



3rd Grade Syllabus 2020-2021

Williams Memorial Elementary School
290 South Metts Street
St. George, SC
(843) 563-3231

Kim Chassereau	Room 110	kchassereau@dd4.k12.sc.us
Lauren Varnadoe	Room 111	lvarnadoe@dd4.k12.sc.us
Sarah O'Neal	Room 112	soneal@dd4.k12.sc.us
Elizabeth Cavanaugh	Room 113	ecavanaugh@dd4.k12.sc.us

We would like to welcome all of you to third grade! We are very excited about teaching your children in what we hope will be a challenging and fun year. As you think about this year, remember that third grade is not what it used to be. This is our sixth year using the South Carolina College and Career-Ready Standards, which are a single set of clear educational standards for kindergarten through 12th grade in English Language Arts and Mathematics that SC adopted in January 2015. This will be our second year implementing the 2020 South Carolina College and Career-Ready Social Studies Standards. Although the skills required are at a higher level, we know that through teacher modeling, hands-on activities, and parental support your child will be successful. If you have any questions please feel free to contact your child's teacher to make an appointment for a conference. Additionally, regular communication will be conducted through Remind. Please be sure to check messages and respond regularly to ensure effective communication between school and home.



Behavioral Expectations

- We expect every child to attend their school model prepared to work each day.
- We expect each child to have respect for his/her classmates so that everyone feels safe sharing their thoughts and feelings.
- We expect everyone to participate and follow directions.

We will use the school-wide behavior policy to reward and discipline students as necessary. Please refer to your child's school handbook regarding school rules and consequences. A separate sheet will be sent home explaining the school wide behavior policy. Communication regarding behavior concerns will be conducted through Remind as needed.



Homework

Because of the unprecedented situation we are facing this school year, the regular homework that you are used to seeing sent home daily will not be utilized. However, various practice strategies and electronic programs will be used for independent practice of skills at home. The students will be responsible for completing their homework assignments as it will be included in their participation grade each quarter, and specific information will be sent home as we navigate this school year.



Money

All required money (field trips, etc.) should be sent to school in an envelope/bag labeled with:

- Child's name
- Purpose for money
- Amount of money

Attendance

It is very important for your child to be present and on time daily in order to learn and keep up with the rigor of third grade. We understand that there are times when your child cannot be present at school. It is your child's responsibility to make sure that all assignments missed are made up in a timely manner. Please refer to the handbook for the procedures on an absence or tardy.



Tips for Parents

- Have your child read aloud to you each night and study any provided notes frequently.
- Rereading familiar books helps build reading fluency. Children need practice in reading comfortably and with expression using books they know.
- When your child reads aloud to you and makes a mistake, point out the words he/she has missed and help him/her to read the words correctly.
- After your child has stopped to correct a word he/she has read, have him/her reread the entire sentence from the beginning so he/she understands what the sentence is saying.
- Ask your child to tell you in his/her own words what happened in the story.
- To check your child's understanding of what he/she is reading, occasionally pause and ask your child questions about the characters and events in the story. Ask what new information he/she has learned from the book.
- Mathematics is taught using a variety of strategies these days – it may be different from how you learned it! If your child is unsure of what to do & you need clarification, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher!

- Multiplication math facts will begin soon. Please practice with your child on a daily basis to achieve math fact fluency.



3rd Grade Grading Procedures

Ir , 3rd graders will be receiving grades in 5 main subject areas: Reading, Math, Writing, Social Studies, and Science. Listed below are each subject area and the assessments used. Each assessment is weighted differently on a 100% scale to give the total grade. Grades will be entered in Powerschool, the online grade book where parents can view grades. Check with the front office to receive your password that will give you access to your child's grades.

Type of Assessment	Weight/Percent
Summative- Unit Tests, Projects, Writing Prompts	30%
Formative, Quizzes, Daily Work	40%
Class Participation-Homework, Practice, Review	30%

South Carolina's 10 Point Grading Scale

90-100 ----- A

80-89 ----- B

70-79 ----- C

60-69 ----- D

59-below ----- F



Third Grade Retention

From the SC Department of Education Website:

Act 284 (Read To Succeed) requires that, beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, a student must be retained in the third grade if the student fails to demonstrate reading proficiency at the end of third grade as indicated by scoring at the lowest achievement level on the state summative reading assessment SC READY. A student may be exempt for good cause from the mandatory retention but shall continue to receive instructional support and services and reading intervention appropriate for their age and reading level.

***More information about this will be coming home soon!**



Course Outline

The attached page is a course calendar outlining the topics that will be taught for each subject during each quarter of the school year. This is our fifth year using the South Carolina College and Career-Ready Standards for ELA and Math, so please remember as resources are changing that this is just an outline and is subject to change depending on the needs of our students and district guidelines.

	Reading	Math	Social Studies	Science
1st Quarter	<p>Genre Focus: Communication/Speaking and Listening Non-fiction and Realistic Fiction</p> <p>Writing Focus: Narratives Descriptive Writing</p>	<p>Number and Operations in Base Ten Place Value Addition Subtraction</p> <p>Operations & Algebraic Thinking Understanding Multiplication</p>	Map Skills and Earth's Features	<p>Safety/Scientific Inquiry Process Skills</p> <p>Physical Science Heat and Changes of Matter</p>
2nd Quarter	<p>Genre Focus: Folktales Poetry Novel Study</p> <p>Writing Focus: Biography Persuasive Writing Text Dependent Writing</p>	<p>Operations & Algebraic Thinking Understanding Division Applying Multiplication & Division Properties & Equations</p> <p>Numbers & Operations - Fractions Fractions</p>	Environment and People	Physical Science Electricity Magnetism
3rd Quarter	<p>Genre Focus: Fables Myths and Legends Biography</p> <p>Writing Focus: Informational Writing Text Dependent Writing</p>	<p>Geometry Geometry</p> <p>Measurement & Data Measurement Represent & Interpret Data Perimeter & Area</p>	Culture and Economy	Earth Science Landforms Changes in Earth's Surface Rocks and Minerals Soils
4th Quarter	<p>Genre Focus: Historical Fiction Research Novel Study</p> <p>Writing Focus: Research-based Writing Cursive Writing</p>	<p>Measurement & Data Graphing</p> <p>Review</p>	Exploration and Migration	Life Science Animal Adaptations Plants Food Chains and Life Cycles Habitats