



Third Grade Instructional Plan: First Semester

Course Overview–Reading Language Arts

Third Grade Reading Language Arts is designed to develop proficient readers and writers through a structured literacy approach rooted in the science of reading. Students will build strong foundational skills in fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension while learning to read, analyze, and write about a variety of texts. Instruction will be explicit, systematic, and scaffolded to support all learners in mastering grade-level expectations.

Throughout the year, students will:

- Strengthen decoding and word recognition skills
- Read with fluency and expression
- Expand vocabulary and knowledge of word structure
- Develop comprehension strategies for multiple genres
- Learn grammar and language conventions
- Write in multiple modes (narrative, opinion, informational)
- Engage in speaking, listening, and collaborative discussions

Course Overview-Math

Third Grade Mathematics is designed to develop proficient problem-solvers through a structured, standards-based approach aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and the rigor of the STAAR assessment. Students will build strong foundational skills in number sense, computation, geometry, measurement, data analysis, and algebraic reasoning while applying mathematical thinking to real-world situations. Instruction will be explicit, systematic, and scaffolded to ensure all learners can master grade-level expectations and demonstrate readiness for STAAR.

Throughout the year, students will:

- Strengthen number sense and place value understanding to the hundred-thousands place
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide within 1,000 using strategies and algorithms
- Represent and interpret data using tables, pictographs, bar graphs, and dot plots
- Identify, describe, and classify two- and three-dimensional figures by attributes
- Apply measurement skills, including area, perimeter, time, and liquid volume
- Understand and apply fractions as numbers and parts of a whole
- Explain mathematical thinking and solutions using models, symbols, and precise vocabulary

Course Overview-Science

Third Grade Science, guided by the Savvas curriculum and aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), is designed to build curious, confident scientists through hands-on, inquiry-based learning. Students will explore key scientific concepts across physical, earth, and life sciences while developing skills in observation, investigation, data analysis, and critical thinking. Instruction is explicit, systematic, and scaffolded to ensure all learners meet grade-level expectations and demonstrate readiness for success on the STAAR assessment.



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Throughout the year, students will:

- Use scientific practices to ask questions, plan investigations, collect data, and draw conclusions
- Explore physical science topics such as force, motion, magnetism, and properties of matter
- Investigate Earth science, including patterns in weather, the water cycle, soil composition, and natural resources
- Study life science by examining ecosystems, life cycles, inherited traits, and environments
- Observe how scientists work, use tools, and follow safety procedures
- Make connections between science and everyday life, using models, tools, and technology
- Communicate scientific ideas using accurate vocabulary, visuals, and data

Course Overview

Third Grade Social Studies is designed to help students become informed and responsible citizens by exploring their communities, state, nation, and world. Through the study of history, geography, economics, and government, students will develop critical thinking skills and an understanding of how people, events, and ideas shape society. Instruction will be explicit, systematic, and scaffolded to ensure all learners can master grade-level expectations and apply their knowledge to real-world situations.

Throughout the year, students will:

- Build knowledge of local, state, and national history through the study of important people, events, and holidays
- Understand the principles of democracy, citizenship, and individual rights and responsibilities
- Use maps, globes, and other tools to identify and describe geographic locations, features, and regions
- Explore basic economic concepts such as goods and services, supply and demand, and the value of work
- Recognize the cultural heritage and traditions that shape communities in Texas and the United States
- Analyze how individuals and groups have contributed to change in their communities and beyond
- Engage in research, discussions, and presentations to communicate ideas about social studies topics

Classroom Expectations

Our classroom is a safe learning place, which encourages teamwork, positive feedback, and academic achievement. All students will be respectful to others. We will be good listeners to the teacher and to other's ideas. All students will be hard working contributors in the process of getting their education in order to be successful and reach their full potential.

Expectation 1: Be respectful

- Use appropriate voice level
- Raise your hand, and wait your turn to speak
- Listen to all instructions and directions
- Stay in your seat and wait for teacher permission

Expectation 2: Be responsible



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- Complete all assigned tasks
- Be prepared: Have all necessary materials

Expectation 3: Be safe

- Always keep your hands and feet to self
- Walk at all times
- Report problems to an adult

Expectation 4: Be ready to learn and try your best every day

- Come to class on time
- Prioritize daily attendance

Positive reinforcement and clear routines will help students learn and meet these expectations. If expectations are not met, the teacher will first reteach and remind the student(s) of expectations. If a student continues to fail to meet expectations, they will be redirected, then parents will be contacted. If a student is unable to meet expectations after these preventative measures, an office referral will be made.

