

Understanding What Your Child Will Learn

Your child will learn many new concepts and skills over the course of the school year. In Louisiana, all public schools use the *Louisiana Student Standards* as the basis for what they teach students. This are provided for Grade 3 in the following content areas:

- English Language Arts & Reading
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education

Below are a few of the standards that your child will learn along with strategies you can use to support your child's learning at home.



English Language Arts

Third grade students will develop and sustain foundational language skills: fluently read 1414 words per minute, sound out and spell one- and two-syllable words, write using basic paragraph formation, and retell stories.

What does it mean?

By the end of the 3rd grade your child will be able to:

- use evidence to support an opinion about a text
- retell summarize fables, folktales, and myths from other cultures
- describe character traits, feelings, and motivations in a text
- distinguish between literal and non-literal words
- identify point of view (Is the story told in 1st, 2nd or 3rd person)
- identify the main idea of a text
- read and understand informational text and grade-level literature
- write a narrative and cite evidence from the text

How can you support your child?

- Provide a wide variety of reading material
- Show your child that you enjoy reading by reading near him/her
- Read to your child every day
- Listen to your child read to you and ask questions about the story
- Model writing for your child



Physical Education

The primary focus for this age group is the learning and acquisition of locomotor, non-locomotor and manipulative skills.

What does it mean?

These are the foundational skills for all movement patterns that gradually become more complex as movement becomes more specific.

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Mathematics

All students should be able to recall and use math skills a daily basis. A student should know simple math facts and know how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide basic numbers. They should be able to use the number system with ease. Students should be able to work with simple fractions and percentages. They should be able to apply basic algebra and geometry principles. These are addressed in five domains: operations and algebraic thinking, number and operations in base ten, number and operations -fractions, measurement and data and geometry. Additionally, students need to be able to reason mathematically, communicate with others about math through speaking and writing, and problem solve in real-world situations to be prepared mathematically for college or a career.

What does it mean?

By the end of 3rd grade your child will be able to:

- identify and interpret fractions
- multiply and divide whole numbers
- apply multiplication and division properties
 - commutative property $3 \times 5 = 15$ and $5 \times 3 = 15$ order does not matter
 - associative property $(2 \times 3) \times 4 = 2 \times (3 \times 4)$ product is the same no matter how numbers are grouped
 - distributive property $4(6+3) = 4 \times 6 + 4 \times 3$ multiplying the sum of two or more numbers is the same as multiplying the addends separately
- use inches and centimeters to measure, measure liquid volume and mass using kilograms, meters, kilograms etc. and measure the area of plane figures
- identify numeric patterns
- solve world problems using skills listed above

How can you support your child?

- Download math game apps that get aid students in learning basic math facts.
- Break the problem apart by underlining or circling important information in the problem to help your child make sense of the information.
- Have conversations with your child about the changes that occur when you put things together (addition) and take things apart (subtraction).
- Use measuring tools in and around your home.
- Allow students to count money.
- Identify polygons in the real world.



Science

The Louisiana Student Standards for Science represent the knowledge and skills needed for students to successfully transition to postsecondary educations and the workplace. The standards call for students to apply content knowledge on performance expectations. They will investigate, evaluate and reason scientifically using science engineering practices (asking questions, defining problems, developing and using models, planning and carrying out investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, using mathematical and computational thinking, constructing explanations and designing solutions (engineering), engaging in argument with evidence, obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information. Students will explore concepts that cross all grade levels: patterns, cause and effect, scale, portion, and quantity, systems and system models, energy and matter, structure and function, stability and change

What does it mean?

By the end of 3rd grade your child should know:

Physical Science

- provide evidence of the effects of balanced and unbalanced forces on the motion of an object
- provide evidence that a pattern can be used to predict future motion
- determine cause and effect relationships of electric or magnetic interactions between two objects not in contact with each other.

Earth Science:

- describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season
- describe climates in different regions around the world

Life Science:

- describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction, and death.
- support an argument that some animals form groups that help members survive.
- provide evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from their parents and that variation of these traits exists in a group of similar organisms
- support the explanation that traits can be influenced by the environment.
- explain data from fossils to provide evidence of the organisms and the environments in which they lived long ago.

How can you support your child?

- Model asking questions for your child and encourage your child to ask questions.
- Explore reading materials about the topics they are discovering and studying in science.



Social Studies

Third grade students are introduced to the world beyond their family and home. Students will build upon experiences with their families, schools, communities, and parishes as they continue their study of the most fundamental principles and ideas of each of social studies' core disciplines: history, civics, economics, and geography.

What does it mean?

At the end of each unit students should be able to answer the following questions.

- **The Founding the United States of America**
 - What actions and ideas led to the founding of the United States of America?
 - What challenges were involved in creating a new constitution?
- **Papers and Places**
 - How does the constitution set up the US government?
 - What are the major geographic features and national symbols associated with the US?
- **A Growing Nation**
 - How did the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark Expedition contribute to the growth of the United States?
 - In what ways did American settlers move west?
- **A Changing Nation**
 - How were the regions of the United States different before the Civil War?
 - How was slavery abolished in the United States?
- **A Nation of Industry and Innovation**
 - How did America become an industrial nation, and what were the impacts of industrialization?
 - How did Theodore Roosevelt bring about national change, especially when it came to protecting the environment?
- **Towards a More Perfect Union**
 - How did women gain the right to vote?
 - How did the Civil Rights Movement end legal segregation in the United States?
- **An Ever Advancing Nation**
 - How did the Space Race impact the United States?
 - How have digital technologies affected Americans?

How can you support your child?

- Talk about historical figures that had an impact on our nation's establishment
- Explore topics studied in class with various books and stories
- Discuss saving, spending, making choices, and budgeting with your child

