



Parent Curriculum Guide

Third Grade

OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS

ISD  279

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE



This curriculum guide gives parents information about what students are expected to learn in third grade.

- The first section lists important Lifelong Learning Skills, skill level expectations for third graders and tips about how parents can help build these skills.
- The next section is organized by subject area: mathematics, reading, communication, health, science, social studies, art, physical education, music.

Each subject includes a list of academic standards that teachers focus on with their students, most of which are determined by the state of Minnesota. Academic standards are statements that describe what students should learn and be able to do at each grade level. The **bold** statements are reporting standards used on student report cards, followed by bulleted statements giving examples of what students will be learning. At the end of each subject are some tips about what parents can do at home to support their students' learning.



Thank you for being an active partner  
in your child's learning!

**Problem Solver**

- solves problems creatively
- identifies problems and determines multiple solutions
- decides and acts on the best solutions
- reflects and revises when challenges occur

**Resourceful**

- uses a variety of resources to help with learning
- evaluates and selects the best resources
- collaborates productively
- is inquisitive

**Responsible**

- prepares for and engages in learning
- resists negative influences
- accepts the consequences of his or her behavior
- leads, follows and gives back to others

**Self-Directed**

- persists and thinks “I can” rather than “I can’t”
- sets goals and works to achieve them
- works independently and asks for help when needed
- reflects on his or her work and makes improvements

**Skilled Communicator**

- communicates ideas clearly through speaking, writing, and visual images
- asks questions and exchanges ideas with others
- listens actively to understand meaning, values, attitudes, and intentions
- recognizes the importance of diverse perspectives

- ask your child to think of an alternative ways to solve problems
- talk to your child about recycling to conserve resources
- help your child understand the importance of saying ‘no’ to negative influences
- have your child try something on his or her own first, before assisting
- encourage positive self-talk that enables your child to confidently make decisions
- encourage your child to share ideas verbally, visually, and through writing

**NUMBERS AND OPERATIONS****Understands and uses numbers to solve problems**

- compares, orders, rounds, and shows numbers up to 100,000 using place value
- adds and subtracts multi-digit numbers
- shows multiplication and division in different ways
- understands and uses fractions

**ALGEBRA****Uses algebra strategies to solve problems**

- uses input-output rules
- uses equations with unknowns to represent and solve real-world math problems
- shows multiplication and division in different ways
- recognizes how addition, subtraction, multiplication and division are related

- explore resources at Think Central
  - <https://www-k6.thinkcentral.com/ePC/start.do>
  - you can access this using your Osseo student log-in - ask your child’s teacher for assistance
- ask your child to explain his or her thought process while working through math homework
- have your child add up your change when paying at the store
- have your child practice estimating how much money you would spend on specific items
- help your child practice addition, subtraction and multiplication facts
- have your child practice reading an analog clock and telling how much time has passed for different activities

## GEOMETRY AND MEASUREMENT

### Uses geometry and measurement skills to solve problems

- names, describes, and creates shapes using attributes such as parallel, perpendicular, angles, vertices, and sides
- measures distance and finds perimeter
- tells time to the minute
- uses elapsed time
- knows relationships between minutes, hours, days, months, years
- makes change in different ways
- uses thermometer to determine temperature

## DATA ANALYSIS

### Uses data to solve problems

- collects, organizes, displays, and interprets data using a variety of tables and graphs
- uses titles, labels, and units correctly on tables and graphs

- point to various objects and have your child practice naming the geometric shape that matches that object (right triangles, rectangles, parallelograms, trapezoids, pentagons, hexagons, octagons)
- find everyday graphs and tables and have your child explain what the graph is representing



## READING

## WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

### Reads grade level materials independently

- reads a variety of grade level materials, both fiction and non-fiction
- accurately reads grade level materials with expression and appropriate pacing

## COMPREHENSION/LITERATURE

### Uses comprehension strategies to understand fictional materials

- asks and answers questions
- refers explicitly to materials for answers
- compares and contrasts themes, settings, and plots
- distinguishes own point of view from the narrator's or character's point of view
- explains how a reading's illustrations contribute to what the words say

### Uses comprehension strategies to understand non-fiction materials

- determines main idea
- uses the reading's features and search tools to find information quickly
- uses illustrations/visuals to demonstrate understanding
- describes the logical connection between sentences and paragraphs

- explore resources at [new.benchmarkuniverse.com](http://new.benchmarkuniverse.com)
  - you can access using your Osseo student log-in, ask your child's teacher for assistance
- visit the local library and the website: [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org)
- share your love of reading with your child
- read with your child each day
- have your child read aloud each day (to you, a sibling, a stuffed animal, etc.)
- discuss new words and how to figure out their meaning
- after reading a book, have your child talk about the characters' personalities and relate them to his or her family life
- ask questions about what your child is reading (Can you summarize what you just read? Why would the character do that?)

## VOCABULARY/WORD ANALYSIS

### Uses vocabulary strategies to make sense of readings

- tells the meaning of phrases as used in a reading (e.g. similes, metaphors, etc.)
- uses context to figure out words with multiple meanings
- determines word meaning when an affix is added (e.g. happy-unhappy)
- uses glossaries or dictionaries

### Uses phonics/word analysis skills to read and write new words

- identifies and knows meaning of common prefixes, and suffixes
- reads words with multiple syllables
- reads grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words, including high-frequency words
- uses context to confirm or self-correct unknown words, rereading as necessary

## COMMUNICATION

## WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

### WRITING

#### Writes effectively for a variety of purposes

- uses the writing process (pre-write, draft, revise, edit, publish)
- writes opinion pieces that include a point of view with reasons to support it and an organizational structure that lists the rationale
- writes informative texts using illustrations, facts, definitions, and details
- writes narratives and other creative materials to develop real or imagined experiences using descriptive details and clear event sequences

