



## Usher- Collier 2012-2013 School Year

### Third Grade Course Syllabus

#### Welcome

*“It takes a village to raise a child.” –African Proverb*

We want to personally welcome you to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Usher-Collier Elementary School. This year will be one of new experience, challenges, fun, and a new sense of responsibility and independence for your child. I hope you’re prepared to take this journey of success with us, as we are excited to have you along for the ride. Your child will not only have a homeroom teacher to develop a bond with and to learn the fundamentals of third grade expectations, but they will also receive the unique experience of learning each important component of the curriculum from a member of the third grade team. We expect each student to approach this transitional year with drive and great work ethics. Success is not just the goal, it is the expectation!

#### Meet the Third Grade Team

Mrs. A. Ward- Math

My name is Mrs. A. Ward and I am very excited to be your child’s math teacher. This is my fourth year at Usher-Collier Elementary School. The students will become familiar with Problem-Solving Strategies. During Math we will become Math Detectives as we dissect the framework task. I am originally from Athens, Georgia. I am married with two outstanding girls, (13 and 6 years of age) I earned a bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education and obtained a master’s degree in Instructional Education at Central Michigan. I love teaching! It is a true delight to see the smiling faces of the students here at Usher-Collier Elementary School.

Miss E. Madison- ELA

My name is E. Madison and I am delighted to work with your child this year, as we explore all the ingredients of literacy including reading, language arts, and writing. I am originally from Philadelphia, PA. I attended Clark Atlanta University, where I earned a bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education and obtained a master’s degree in Reading Education at Mercer University. This will be my fourth year at Usher-Collier Elementary School. I’ve always been passionate about teaching and believe hard work, responsibility, and persistence will lead you to success.

Miss Q. Saunders- Social Studies

My name is Q. Saunders and I am excited to work with your child as we take a journey through historical figures, government, geography, and economics. I am originally from Niagara Falls, New York and I am excited to be here in the Atlanta area. I have a bachelor’s degree from Howard University and a Masters of Education from Canisius College. I have a strong desire to push students towards success and it is my ultimate goal to see your child achieve great things throughout this school year.

Mr. T. Thornton- Science

My name is T. Thornton and I am excited to teach your child the fundamentals of science this year. I am originally from Philadelphia, PA. I graduated from Morehouse College. I have been a proud member of the Usher-Collier staff for 10 years. I look forward to working with each student, as we enjoy exploring, experimenting, and having fun.

### **Procedures**

We strongly believe order proceeds learning, so we expect students to follow rules and procedures and act accordingly at all times. We have developed rules and expectations with the students and will work hard to ensure students rise to the expectation. We will keep you informed of this process with the Daily Conduct Report, which will communicate their daily behavior and work habits. **This report will need to be signed by a parent/ guardian and returned to the homeroom teacher daily.** (Input point system and monthly incentives) We encourage you to stay involved with our class, follow up daily with your child's progress, and feel free to communicate with us as often as you need. Your child has been provided with a communication folder which will help keep you and your child organized and up-to-date with what's going on in the classroom, school, instruction, and assignments. Inside the folder you will find all the important forms given out today in class which include a supply list, third grade course syllabus, student information sheet, daily conduct report, and all other documents sent home from the school. **To keep up with your child's progress and assignments, please check the folder daily and ALWAYS check and sign their conduct report. Beginning Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, students will begin receiving a weekly homework contract and homework packet to be completed and turned in every Friday.**

### **Grading Scale**

This year student work will be graded and assessed on the following scale:

Class Participation- 25%  
Formative Assessments- 30%  
Exams- 30%  
Projects- 10%  
Homework- 5%

## **Common Core Standards:**

**The Common Core Standards** were developed through an unprecedented state-led initiative that drew on the expertise of teachers, parents, administrators, and researchers and content experts from across the country. The Standards define a staircase to college and career readiness, building on the best of previous state standards. There are 47 states that have adopted the Standards to replace previous expectations in Reading/ELA, and Mathematics:

If there are any questions or concerns, please visit the website [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org)

Social Studies:

During Social Studies for this school year, we will cover the bold-faced skills below:

### **Unit 1: Connecting Themes**

Standards: The focus of this important first unit is on the concepts and enduring understanding rather than specific standards.

