

# What to Expect in THIRD GRADE



## Purpose of the Grade Level Guide

---

- Provide parents a general overview of the content taught at each grade level
- Provide information regarding the district instructional materials used to teach the content
- Provide key communication tools that provide information on student progress
- Provide information regarding district testing
- List resources that can be used to gain additional information

## Language Arts

---

The third grade language arts curriculum builds on second grade foundational literacy skills. Through word acquisition (spelling correctly, using common affixes, correct use of nouns, verbs, and possessives) students develop knowledge of word families, use multi-syllabic words, and distinguish between nonliteral and literal language. They demonstrate an understanding of informational and literary texts through questions, assessments, projects, activities, presentations, and conversations. As students read a variety of complex texts (including those in math, science, and social studies) they use comprehension strategies to show understanding of central messages and main ideas. Those strategies include predicting, recalling information, interpreting, and forming and supporting opinions. Students use research skills to present their learning or recount their experience clearly and appropriately using details and facts. They continue to build their vocabulary and spelling as they identify and develop writing strategies for a variety of purposes. Students plan, revise and edit their written work. They write informational/expository text that includes organizational structure appropriate to the topic and is developed using facts and details. Students also write narratives using dialogue and descriptions to develop the story. Students share personal experiences and information clearly with others during participation and collaboration in group discussions and class activities. Students use a variety of print and digital resources as they conduct research to build knowledge about a topic.

**District Instructional Materials:** *Benchmark Advance - ELA curriculum*

*Lexia and IXL - Online Learning Platforms*

## Mathematics

---

Third grade instructional time focuses on five critical areas: *Critical Area 1:* Developing understanding of multiplication and division and strategies for multiplication and division within 100, *Critical Area 2:* Developing understanding of fractions, especially unit fractions (fractions with numerator 1), *Critical Area 3:* Developing understanding of the structure of rectangular arrays and of area, *Critical Area 4:* Describing and analyzing two-dimensional shapes, and *Critical Area 5:* Solving multi-step problems. The end of year expectation for third grade students is that they represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division; understand properties of multiplication and the relationship between multiplication and division; multiply and divide within 100; solve problems involving the four operations, and identify and explain patterns in arithmetic; use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic (a range of strategies and algorithms may be used; develop understanding of fractions as numbers (Grade 3 expectations in this domain are limited to fractions with denominators 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8); solve problems involving money, measurement, and estimation of intervals of time, liquid volumes, and masses of objects; reason with shapes and their attributes; represent and interpret data; understand concepts of area and relate area to multiplication and to addition; geometric measurement: recognize perimeter as an attribute of plane figures and distinguish between linear and area measures.

**District Instructional Materials:** *Eureka - Math curriculum*

*Zearn, Relex, Frax and IXL - Online Learning Platforms*

## Social Studies

---

### **Communities: Past and Present, Near and Far**

The local community serves as the focal point for third graders as students begin to understand how their communities have changed over time and to make comparisons with communities in other places. The study of local history comes alive through the use of artifacts and documents. They also learn how communities are governed and how the local economy is organized.

## Science

---

The third grade theme focuses on helping students develop the skills for systematic discovery to understand the science of the natural world around them in greater depth by using scientific inquiry. Students will learn about Earth's resources. While resources can be living and nonliving, the emphasis is on Earth's nonliving resources, such as water, air, rock, and soil, and the energy sources they represent. Students will also focus on the relationship between matter and energy. Matter has specific properties and is found in all substances on Earth. Heat is a familiar form of energy that can change the states of matter. Students will explore life cycles of organisms and the relationship between the natural environment and an organism's (physical and behavioral) traits which affect its ability to survive and reproduce.

## Synergy

---

Third grade students will develop their communication and collaboration skills while working with a 3rd grade pen pal from another Mayfield elementary school. The pen pals will meet in person on two field trips to the high school campus. Students will also use the portrait of a graduate skills on a research project focused on renewable energy. In STEM, students will learn how to program using Ozobot robots and will design and complete a 3D printing project. Students will work on their keyboarding skills in Typing Club and improve their knowledge of Google Apps, Drive, bookmarks and extensions. Students will learn how to write a proper email and learn safe and appropriate use of the internet. Students will be exposed to a variety of print library books as well as digital and audio books through the use of SORA and EPIC.

## Visual Arts

---

In third grade, students develop their understanding of principles of design and dive into various styles of art by experimenting with various media. There is emphasis placed upon describing and identifying each principle. Creating an example of the principles by combining them to create an esthetically pleasing artwork. Students will be able to describe and identify the important characteristics of different art styles. Linking specific artists and historical/cultural contexts to a style of art and creating connections to their own personal artworks. Students are creating the essence of a style in personal artwork so that others can recognize the style. Lastly, they incorporate the elements and principles of design into artwork created with various media; comparing and contrasting the various effects of different media on artwork. Students will creatively manipulate materials to produce unique effects.

## Music

---

Students in third grade will be creating, performing, and responding to music and connecting music to other subject areas. Third graders explore music through listening, singing, dancing, moving and playing instruments in a variety of musical settings. The primary focus of third grade music is to sing in tune, demonstrate more complex rhythms and pitches, and read and write standard notation. Classroom instrument playing may include recorders, boomwhackers, tambourines, rhythm sticks, hand drums, egg shakers, jingle bells, maracas, xylophones and triangles.

## Physical Education

---

During the third grade year, time is spent on class procedures, fitness concepts, and participation in units that stretch over multiple class periods. Students in third grade participate in experiences that lead to development within the physical, cognitive, and affective domains. The physical domain focuses on movement skills, manipulative skills, and fitness. The cognitive domain enables students to add to an already existing movement vocabulary, develop deeper concept knowledge, and refine critical elements of skill performance. Within the affective domain students learn about reasons to value being active and the importance of being a good sport. The overarching goal is to continue to inspire an appreciation for an active lifestyle.

## Communication with Parents

---

The learning platform used for third grade is Schoology. Schoology is an online classroom where students interact with content, share and collaborate. Parents can use the platform to see student assignments and the learning that is happening in the classroom.

Infinite Campus is the student information system that is used across the district. Performance on assessments and classwork along with report cards will be housed in this system.

## District and State Testing

---

Three times a year students will take the STAR Reading and STAR Math computer-adaptive assessments. STAR Reading is a comprehensive assessment that provides insights needed to guide literacy growth for emergent readers, struggling readers and high achievers. STAR Math assesses students' math skills over multiple domains.

Students will take the [Ohio State Tests](#) in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. The ELA test will be administered in the fall and the spring while the math test will only take place in the spring. The Ohio State Test in ELA test is used to determine if students are on track with their reading and to meet the requirements of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. Click here to learn more about the [Third Grade Reading Guarantee](#).

## Resources

---

*For additional information regarding our curriculum and programs, please refer to the following resources:*

Mayfield City Schools Website: <https://www.mayfieldschools.org/>

Ohio Department of Education Website: <http://www.ode.state.oh.us/>