Attendance Policy & Its Importance

Regular attendance is vital to your child's academic development. Third grade is a pivotal year in reading - students move from learning to read to reading to learn. When students attend daily, they stay current with new skills, deepening their knowledge of the world, develop thinking skills, and practice important habits that support lifelong learning.

Please notify the school if your child will be absent. Frequent or extended absences may make it more difficult for your child to learn the necessary foundational skills that ensure student success this year and in future school years.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the first semester, students will be able to:

Using Amplify Knowledge and Skills, students will develop literacy skills such as:

- Analyzing characters and plot elements of classical literature
- Determining key details and the central idea of informational text
- Making inferences about text, using textual evidence to support thinking about the text
- Comparing and contrasting texts about the same topic
- Synthesizing information across texts about the same topic
- Respond to text to demonstrate understanding

Using **Accelerate Learning STEMscopes (Texas)**, students will develop math skills such as:

- Solving one- and two-step problems involving the four operations
- Understanding and applying place value to the hundred-thousands place
- Representing and interpreting data using graphs and tables
- Identifying and classifying two- and three-dimensional shapes by attributes
- Applying measurement concepts including area, perimeter, and elapsed time
- Explaining and justifying mathematical solutions using models and precise vocabulary



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Using the **Savvas Science curriculum**, aligned with the **Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)**. Students will be able to:

- Use **scientific practices** to ask questions, make predictions, plan and conduct investigations, and record observations
- Identify and use **appropriate science tools** and follow **safety procedures** during investigations
- Explore **physical science** concepts such as **matter, magnetism, force, and motion**
- Observe and describe **changes in states of matter** and classify materials based on physical properties
- Investigate **Earth science** topics including **soil composition, weather patterns, natural resources, and the water cycle**
- Analyze and communicate findings using **charts, tables, models, and scientific vocabulary**
- Understand how **science impacts daily life**, including the role of technology and scientific innovation

Using Social Studies Weekly, students will develop skills such as:

- Identifying and explaining the significance of historical figures, events, and symbols
- Locating and describing places and regions using maps, globes, and geographic tools
- Understanding the purposes and functions of local, state, and national government
- Explaining basic economic concepts, including production, consumption, and trade
- Comparing and contrasting cultural traditions and contributions within communities and the state
- Gathering, interpreting, and organizing information from multiple sources to answer questions about social studies topics
- Communicating ideas and conclusions through discussion, writing, and presentations

Course Resources

- Chromebook (provided by Midland ISD)
- Journals and writing utensils (part of the school supply list)
- Amplify and i-Ready
- Social Studies Weekly

Grading Policy

According to Midland ISD Grading Policy: teachers use a variety of student work to assess achievement. Assessment methods are selected based on what best fits the class, students, and the TEKS/SEs being taught.

- Graded papers will be sent home on Friday.
- Students will receive at least one grade per subject each week.
- Any grade below 70 may be corrected for a higher grade, up to a maximum of 70
- Incomplete work may be sent home for completion at the teacher's discretion, with a maximum possible grade of 70.
- Homework may be assigned occasionally at the teacher's discretion.



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Major assignments - 40% Minor assignments - 60%;

Corrections

Corrections are to be completed at home on a separate sheet of paper.

A parent signature is required on the correction sheet for credit to be given.

Corrections may raise a student's grade up to a maximum of 70.

Graded papers will be sent home every Friday, and corrected papers must be returned by Monday.

Make Up Work

Students have the same number of school days they were absent to complete make-up work.

Google Classroom:

Students will use Google Classroom throughout the school year. Grades may be assigned based on work submitted through Google Classroom. Corrections on Google Classroom assignments are allowed; to request a correction, students must notify the teacher by leaving a comment on the assignment after completion. Unless otherwise permitted by the teacher (such as for medical absences), Google Classroom assignments are expected to be completed during class time.

Class DoJo (School-wide System of Communication)

Our campus uses ClassDoJo to communicate with families. Please ensure you join our class for important updates.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. We are excited to work together to make this a successful year of learning!

Laptop Use and Care:

Laptops will remain at school unless a prior request is made for them to be taken home.

Laptops will be used daily for all activities, including assignments and tests.

Students are responsible for the care and proper use of their laptops.

Any repair costs due to damage will be the responsibility of the student's guardian.

Insurance for laptops is available for purchase at <https://securrantv.com/midlandisd>.

Please fill out the portion below and return this portion to your teacher.

We acknowledge that we have read and that we understand the expectations in Third Grade. We agree to contact the teacher should we have any questions or concerns regarding this instructional plan.

Parent Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____



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Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____