### **Unit 2: The Foundation of the United States of America**

Standards: H2a,b; G1c,G2a,b,c,d,e; CG2

Map Skills: 3, 5, 7, 9

Info Skills: 2, 7, 13

### **Unit 3: Our Democratic Heritage**

Standards: H1a,b,c; G1c,d; CG1a,b,c;

Map Skills: 3, 5, 9

Info Skills: 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13

### **Unit 4: Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness**

Standards: H2a,b; G1a; G2a, b, c, d, e

Map Skills; 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13

Info Skills:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13

### **Unit 5: Rights and Freedoms for Everybody**

Standards: H2a, b; G1a; G2a,b, c, d, e; CG2;

Map Skills: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Info Skills: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11

### **Unit 6: The Work Force in a Democracy**

Standards; H2a,b; G2a, b, c, d, e;CG2, E2; E3a, b; E4

Map Skills: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Info Skills: 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

### **Unit 7: Rights of Workers in the United States**

Standards: H2a,b; G2b, c, e; CG2; E1a, b, c, d; E3

Map Skills: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Info Skills: 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Science:

During Science class for 2012-2013, the Third Grade Team will teach the skills in bold-face. In addition, we also provided the time frame the skills will be covered to the students.

Unit 1: **Habitats of Georgia**

12 weeks

Standard: S3L1

Unit 2: **Rocks and Soils**

8 weeks

Standard: S3E1

Unit 3: **Fossils**

2 weeks

Standard: S3E2

Unit 4: **Heat Energy**

4 weeks

Standard: S3P1

Unit 5: **Magnets**

2 weeks

Standard: S3P2

Unit 6: **Interdependence of Man- Pollution/Conversation**

8 weeks

Standard: S3L2

**Math:** During Math for the 2012-2013 school year, we will cover the skills in bold-face below:

Unit 1: **Numbers and Operation in Base Ten**

Standards: MCC3.NBT.1, MCC3.NBT, MCC3. NBT.3, MCC3.MD.3, MCC3.MD.4

Unit 2: **Operations and Algebraic Thinking: The Relationship between Multiplication and Division**

Standards: MCC3.OA.1, MCC3.OA.2, MCC3.OA.3, MCC3.OA.4, MCC3.MD.3  
MCC3.MD.4

Unit 3: **Operations and Algebraic Thinking: the Properties of Multiplication and Division**

Standards: MCC3.OA.5, MCC3.OA.6, MCC3.OA.7, MCC3.MD.3, MCC3.MD.4

Unit 4: **Operations and Algebraic Thinking: Patterns in Addition and Multiplication**

Standards: MCC3.OA.8, MCC3.OA.9, MCC3.MD.3, MCC3.MD.4, MCC3.MD.5  
MCC3.MD.6, MCC3.MD.7

Unit 5: **Geometry**

Standards: MCC3.G.1, MCC3.G.2, MCC3.MD.3, MCC3.MD.4

Unit 6: **Representing and Comparing Fractions**

Standards: MCC3.NF.1, MCC3.NF.2, MCC3.NF.3, MCC3.MD.3, MCC.MD.4

Unit 7: **Measurement**

Standards: MCC3.MD.1, MCC3.MD.2, MCC3.MD.3, MCC3.MD.4, MCC3.MD.7, MCC3.MD.8

Unit 8: **Show What We Know:**

Standards: We will cover all the standards.

## **English Language Arts**

(please see the follow website for [https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Common%20Core%20Frameworks/CCGPS ELA Grade3 Standards.pdf](https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Common%20Core%20Frameworks/CCGPS%20ELA%20Grade3%20Standards.pdf) for further information of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade standards.)

### **Key Ideas and Details**

**ELACC3RL1:** Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

**ELACC3RL2:** Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

**ELACC3RL3:** Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

### **Craft and Structure**

**ELACC3RL4:** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from non-literal language.

**ELACC3RL5:** Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

**ELACC3RL6:** Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

### **Integration of Knowledge and Ideas**

**ELACC3RL7:** Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).

**ELACC3RL9:** Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series).

### **Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity**

**ELACC3RL10:** By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry, at the high end of the grades 2-3 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

**Contacts**

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at (404)802-5700, and we will get back to you as soon as possible. We look forward to working with your family this year!