

LITERACY

Third Grade



The Indiana Academic Standards define what students should know, understand, and be able to do at grade level beginning in kindergarten and progressing through grade twelve. These standards serve as the foundation to our curriculum in Noblesville Schools but are not a curriculum on their own. The Indiana Academic Standards are supported through grade-level curriculum maps and a selection of core curriculum materials to support these maps. These curriculum maps and materials are aligned to the Indiana Academic standards while also meeting the needs of all learners. Therefore, the Noblesville Schools' curriculum is constantly undergoing periodic and systematic analysis and revision. Noblesville Schools last engaged in an English Language Arts program review in grades K-12 during the 2024-2025 school year.

In third grade, instructional time is focused on the key components of literacy, which are embedded across the school day. The third grade Indiana Academic Standards for English Language Arts serve as the foundation of our curriculum. These third grade standards are supported in Noblesville Schools through core curriculum materials for literacy instruction, including [Amplify CKLA, 3rd Edition \(2025\)](#), which is a recommended core curriculum material on the Indiana Department of Education's High-Quality Curricular Materials Advisory List. You can learn more about *Amplify CKLA, 3rd Edition* and its components in grades K-5 in this [CKLA, 3rd Edition Overview Video](#).

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CKLA Skills Units (3rd Edition)

Amplify’s Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA), (3rd Edition) serves as the primary core curriculum material for all third grade learners and provides alignment with the Indiana Academic Standards for English Language Arts.

Table 1: Third Grade CKLA Foundational Skills Units

CKLA Skills Units	Approximate Month(s) Taught <i>Provides time for instruction, remediation/extension, and assessment.</i>	Skills Units Learning Outcomes Learners will...
Unit 1	Start of School - End of September	Review and consolidate understanding of blends, digraphs, and abbreviations. Identify, distinguish, and read closed and open syllables. Integrate knowledge of inflectional and derivational endings in word usage. Demonstrate correct spelling of multisyllabic words. Spell and write abbreviations for titles, addresses, and time-related terms. Engage in comprehension and writing exercises based on reading passages.
Unit 2	End of September - Early January	Recognize and apply separated digraphs and vowel teams in spelling. Distinguish between hard and soft sounds of ‘c’ and ‘g’. Identify, distinguish, and read VCe and vowel team syllables. Integrate derivational endings, prefixes, and suffixes to alter word meanings. Practice spelling and constructing sentences with target sound/spellings. Engage in reading comprehension and written reflection exercises.

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CKLA Skills Units	Approximate Month(s) Taught <i>Provides time for instruction, remediation/extension, and assessment.</i>	Skills Units Learning Outcomes Learners will...
Unit 3	Early January - End of March	Develop familiarity with r-controlled vowels and how they influence vowel sounds. Identify and apply knowledge of schwa sounds in words. Identify and read r-controlled and final stable syllables. Decode words with tricky consonant spellings including silent letters. Utilize prefixes and suffixes to modify and expand word meanings. Construct sentences featuring target sound/spellings and morphemes. Engage in reading comprehension and writing exercises.
Unit 4	End of March - End of May	Recognize and spell words using various schwa sound/spellings. Identify and use contractions, possessives, homophones, and homographs. Apply syllabication patterns to divide and read multisyllabic words. Integrate prefixes, suffixes, and roots to modify and understand word meanings. Construct sentences featuring diverse sound/spellings and morphemes. Engage in reading comprehension and extended writing exercises.

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CKLA Units (3rd Edition)

Amplify’s Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA), (3rd Edition) serves as the primary core curriculum material for all third grade learners and provides alignment with the Indiana Academic Standards for English Language Arts.

Table 2: Third Grade CKLA Units

CKLA Units/Domains	Approximate Month(s) Taught <i>Provides time for instruction, remediation/extension, and assessment.</i>	CKLA Units/Domains Learning Outcomes Learners will...
Unit 1: Timeless Tales: Classic Stories	Start of School - End of August	Review short and long vowel sounds, /r/-controlled vowels, alternate spellings, and syllables with ‘le’. Identify and use concrete and abstract nouns, regular and irregular verbs, and adjectives. Analyze characters, perspective, and point of view. Demonstrate understanding of plot and sequence. Identify themes in a text. Demonstrate understanding of key vocabulary. Draft, write, edit, and revise an opinion paragraph.
Unit 2: Fur, Fins, and Feathers: Animal Classification	Early September - End of September	Classify animals as vertebrates or invertebrates and warm-blooded or cold-blooded. Review suffixes and root words. Alphabetize words to the second and third letter. Develop an understanding of sentence structure and parts of speech. Determine subject pronouns, their antecedents, and object pronouns. Identify and apply prefixes. Demonstrate understanding of key vocabulary. Write an informative paragraph.

