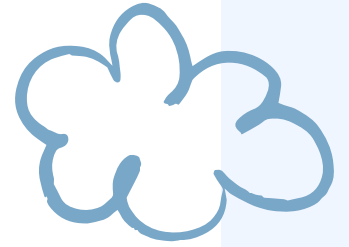


WELCOME
TO MISS COLLINS'



THIRD GRADE CLASS



PARENT HANDBOOK



SUNRISE ELEMENTARY
2026-2027



TOGETHER WE SHINE!



Welcome to Third Grade!

Dear Families,

Welcome to an exciting year of learning, growth, and discovery! My name is Tori Collins, and I am thrilled to be your child's third-grade teacher at Sunrise Elementary School.

I earned my Bachelor of Science in Learning, Leadership, and Literacy from the University of Arizona and completed my teacher preparation program through Scottsdale Community College. Over the past two years, I have worked as a substitute teacher, gaining experience in a variety of elementary classrooms and supporting students with diverse learning needs. These experiences have strengthened my passion for education and prepared me to create a positive, engaging, and supportive learning environment where all students can thrive.

I am excited to partner with you and make this a successful and memorable year for your child.

My Teaching Mission

I believe that every child can learn and succeed when they feel safe, supported, and valued. My goal is to create a classroom community where students are encouraged to take risks, ask questions, learn from mistakes, and celebrate their growth. Together, we will build strong academic skills while fostering kindness, responsibility, confidence, and a lifelong love of learning.

About Me

Fun facts about me:

- I love all things artsy and creative.
- I enjoy baking and trying new recipes.
- I love spending time outdoors and exploring nature.

Communication

I believe that strong communication between home and school is essential for student success. I encourage families to reach out whenever questions or concerns arise.

ClassDojo will be my primary method of communication for classroom updates and quick questions.

Email: tori.collins@dvusd.org

I respond to messages within 24 hours during the school week.

I look forward to partnering with your family and making this an incredible year of learning, growth, and success!

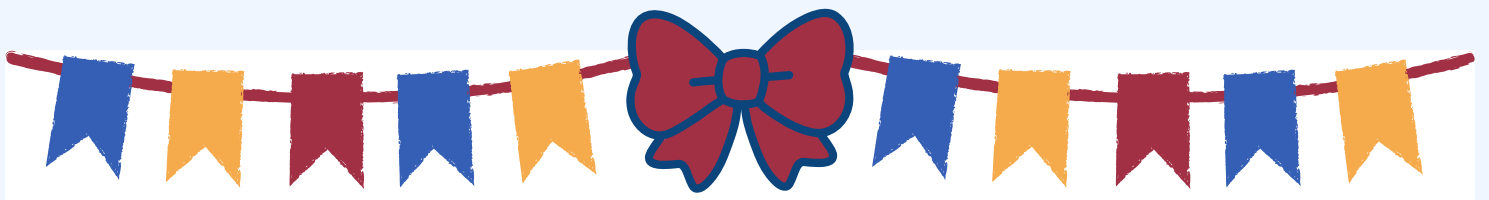
Warmly,

Ms. Collins



3rd Grade Class Schedule

8:00-8:15	Breakfast
8:15-8:30	Social Studies
8:30-9:00	Intervention (Reading/Writing)
9:00-9:45	Specials
9:45-11:15	Reading & Writing
11:15-11:35	Social Studies
11:35-11:55	Recess
11:55-12:15	Lunch
12:15-12:55	Science
12:55-2:00	Math
2:00-2:20	Math Small Groups
2:20-2:45	Small Groups (Reading/Writing)
2:45-2:58	Recess
2:58-3:00	Dismissal



Early Release Friday

8:00-8:15	Breakfast
8:15-8:45	EABS (Essential, Academic, & Behavior Skills)
8:45-10:15	Reading & Writing
10:15-10:45	Specials
10:45-11:15	Intervention (Reading/Writing)
11:15-11:35	Science/Social Studies
11:35-11:55	Recess
11:55-12:15	Lunch
12:15-12:30	Science/Social Studies
12:30-1:28	Math
1:28-1:30	Dismissal

Classroom Expectations

Our classroom expectations are built around our school's PAWS expectations and our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program. Throughout the school year, students will be encouraged and expected to demonstrate these expectations in everything they do.

