

Parents' Guide to Student Success



This guide provides an overview of what your child will learn by the end of 3rd grade in English Language Arts and mathematics. This guide is based on West Virginia's College and Career Readiness Standards. If your child is meeting expectations outlined in these standards, he or she will be well prepared for 4th grade.

3RD GRADE

English Language Arts & Literacy

Third grade English Language Arts focuses on building students' independence as readers, writers, speakers, and thinkers. By the end of third grade, students are expected to read and understand grade-level texts independently, express ideas clearly in writing and speech, and use proper grammar and vocabulary. These skills build a strong foundation for future academic success and align with college and career readiness goals.

Example classroom activities:

- Read a wide range of stories, poems, and informational texts with increasing independence
- Identify main ideas, themes, and key details
- Describe characters, settings, and events
- Explain cause/effect and sequence in informational texts
- Compare their own point of view with a narrator or characters
- Read fluently with accuracy and expression
- Write opinion pieces, informational texts, and narratives
- Participating in collaborative discussions
- Learn academic vocabulary and figurative language
- Use context clues to determine word meanings

Mathematics

Third grade mathematics in the West Virginia College and Career Readiness Standards focuses on developing strong number sense, problem-solving skills, and understanding of key mathematical concepts. Instruction is organized into several major domains that build a foundation for more advanced math.

Example classroom activities:

- Know how to multiply and divide numbers through 10×10
- Begin to multiply numbers with more than one digit (e.g., multiplying 9×80)
- Solve word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
- Understand a fraction as a number on a number line (e.g., $1/4$, $1/2$ and $3/4$).
- Explore the concepts of area and perimeter
- Solve problems involving measurement, intervals of time, liquid volumes, and masses of objects