

# Third Grade Curriculum Guide



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# WELCOME TO THIRD GRADE AT CREEK VALLEY!!!!

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to third grade! This booklet will serve as a general outline of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade curriculum and provide additional information on homework responsibilities and tips for being a successful student. Let's celebrate and enjoy a fabulous year of learning—together!

Sincerely, The Third Grade Team

## CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

### **MATH:**

Our primary math program for third grade is the *Math in Focus Singapore Math* curriculum from Singapore adapted for U.S. classrooms based on updated math standards. The *Math in Focus* program consists of Student textbooks and Workbooks that work together. At school, your child will use the Student textbook to learn math concepts and practice extensively to develop a deeper understanding. Your child will also participate in activities or games, and discuss his or her findings in class.

Your child will be assigned pages from the Workbook to be completed as individual work. This will include:

**Practice** problems to reinforce math skills and concepts

**Put on Your Thinking Cap!**

- Challenging Practice** problems to help broaden your child's thinking skills and extend their understanding of concepts
- Problem Solving** questions to challenge your child to use relevant problem-solving strategies for non-routine problems

*Math in Focus* addresses topics in greater depth at each grade. This year, your third grader will focus on:

- building problem-solving skills and strategies
- using models to solve real-world problems involving the four operations
- making and interpreting data from bar graphs
- identifying fractions of a set
- finding angles and identifying lines
- understanding area and perimeter of figures

We are beginning a new math curriculum this year (Math in Focus). Math assignments that go along with the day's lesson may be inconsistent. Please check your child's planner each afternoon.

## Math Facts

Edina fact tests will be administered throughout the year. Each test consists of 30 facts.

**Students are expected to master these with at least 90% accuracy.** Basic fact practice should be part of your child's nightly routine. Consistent practice will lead to great success!

<b>Addition facts</b> to +0 , +1, +2, +3, +4, +5, +6, +7, +8, +9, +10	<b>2 minutes</b>
<b>Subtraction facts</b> to -0 , -1, -2, -3, -4, -5, -6, -7, -8, -9, -10	<b>2 minutes</b>
<b>Multiplication facts</b> up to x10 and squares	<b>2 minutes</b>
<b>Division facts</b> through ÷9	<b>2 minutes</b>

## INTEGRATED LANGUAGE ARTS (ILA):

### Reading Opportunities

- *Reading Curriculum*  
Please visit the following website to learn more about,  
**Making Meaning**, Edina's adopted grade 3-5 reading curriculum.  
<https://www.collaborativeclassroom.org/making-meaning>
- *Read aloud time*
- *Small group, Guided reading*
- *Daily independent reading*

### Writing Opportunities:

- *Writing Curriculum*  
Please visit the following website to learn more about,  
**Being a Writer**, Edina's adopted writing curriculum.  
<https://www.collaborativeclassroom.org/being-a-writer>
- *Handwriting:* using Zaner-Bloser cursive.



### Spelling:

Students will use Words Their Way to learn common spelling patterns, reinforce vocabulary and develop strategies for spelling in writing. The goal of our spelling program is for students to apply their spelling words and patterns correctly in their independent writing.

### Technology:

- Basic typing and computer skills
- Safe and appropriate use of Internet
- Introduction to word processing and presentation programs



## SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES and HEALTH

Science, social studies and health units will alternate throughout the year.

Science unit to be covered in third grade include:

- ◆ Sun, Moon, Light
- ◆ Physics of Sound and Engineering
- ◆ Measurement



- ◆ Variation and Adaptations

**Social Studies** units to be covered in third grade include:

- ◆ Basics of Democracy: Communities
- ◆ Economics
- ◆ Mapping
- ◆ Ancient Civilizations: Egypt, China, Maya

**Health** units to be covered in third grade include:

- ◆ Myself & Others
- ◆ Keeping Fit
- ◆ Medicine & Drugs
- ◆ Disease Prevention
- ◆ Me & My Family

### **SPECIALIST SUBJECTS FOR THIRD GRADE:**

Third grade students will participate in the following curricular areas each week in addition to regular classroom instruction:

- *VOCAL MUSIC*
- *PHYSICAL EDUCATION*
- *ART*

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### **FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITIES/COMMUNITY RESOURCE SPEAKERS:**

Third grade teachers have scheduled some exciting field trips and guest speakers to help enhance the curriculum. Special guests have been requested to speak during our science units and various social studies units. An itemized list will be sent to you when fees are collected.

## ***HOMWORK GUIDELINES***

Each third grade teacher will have a format for recording student assignments and responsibilities. Planners are meant to encourage students to take responsibility for their own work and to complete and turn in quality homework on time. Please become acquainted with your child's planner by checking that work is complete nightly.

**Typical homework assignments that a third grade student should be working on each night include:**

- Finishing classroom assignments (as directed by the teacher)
- Math work
- Spelling work
- Memorizing addition, subtraction, multiplication, division math facts
- Reading a "Just Right" for 20-30 minutes per night



## ***HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS***

Creek Valley School is committed to fostering a home/school partnership. In third grade, please routinely read the following publications for pertinent classroom/school information:

- ◆ Classroom newsletters
- ◆ Pause for News—a weekly school newsletter (includes a column by Principal Kari Dahlquist)
- ◆ Round Trip Folder & Planner notes