



# LANGUAGE ARTS

# 3

FOR FAMILIES

**Y**OU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!

## THIRD GRADE

### What to expect:

In third grade, children are shifting from learning to read to reading to learn. They will enjoy many types of reading material, including newspapers, magazines, books and other informational and technology-based content. Third-graders will be able to use important elements of stories like character (who), setting (where) and plot (what happened) in conversations about what they are reading. Their writing should show their understanding of story structure, writing styles and logical story sequence, and they should be able to use different kinds of writing for different purposes.

### By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Increase vocabulary by learning new words, parts of words and words with similar meanings.
- Identify types of books (fiction, biography, etc.) by the style of writing (how-to, cause and effect, etc.).
- Write about their opinion, including explaining the reasons for that opinion.
- Describe who is telling the story.
- Interpret information from graphs, charts and headings in a book to better understand and write about a topic.

### What to do at home:

- Discuss facts and opinions in commercials, news stories, documentaries and other everyday situations.
- Identify what kind of text your child is reading and its style (description, how-to, cause and effect, etc.).
- Help your child use resources like dictionaries or online searches to identify new words.
- Write silly sentences together, including questions and sentences with exclamation marks.
- Help your child identify a topic of interest and determine how to find information about that topic.



# LANGUAGE ARTS

## FOR FAMILIES

### Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and want to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to spark curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore the world.

Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- What is the craziest word you have ever heard?
- What movie or book character do you wish you went to school with and why?
- How would the world be different if animals could talk?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't have the answer every time. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

### Fostering Communication

Families can play a role in helping their children learn to be good communicators by encouraging them to add new words to their vocabulary, express themselves and be good listeners. As children's communication skills grow, they are able to learn new ideas, get along with others and develop positive relationships and a strong self-image.

Cultivate your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What food would be served at your favorite meal?
- How did you show kindness to someone today?
- What is your favorite outdoor activity to do with family or friends?

### Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help third-graders understand what they are reading.

#### BEFORE READING

- What made you pick this book?
- How is this book like another one you have read or a movie you have seen?
- What do you think the book will be about?

#### DURING READING

- What has happened so far in the story?
- What pictures do you see in your mind as you read?
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#### AFTER READING

- What was the most important event in the story? Why?
- What lesson do you think the author wants the reader to learn? What makes you think that?
- If you could give this book a different title, what would it be? Why?



# MATH

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FOR FAMILIES

**Y**OU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!

## THIRD GRADE

### What to expect:

In third grade, students will build on the skills learned in first and second grade and apply their knowledge to more difficult mathematical tasks. Three of the most important third-grade math topics are multiplication, division and fractions, all of which are building blocks for many skills students will learn in later grades.

### By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Read and write numbers up to 100,000.
- Know multiplication and related division facts for whole numbers up to 10, such as  $3 \times 5 = 15$  and  $15/3 = 5$ .
- Read and write fractions.
- Classify angles as acute, right, obtuse and straight.
- Find the perimeter of a shape.

### What to do at home:

- Create your own multiplication and division flashcards.
- Use the numbers on cards, dominoes and dice to practice multiplication or division with your child.
- Identify fractions around the house. For example, if a four-drawer dresser has socks in one drawer, then  $1/4$  of the dresser has socks in it.
- Ask your child to identify the shapes and types of angles in road signs.
- Measure the sides of four-sided objects in daily life (a table top, cell phone, etc.) and add all the sides together to find the perimeter.



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Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- What geometric shapes do you see in your neighborhood and where do you see them?
- If you had a million dollars, what would you buy first? Why?
- What patterns do you hear in your favorite song?

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- What was the most important event in the story? Why?
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# SCIENCE

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**Y**OU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support science learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!

## THIRD GRADE

### What to expect:

In third grade, children learn about the natural and physical world around them while beginning to observe, experiment and share what they have learned. Third-graders will discover answers to questions such as, "What is typical weather in different parts of the world and during different times of year?", "How are organisms like plants and animals different?", "How are plants, animals and environments of the past similar or different from the ones of today?", "What happens to organisms when their environment changes?" and "How do forces on an object affect that object?"

### By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Organize and use data to predict what kind of weather will happen next.
- Develop an understanding of the similarities and differences in the life cycles of plants and animals.
- Understand inherited traits and how living things can adapt to their environment.
- Explain how differences in characteristics among members of the same species may provide advantages in finding mates, reproducing and survival.
- Plan and conduct investigations on the effects of forces on moving objects.
- Develop an understanding of how changes in the environment make an impact on organisms.
- Determine the cause and effect relationships of magnetic interactions.

### What to do at home:

- Discuss what causes a swing or see-saw to move or come to a complete stop.
- Discuss the weather forecast each day, including temperature, wind and precipitation.
- Talk about the properties of a good shelter to use during severe weather.
- Take a nature walk and identify living things and how they are able to survive in their environment.
- Visit a zoo or farm and identify how the animals and their offspring are alike and different.
- Look for things a magnet will attract or stick to.



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Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- Go outside and throw or kick a ball. Ask your child if it's possible to keep the ball moving without it stopping. Why or why not?
- Observe the weather outside during different seasons. What differences does your child notice between the seasons in temperature, clouds, rainfall, temperature, etc.?
- Ask your child if every kind of animal, or only some animals, could survive in your backyard or near where you live.

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Join the conversation!

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# SOCIAL STUDIES

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### What to expect:

Students at this age will be growing in independence and expanding their view of the world. Third-graders are beginning to apply basic skills learned in prior grades to content about their state. Their social studies focus will be on Oklahoma's natural resources, local and state governments, important economic activities and the cultures that have settled in our state.

### By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Identify representative leaders of the state of Oklahoma.
- Describe the historical significance of Oklahoma's state seal and flag.
- Examine how the development of Oklahoma's major economic activities (including oil and gas, agriculture and livestock, aviation, tourism, tribal enterprises and the military) have contributed to the growth of the state.
- Identify and locate Oklahoma's major landforms, bodies of water and cities.
- Describe how pioneers and present-day Oklahomans adapt and modify their environment.
- Describe the many American Indian cultures that have inhabited present-day Oklahoma.
- Summarize how the weather and environment have impacted the economy of Oklahoma.
- Identify state and local landmarks and contributions of notable Oklahomans.

### What to do at home:

- Identify your mayor, local state representative, state senator and city officials.
- Visit the State Capitol or local government offices.
- Visit local businesses important to your community.
- Visit local landforms and bodies of water.
- Visit local landmarks, museums, festivals or other local celebrations.
- Read books about Oklahoma or biographies about famous Oklahomans.
- Celebrate Oklahoma's birthday on November 16.
- Go on virtual field trips around the state.



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Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- If you could grow up to be famous, what would you want to be famous for and why?
- If you could give \$100 to a charity, which one would you choose and why?
- If you could make a photo book of Oklahoma, what pictures would you include and why?

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