, students increase their understanding of the interrelationship of physical, spiritual, emotional and social well-being. They also set and achieve goals in personal, cooperative and competitive activities. Students gain leadership skills through positive attitudes and peaceful conflict resolution.

SPANISH | WEEKLY

Students are able to demonstrate comprehension of vocabulary words, recite a Spanish prayer, and demonstrate appreciation for elements of Hispanic culture. Students engage in classroom experiences through participating in meaningful games, singing songs, utilizing themed activity pages and communicating using short questions and answers. Students investigate different resources to gain insight of locations of the North and Central American Spanish speaking countries.

TECHNOLOGY + STEAM | WEEKLY

Students expand upon digital citizenship, basic programming, basic keyboarding, vocabulary, 3D design, robotics, and web searches. The foundations for peer-to-teacher and peer-to-peer collaborative skills are reinforced with Google Classroom. Students engage in computer exercises that strengthen cognitive reasoning skills while exploring graphic arts, word processing, spreadsheets, slideshows, and data collection through Google Workspace for Education. STEAM projects are integrated regularly into Technology class to strengthen critical thinking skills for design thinking and project and problem-based learning activities. We celebrate each student's unique personality and gifts through Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math that stretch them artistically, academically, and cognitively.

READING ROOM | WEEKLY

Students experience a read-aloud of an ongoing chapter book or a children's book that supports chapel themes, seasonal topics, or learning objectives. They also have the opportunity to select and check out two books to take home with them for the week.