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CKLA Units/Domains	Approximate Month(s) Taught <i>Provides time for instruction, remediation/extension, and assessment.</i>	CKLA Units/Domains Learning Outcomes Learners will...
Unit 3: Rhythm and Rhyme: Poetry	End of September - Early November	Demonstrate understanding of key vocabulary. Define and identify poetry elements. Practice and apply poetry elements. Use textual evidence to analyze poetry. Identify and use reciprocal pronouns. Write an opinion paragraph. Write an original poem.
Unit 4: Rise and Fall: Ancient Rome	Early November - Mid-December	Demonstrate understanding of key vocabulary. Define and identify poetry elements. Practice and apply poetry elements. Use textual evidence to analyze poetry. Identify and use reciprocal pronouns. Write an opinion paragraph. Write an original poem.
Unit 5: Our Solar System and Beyond: Astronomy	Mid-December- End of January	Compare and contrast two things or ideas. Write informative paragraphs about the life of an astronaut. Identify cause and effect in a text. Demonstrate proficiency in dictionary skills by using guide words. Demonstrate understanding of singular and plural possessive nouns. Use quotation marks when writing dialogue. Review words with spelling patterns /j/, /n/, /ae/, /k/, and /s/. Apply knowledge of suffixes to unfamiliar words in texts and other content. Demonstrate understanding of key vocabulary.

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CKLA Units/Domains	Approximate Month(s) Taught <i>Provides time for instruction, remediation/extension, and assessment.</i>	CKLA Units/Domains Learning Outcomes Learners will...
Unit 6: Regions and Cultures: Native Americans	End of January - End of February	Identify cause and effect relationships in a text. Use technology to conduct research and build background knowledge about local Native American tribes. Demonstrate understanding of key vocabulary. Review various spelling patterns for mastery. Identify possessive nouns and pronouns. Determine the meaning of adjectives and abstract nouns when suffixes are added to a known root word. Strengthen dictionary skills by determining the meaning of keywords, the function of entry words, and the meanings of different homographs. Use linking words and phrases to connect facts, definitions, and details within a paragraph. Maintain a notebook containing definitions, sentences, and writing exercises that use Core Vocabulary words.
Unit 7 (Choice Unit): Novel Study: Stella Díaz Has Something to Say	End of February - End of March	Identify internal character traits and how characters' actions contribute to the sequence of the novel. Use a glossary to determine the meaning of words and phrases. Recount character actions and events from the novel using temporal words. Use conjunctions and question words to expand sentences. Use dialogue with correct punctuation. Plan, draft, revise, edit, publish, and present a fictional narrative.



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CKLA Units/Domains	Approximate Month(s) Taught <i>Provides time for instruction, remediation/extension, and assessment.</i>	CKLA Units/Domains Learning Outcomes Learners will...
Unit 8 (Choice Unit): From Glow to Echo: Light and Sound	End of March - Early May	Describe properties of light and sound. Identify characteristics of biography genre. Compare and contrast information from the text. Summarize the main idea and key details from the text. Acquire dictionary skills, particularly using guide words. Practice usage of regular and irregular plural nouns. Review adverbs ending with -ly and study adverbs that tell when and where. Review previous spellings for /ee/ and /ae/ and learn new spellings for the /ae/ sound. Identify and use prefixes and suffixes including -er and -est to form and use comparative and superlative adjectives. Demonstrate understanding of key vocabulary. Write a newspaper article.
Unit 9: From Blues to Bebop: All That Jazz	Early May - End of May	Demonstrate understanding of key vocabulary. Determine the meaning of words in context. Review simple and compound sentences. Determine the key ideas of a text by evaluating its details. Discuss and explain the author's purpose. Compose a well-organized and focused informational essay.