



A QUICK  
OVERVIEW OF  
THIRD GRADE  
COMMON CORE  
STANDARDS

# THIRD GRADE

Parents of third graders will see a fair number of changes, and new expectations, in classroom work under the new standards. For students to be successful, teachers and parents need to be strong partners and have a clear understanding of the learning goals.

## 1 EXAMPLES OF

skills third graders should learn under Common Core

### Third grade reading skills

- Tackling new and challenging books, poetry, articles and even online research with less assistance from adults than ever before.
- Knowing common prefixes (e.g., dis-/re-) and simple suffixes (e.g., -able/-less) and decoding multisyllabic words (e.g., pho-to-graph/est-i-mate).
- Using reading comprehension skills to build a knowledge bank: with every poem, story or book read, there's a main point, message and a few key facts third graders should learn, relate to what they already know and "bank" for future use.

### Third grade writing skills

- Using books, websites and articles to do research projects—and taking notes on what they find (and where they find it).
- Spending more time writing, with attention to the four distinct phases of writing: planning, writing, revising and editing.
- Writing more complex opinions, stories and informative pieces that include introductions, clear points and conclusions.

### Third grade math skills

- Multiplying and dividing whole numbers (e.g.,  $6 \times 8$ ;  $56/8$ ) and solving word problems with whole numbers up to 100.
- Understanding fractions as pieces of a whole, comparing two fractions and finding where fractions belong on a number line.
- Telling time to the minute and solving word problems by adding and subtracting intervals of time.

Learning

## AT HOME

- **Play Multiplication War**—a variation on the card game—where the player who calls out the product of the two face-up cards first, wins!
- While out and about with your child, make reading a game: *Who can find the funniest bumper stickers? Weirdest signs? Any misspellings?*
- Model patience with homework. Especially at first, children (and parents) may feel confused by new homework. When parents set the example, children learn to work hard, be persistent and stay positive.

## 3

See skills

## IN ACTION

- Go to [Milestones.GreatKids.org](http://Milestones.GreatKids.org) to watch videos of third graders demonstrating strong reading, writing, and math skills.