In our classroom, we believe that we are a family. Every student deserves to feel safe, valued, respected, and included. We will work together to create a positive learning environment where kindness, respect, responsibility, and encouragement are at the heart of our daily interactions.

Our classroom follows one simple Golden Rule:

If what you are doing interferes with learning, hurts someone's heart, or prevents you from being your best self, it's time to make a better choice.

Students will be taught appropriate behaviors and given opportunities to learn from their mistakes through logical, respectful consequences that align with our school's PBIS framework. My goal is not only to help students make good choices but also to teach them the skills they need to be successful both in and out of the classroom.

Positive behavior is celebrated often! Students will have many opportunities to earn ClassDojo points and participate in classroom incentive systems that recognize kindness, responsibility, perseverance, and other positive choices. These rewards help reinforce the behaviors that make our classroom a welcoming and successful place for everyone.

Together, with your partnership and support, we can create a classroom community where every child feels confident, respected, and excited to learn.

Sunrise Elementary School				
	P Practicing Respect	A Accepting Responsibility	W Working Together	S Safety Matters
Classroom	-Listen to the speaker -Raise your hand -Stay in your own space -Use your own materials	-Arrive ready to learn -Keep your space clean -Make good choices	-Take turns -Be kind -Manners -Lend a helping hand	-Keep hands, feet, and body to self -Walk -Push in your chair -Use supplies safely -Keep items off the floor

3rd Grade Learning Standards

What Will Your Child Learn This Year?

You may be wondering what your child will be learning throughout the school year. This page provides a brief overview of the exciting skills and concepts we will explore together in third grade. It is designed to give families a better understanding of the wonderful learning experiences, topics, and goals students will work toward throughout the year.

The learning goals listed below are parent-friendly summaries of the Arizona Academic Standards for Grade 3. They are intended to provide families with an overview of the skills and concepts students will develop throughout the school year. Please keep in mind that this is only a snapshot of our learning, and we will continue to build upon these skills through engaging lessons, discussions, projects, and hands-on experiences.

Reading

- Read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts
- Build reading fluency, accuracy, and comprehension
- Identify the main idea and supporting details
- Make inferences using evidence from the text
- Compare characters, settings, and events
- Expand vocabulary using context clues and word study

Writing

- Write opinion, informational, and narrative pieces
- Organize writing with clear beginnings, middles, and endings
- Use evidence from reading to support writing
- Revise and edit writing for grammar, spelling, and punctuation

Math

- Develop multiplication and division fluency
- Solve multi-step word problems using different strategies
- Understand and compare fractions
- Build skills with place value, addition, and subtraction
- Explore geometry, area, and perimeter
- Measure length, time, liquid volume, and mass

Science

- Explore life, physical, Earth, and space sciences
- Ask questions and investigate scientific phenomena
- Plan and carry out hands-on investigations
- Collect, analyze, and communicate scientific data
- Learn how science and engineering solve real-world problems

Social Studies

- Learn about communities, cultures, and geography
- Explore Arizona and United States history
- Understand how government works and the rights and responsibilities of citizens
- Develop map skills and use geographic tools to understand the world

Additional Information

For a complete description of the Arizona Academic Standards, please visit:

<https://www.azed.gov/standards-practices>

Homework & Testing

Homework & Home Practice

What to expect:

- Homework is designed to support learning, not introduce new concepts
- Assignments are purposeful and grade level appropriate
- Time commitments may vary by subject

How families can help:

- Establish a consistent time and quiet space for homework
- Review your child's work regularly
- Encourage effort and problem solving
- Contact me with any questions or concerns

For the complete district policy, visit [dvusd.org/a-z-guide/handbooks-and-forms](https://www.dvusd.org/a-z-guide/handbooks-and-forms).

