

Parent Guide to Third Grade

Randolph County School System



English Language Arts



In third grade, your child will use critical thinking skills and strategies to comprehend and clarify information and ideas when reading. Important goals for the year include:

Reading:

- Use grade level phonics and word analysis skills to decode multi-syllable words.
- Recount fables, folktales, and myths and determine the central message, lesson or moral using details.
- Find the main idea of a text and identify the supporting details.
- Describe characters from a story (traits, motivations and feelings).
- Explain how illustrations can contribute to the mood or provide additional information about a topic.
- Compare and contrast the themes, settings and plots of stories.
- Distinguish the meaning of literal and nonliteral words and phrases in a text.
- Make connections between sentences and paragraphs.
- Compare details about the same topic in two different texts.

Writing:

- Write opinion, informational, and narrative pieces for different purposes and audiences.
- Use technology to produce and publish writing.
- Conduct short research projects independently.
- Use grade-appropriate grammar and spelling (capitals, commas, apostrophes, and quotation marks).
- Create readable documents with legible handwriting (manuscript and cursive).

Speaking/Listening:

- Take part in discussions about topics and texts by preparing ahead of time, building on others' ideas, asking questions, and expressing their own ideas.
- Report orally on a topic or text by using facts and details and speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

Read more about what your child will learn this year in the parent guides from the NC Department of Public Instruction! [Parent Guides & Parent Guide Booklets](#)

Mathematics



In third grade, your child will continue to strengthen math habits such as problem solving, persistence, precision, accuracy, modeling, constructing arguments, and checking to see if the answer makes sense. Important goals for the year include:

- Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division.
- Multiply and divide within 100. Fluently know multiplication and division facts up to 10×10 .
- Multiply one-digit numbers by multiples of ten (ex. 9×80).
- Solve word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- Add and subtract within 1000 using a variety of strategies.
- Develop understanding of fractions as numbers (represent, compare, and find equivalent fractions).
- Represent fractions on a number line.
- Estimate and measure length, weight, and capacity using customary measurement (inches, feet, yards, ounces, pounds, cups, pints, quarts, gallons). Solve problems involving measurements.
- Tell time to the nearest minute and solve problems with intervals of time.
- Represent and interpret data on tables, picture graphs, and bar graphs.
- Find the area and perimeter of shapes.
- Classify two-dimensional shapes, including quadrilaterals, based on shared characteristics.

Parent Guide to Third Grade

Science

As third grade students learn about the life, physical, and earth sciences, they will develop skills of observation, actively conduct investigations, have opportunities to use their senses and other tools to gather data, and time to talk about their observations with peers.

Important goals for the year include:

- Understand motion and factors that affect motion. Compare changes in speed and explain the effects of gravity.
- Compare the properties of solids, liquids, and gases. Summarize the properties of matter before and after they undergo a change.
- Recognize how energy can be transferred from one object to another.
- Compare the land and water features of Earth.
- Recognize the major components of the solar system and observe patterns of the sun and stars.
- Explain and compare the different functions of the skeletal and muscle systems of the human body.
- Summarize how plants survive in their environments (function of plant structures, environmental conditions, and life cycle of seed plants). Explain the properties of soil and how it supports the growth and survival of many plants.

Social Studies

Third grade students will learn, through the six strands of social studies, the interactions between individuals and groups that develop local and state communities.

Important goals for the year include:

- Study people and events significant to local regions that represent our communities and our state.
- Compare regions and understand how the location of regions, as well as resources found within those regions, both define local communities and help shape their development and growth.
- Understand the importance of the role that local businesses and entrepreneurs play within the local economy, as well as the roles and responsibilities of local and state government.
- Understand how the interactions between various cultural groups shape local and state communities through aspects such as food, traditions, artistic expression, and more.
- Explain factors that contribute to the development of local communities and regions.

Resources for Parents

Randolph County School System

www.randolph.k12.nc.us

Parent Resources

www.ed.gov

Today Parenting Guides

www.today.com/parenting-guides

NC Department of Public Instruction & K-12 Standards

www.dpi.nc.gov

National PTA Parent Guides

www.pta.org

NC Department of Public Instruction ELA Parent Guides

<https://ncdpi.instructure.com/courses/914/pages/parent-guides>