#### Uses punctuation, grammar, and spelling correctly when writing

- uses punctuation correctly in dialogue
- spells high frequency words correctly
- uses spelling patterns when writing words
- uses reference materials when checking spelling

### SPEAKING, VIEWING, LISTENING, MEDIA, AND TECHNOLOGY

#### Communicates knowledge and ideas about a range of subject areas to an audience in a variety of ways

- participates in collaborative conversations with a variety of partners about grade level topics and materials

- have your child keep a journal to record events
- have your child write thank you notes (sleepover, gifts, etc.)
- look at photos of family activities and discuss memories with your child
- have your child practice writing an e-mail with appropriate capitalization, spelling, punctuation, etc.
- have your child practice basic keyboard skills



- distinguishes among, understands, and uses different types of print, digital, and multimodal media formats
- communicates using a variety of formats (spoken, written, digital, multimedia)
- uses various technology tools to communicate learning

## HEALTH

### WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

#### Understands and demonstrates health skills and concepts to make healthy choices

- understands basics of healthy living
- uses reliable information to make healthy life choices

- have your child practice planning/making a balanced meal
- encourage your child to participate in daily exercise/activities
- discuss the importance of taking care of your body and proper personal hygiene with your child

## SCIENCE

### WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

#### Understands and demonstrates science skills and concepts

##### SUN, MOON, AND STARS

- describes the location and movement of objects in the solar system as seen from Earth
- recognizes and records the patterns in the solar system

##### SOUND

- describes the different forms of energy, including sound and light

##### STRUCTURE OF LIFE

- understands that living things have different structures that serve different functions
- records and monitors changes in various habitats

- explore resources at <http://www.fossweb.com/>
  - access with classroom log-in information obtained from your child's teacher
- have meaningful discussions with your child when observing the sun, moon, and stars
- have your child practice using different voice levels around your community
- help your child plant a garden and journal the changes observed daily
- help your child compare and contrast different insects

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

#### Understands and demonstrates social studies skills and concepts

##### CITIZENSHIP AND GOVERNMENT

- identifies ways to be a good citizen
- identifies the three branches of government

##### ECONOMICS

- understands the short and long term consequences of economic choices
- understands the roles that goods, services, and resources play in an economy

- explore resources at EduPlace
  - <https://secure.eservices.eduplace.com/eservicesadmin/login.do?targeturl=/eservices/>
    - username: online03, password: book03
- include your child in the election and voting process
- have discussions with your child around a person's responsibilities within a community (including speaking, listening, voting, and respecting diverse viewpoints)

## GEOGRAPHY

- creates and interprets simple maps
- identifies landforms and patterns in population and how this affects various regions of the world

## HISTORY

- compares and contrasts a variety of historical events, people, and inventions
- identifies examples of individuals or groups who have had an impact on world history; explains how their actions helped shape the world around them
- understands how the environment influenced the settlement of ancient people and the methods of communication

## ART

### WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

#### Understands and demonstrates art skills and concepts

- creates and revises 2- and 3- dimensional artwork
- identifies, compares, and contrasts artwork from a variety of cultures, including MN American Indian

- talk about the pros and cons of various decisions with your child
- create and discuss various features on a map with your child
- locate your child's birth certificate and discuss the origins of your families

- visit a local art museum with your child and discuss the various art elements (line, space, color, shape, and texture)
- encourage art experiences at home so your child can experience using various art tools

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

#### Demonstrates competency in motor skills

- performs skills in the areas of body control, propelling, receiving, striking and fitness
  - demonstrates different body control skills through tumbling, jumping rope, rhythms
  - demonstrates a variety of ball skills
    - underhand and overhand throw
    - dribbling with hands and feet
    - striking with hands and feet
    - receiving a variety of objects while stationary and moving
    - using a variety of objects to strike, receive and propel other objects
  - demonstrates safe behaviors while engaged in physical activities

- ask your child questions about what he or she learned in physical education
- encourage your child to be active
- encourage your child to limit electronic time or find electronics that keep him or her physically active
- do family activities together and play together
- encourage healthy snacks for at school and home
- encourage your child to try new fruits and vegetables
- encourage your child to try new activities

#### Demonstrates understanding of cognitive concepts

- understands Newton's First Law including force, friction, and gravity
- identifies safe behaviors in physical activities
- identifies appropriate rules and etiquette related to physical activities

- identifies appropriate player positions, player responsibilities, and activity strategies related to physical activity

### **Achieves a healthy level of physical fitness**

- demonstrates a variety of fitness skills including push ups, curl ups, sit and reach, and cardio-respiratory endurance (continuous movement, pacer, mile run)
- identifies the muscle group involved with specific exercises

## **MUSIC**

## **WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?**

### **Demonstrates knowledge and use of music skills**

- understands music notation including pitch, rhythm, terms and symbols

### **Demonstrates use of music skills**

- sings with accurate pitch
  - consistently participates in singing
  - demonstrates using the voice for speaking and singing
  - sings songs from various cultures
  - reflects on performance
- performs accompaniment to a song using a steady beat and reflects on performance
- reads and performs rhythm patterns including quarter note/rest, eighth notes, half note/rest, whole note/rest, dotted half note, tie, groups beats in 2s and 3s, counts in numbers, claps rhythm patterns and draws notes

- encourage your child to listen to music from a variety of cultures and genres including pop, classical and folk
- talk with your child about the lyrics of the music
- encourage your child to participate in opportunities for singing or playing instruments in school or the community
- attend music performances of family and friends, concerts in the community, and concerts by the Minnesota Orchestra with your child
- talk with your child about the unique ways to use music to express yourself

If you have any questions about this curriculum guide,  
contact your child's teacher.