Testing

Sunrise follows Deer Valley Unified School District testing schedules and procedures; see the DVUSD testing page for dates, practice resources, and parent guides:

<https://www.dvusd.org/Testing>



Academic Integrity & Generative AI Guidelines

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY IN DVUSD



To be college-, career-, and community-ready, students in the Deer Valley Unified School District are expected to demonstrate academic integrity. Academic integrity is all about **being honest and fair in your schoolwork**. It means doing work that is entirely your own and giving credit to others (including generative Artificial Intelligence tools) through proper citation when you use their ideas or words.

If you have questions about the guidelines for academic integrity, you should discuss them with your teacher.

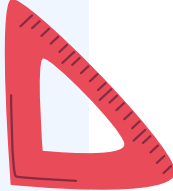
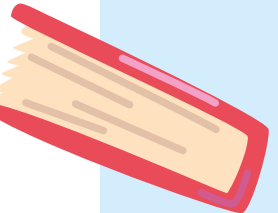
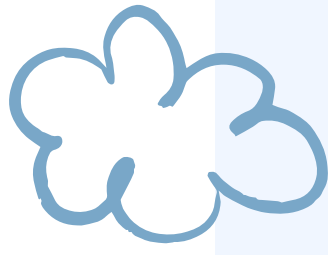
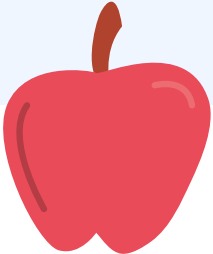
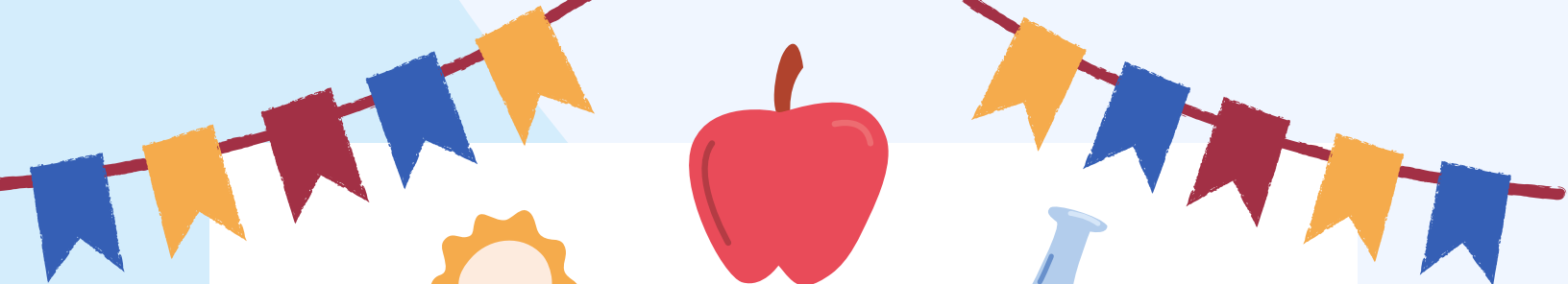


Student Use of Generative AI



Level	Description	Example Instruction
Restrictive No!	AI tools are prohibited for the assignment, and all work must be the student's original creation.	"Do not use AI tools for this assignment. All content must be original, and any use of AI will be treated as plagiarism."
Moderate Whoa!	Students can use teacher-approved AI tools from the district list for specific parts of their assignments, such as brainstorming or initial research, but the core content and conclusions should be original. Proper citation is required for any AI-generated content.	"You can employ AI tools to assist brainstorming or initial research, however the main content, arguments, and conclusions should be your own."
Permissive Go!	Students can use teacher-approved AI tools from the district list to assist in their assignments, such as generating ideas, proofreading, or organizing content.	"You may use AI tools as you see fit to enhance your assignment and demonstrate your understanding of the topic, however proper citation is required for any AI-generated content."

Adapted From: Code.org, CoSN, Digital Promise, European EdTech Alliance, Larimore, J., and PACE (2023). AI Guidance for Schools Toolkit. Retrieved from teachai.org/toolkit. (2004).



**Thank you for
joining our third
grade family! I'm
looking forward to a
wonderful year of
learning and growth.**

Together we shine!

– Miss Collins

