



Newburyport Literacy Curriculum Framework Guide

Third Grade Focus Areas

In Third Grade, the focus of student learning is on four areas:

1. Reading
2. Writing
3. Speaking and Listening
4. Language

Third Grade Overview

Reading:

The PreK-5 standards ensure exposure to a range of texts and tasks as well as rigor with increasingly complex texts through the grades. Students read widely from a broad range of high-quality, increasingly challenging literary and informational texts and curriculum is intentionally structured to develop rich content knowledge within and across the grades. A research-and-evidence based scope and sequence for phonological awareness and phonics development are important components of an effective, comprehensive reading curriculum designed to develop proficient readers with the capacity to comprehend texts across a range of types and disciplines.

Reading - Literature and Informational Text

- Asks and answers questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text for answers
- Retell/recount key details determining a central message or main idea
- Determine word meanings of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases from text on grade 3 topics
- Identify common structural elements of fiction and nonfiction text features
- Know and use various text features to locate information efficiently
- Explain how illustrations contribute to meaning of text
- Compare/contrast two stories by the same author or the most important points presented by two texts on the same topic
- Independently and proficiently read and comprehend literary and informational texts representing a variety of genres, cultures & perspectives for at least a grade 3 complexity.

Reading - Foundational Skills

- Phonics and Word Recognition - Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding
 - Common prefixes and derivational suffixes, latin suffixes, decode multisyllable words, irregularly spelled words
- Fluency - Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

Writing

In PreK-5, students learn to use writing to support opinions, demonstrate understanding of subjects, and convey real and imagined experiences and events. The key purpose of writing which is to communicate clearly to an audience and adapt their writing to accomplish a particular task. Instruction focuses on three types of writing (opinion, informational/explanatory, narrative) which encompass a variety of texts including poems, short stories and memoirs. Students will engage with a wide range of model texts and study authors and writing across genres.

- Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting an opinion with reasons
- Write informative/explanatory texts that examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly
- Write narratives in prose or poem form to develop experiences or events using effective literary techniques, descriptive details, and clear sequences
- Produce writing in which development and organization are appropriate to the task, purpose and audience.
- Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing
- Use technology to produce and publish writing as well as collaborate with others
- Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic
- Write routinely on a range of tasks, purposes and audiences

Speaking and Listening

In preK-5, Students are provided with ample opportunities to take part in a variety of rich, structured conversations as a whole class, in small groups, and with partners. Students learn to be productive group members of these conversations as they contribute, respond, compare/contrast, and analyze/synthesize ideas. Standards ensure that students gain adequate mastery of a range of skills and application.

- Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly
- Determine the main idea and supporting details of text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats
- Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker
- Report on a topic, text, or solution to a mathematical problem, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace and using appropriate vocabulary
- Create engaging audio recordings or stories or poems that demonstrate fluid reading at an understandable pace
- Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification

Language

In preK-5, students must gain control of many conventions for standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics along with learning to convey meaning effectively. Conventions, effective language use and vocabulary are inseparable from reading, writing, speaking and listening.

- Conventions of Standard English:
 - Demonstrate command of conventions of standard English and usage when writing or speaking, including capitalization, punctuation and spelling
 - Produce, expand, and rearrange complete simple, compound, and complex sentences
 - Ensure subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement
 - Use past tense verbs, coordinating and subordinating conjunctions, and comparative and superlative adjectives
 - Write legibly by hand, using either print or cursive
 - Knowledge of Language: Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading or listening
- Vocabulary Acquisition and Use:
 - Determine/clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases from grade 3 reading and content
 - Demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in meaning such as literal/nonliteral words and phrases, shades of meaning, and identify real-life connections between words and their use
 - Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate conversational, general academic, and domain-specific words and phrases