

GRADE THREE EXPECTATIONS

Reading and Language Arts

The third grade language arts curriculum places an emphasis on the student's ability to read independently, children should no longer be learning how to read, but reading to learn new information. Children should be able to communicate by speaking and writing as they respond to questions. They should be able to write a story that has a beginning, a middle, and an end.

By the end of grade three, your child will be expected to:

- Use phonics to break-up, say, spell, and write increasingly difficult words and apply word patterns to unfamiliar words such as the small word "can", rhymes with the "fan" in fantastic.
- Read fluently by clustering groups of words.
- Learn new vocabulary by studying how to read, spell, and write words that contain prefixes (unhappy, return, preview) and suffixes (happiness, helpful).
- Use the dictionary to look up new vocabulary words including the understanding of synonyms (words that mean the same) and antonyms (opposites).
- Read fiction (made up stories) and non-fiction (about people or events that really happened) books independently and retell the story in the correct order of events (sequence).
- Show story understanding by answering questions about characters, setting, sequence, and the main problem of a story.

- Speak and write about experiences by using complete and increasingly complex sentences and new vocabulary words.
- Work in large and small groups to complete a clearly defined task and explain the results.
- Identify main ideas, supporting details or events, and summarize fiction and nonfiction stories.
- Write an organized two-page story with a beginning, middle and end using new vocabulary words, correct spelling, punctuation, and complete sentences.
- Write at least three paragraphs about one subject using increasingly complex sentences.

Mathematics

The third grade curriculum places emphasis on an understanding of place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers. Students learn the multiplication and division facts through the nine tables. Students are introduced to addition and subtraction with fractions and decimals and also simple chance. They use patterns to solve problems.

Grade three students should, by the end of the school year:

- Understand and identify the place value of each digit in a four-digit number.
- Compare two whole numbers between 0 and 999 by identifying one as greater than, less than, or equal to the other.
- Recall the multiplication and division facts through the nine tables.
- Calculate and solve problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- Understand the relationship between whole numbers, simple fractions and decimals.
- Add and subtract with proper fractions having like denominators and decimals expressed as tenths.
- Measure length in inches, feet, yards, centimeters and meters.

- Know the value of a collection of bills and coins up to \$5.00 and make change.
- Tell time to the nearest five-minute interval and to the nearest minute, using traditional and digital clocks.
- Read and make simple bar and picture graphs.
- Solve one-step word problems using addition and subtraction.
- Write story problems from number sentences and identify correct number sentences to solve story problems.
- Identify the sides and angles of squares, rectangles and triangles.

Science

Utilizing the third grade science curriculum, the students will be able to engage in Scientific Inquiry, Properties of Matter, Rocks & Minerals, Plants & Animal Habitats.

By the end of grade three, the student will:

- Sort and classify materials based on properties such as dissolving in water, sinking and floating, conducting heat, and attracting to magnets.
- Describe the effect of heating on the melting, evaporation, condensation and freezing of water.
- Describe how different plants and animals are adapted to obtain air, water, food and protection in specific land habitats.
- Describe how different plants and animals are adapted to obtain air, water, food and protection in water habitats.

Science *(Continued)*

- Describe the physical properties of rocks and relate them to their potential uses.
- Relate the properties of rocks to the possible environmental conditions during their formation.
- Describe how earth materials can be conserved by reducing the quantities used, and by reusing and recycling materials rather than discarding them.

Social Studies

During the third grade course of social studies, the theme of the community as a political, social, economic and geographical environment is developed. An appreciation of people living and working in a group setting is emphasized. Appropriate material about Bridgeport is often used to teach these community themes.

By the end of grade three the student will:

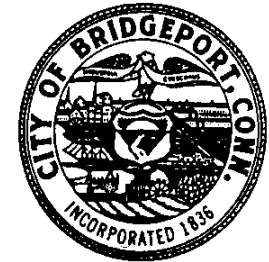
- Explain that family traditions and customs differ among neighbors and community members.
- Know that all family members have responsibilities to care for and help each other.
- Understand that our community contains a variety of groups that have contributed to our cultural heritage.
- Use newspapers, magazines, and/or pamphlets as sources of information.

- Know the difference between producers and consumers of goods and services.
- Understand that jobs in a region depend on the economic resources of the region such as fishing or farming.
- Understand that communities depend on each other for goods and services.
- Know that people use the Earth's resources to meet their needs and understand that activities and industries of a community are affected by these natural resources.
- Recognize that the United States has local, state, and federal branches of government.
- Understand that citizens have both rights and responsibilities.
- Point out that both communities and nations have people who make laws. They also have people who see to it that those laws are carried out.
- Use North, South, East, and West directions on a map and recognize physical features on a map such as: rivers, oceans, continents and mountains.
- Use various kinds of maps to find places of interest in the community, city, state, nation and world.
- Understand the relation of distance on a map to distance on earth.
- Explain the purpose of a school or community library.
- Identify and use dictionaries and encyclopedias.

To be considered for promotion to grade four, students must demonstrate at least 80% mastery of Bridgeport Public Schools' Grade Three Student Expectations for Learning in reading and math. Mastery will be assessed through portfolios and report card grades.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR LEARNING

Bridgeport Public Schools



GRADE THREE