



English/Language Arts Curriculum – Third Grade

Capital's English/Language Arts curriculum is aligned with the national Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Key features of the curriculum include reading (literature, informational text, and foundational skills), writing, speaking/listening, and language. A strong emphasis on higher-level comprehension skills provides opportunities for students to analyze and integrate information from multiple texts, noting similarities and differences in the points of view presented. Students read an abundance of different types of complex texts and engage in rich discussions and conversations that focus on text-based information. Students express their thinking verbally and in writing across the curriculum for various purposes and audiences. Teachers use research-based practices and materials to teach students the strategies they need to be successful readers and writers.

Students in grade three will continue to build important reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. They will read, think, talk, and write about what they read in a variety of texts, such as stories, books, articles, and other sources of information. In their writing, students will pay more attention to organizing information, developing ideas, and supporting these ideas with facts, details, and reasons.

Listening and Speaking

- Participate in collaborative conversations by listening, asking questions, sharing ideas, responding to what others are saying, and building on the ideas of others
- Give a class presentation on a topic or telling a story using relevant facts and details and speaking clearly

Foundational Skills

- Decode multi-syllable words when reading
- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

Reading and Literature

- Recount the central themes or messages from stories and key ideas in informational texts and determine how they support the text
- Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers
- Describe characters in a story and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events
- Compare and contrast themes, settings, plots, and characters in stories and/or the most important points and key details presented in informational texts
- Determine the meaning of general academic words and phrases that are used in a text as well as literal and nonliteral meanings of words in stories
- Read and comprehend literature, stories, poetry, and informational texts proficiently within the appropriate levels of text complexity

Writing

- Write for a variety of purposes (Narrative, Informative, and Opinion)
- Write narrative, informative, or opinion pieces that include a clear organizational structure with supporting details, connected ideas, and a sense of closure
- Write opinions or explanations that group related information and develop topics with facts and details
- Independently conduct short research projects that build knowledge about various topics

For more information about your child's ELA curriculum, please contact your child's teacher or call the Curriculum Office at 857-4228.