

THIRD GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

3

CORE CURRICULUM GUIDE FOR PARENTS

In addition to the skills listed below, family literacy includes shared conversation at home, daily family reading, modeling of good listening and writing activities, and frequent visits to the library.

LANGUAGE

- Listen and show understanding by following directions, answering questions, and providing other information.
- Speak clearly, in complete sentences, with expression and understanding.
- Know reasons for watching programs, and identify main ideas and details in fact, fiction, and fantasy viewing.
- Learn several ways of presenting stories and reports, and participating in drama activities.

SPELLING

- Use word families, common patterns, and other skills to spell more new words.
- Spell correctly grade level words, including compound words, plural endings, and contractions.
- Learn the spelling of more difficult words that cannot be sounded out, such as *because*, *enough*, and *would*.
- Connect the spelling of new words to patterns already known (*drive/driving*, *box/boxes*, *help/helpful*).

VOCABULARY

- Use new vocabulary learned by listening, reading, and talking with others about many topics.
- Learn the meaning of and use a variety of grade-level words from stories, art, science, and other subjects.
- Use dictionaries, glossaries, and other sources to determine the meaning of new words.
- Increase vocabulary by connecting new words and concepts to what is already known, such as knowing that *nation/national/international* are related ideas, as are *planet/planetarium*.
- Add to word meaning by knowing how prefixes and suffixes change base or root words.
- Use context to figure out the meaning of synonyms, homonyms, and multiple-meaning words.

COMPREHENSION

- Think about the purpose of reading and what the author wants the reader to learn.
- Use what is already known to connect the new information to oneself, another book, or the world.
- Ask questions about what is read and make predictions about what may be coming next in the text.
- Locate facts and think about details to understand the main ideas in information text.
- Identify characters, setting, and sequence of events in stories, including problem/solution ideas.
- Know what information is given in diagrams, tables of contents, glossaries, charts, and other features.
- Learn that different structures in text help comprehension, such as cause/effect, comparison/contrast.
- Enjoy a variety of reading such as fairy tales, fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, and other sources.



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WRITING

- Think of ideas to write about from reading and other experiences, select a topic, and decide on your audience.
- List some important words/ideas about the topic and write a *draft* copy. (That means one to be improved!)
- Read what you wrote, make changes to make your writing better understood, and rewrite it with corrections.
- Use strong verbs, interesting adjectives, and vivid language that states your message well.
- Write text for different purposes, such as lists, labels, stories, letters, reports, journals, poetry, etc.
- Share your writing with family, teachers, friends, using illustrations if needed, then publish your work.

FLUENCY

- Read grade-level text at a rate of approximately 100 words per minute with 95–100 percent accuracy.
- Read grade-level stories in meaningful phrases, using expression and punctuation clues.
- Read correctly and automatically 300 third grade high-frequency/sight words.