



# 3rd Grade 2016-2017

## Semesters 1 and 2

### Student success at school:

- Explain that rocks are composed of different materials.
- Determine and explain that soil varies from place to place and has biological and mineral components.
- Provide evidence of the effects balanced and unbalanced forces have on an object's motion.
- Determine cause and effect relationships of electric or magnetic interactions.
- Construct arguments for the survival of different organisms.
- Use evidence to support that a variety of habitats and changes in those habitats affect the organisms living there.
- Investigate and describe similarities and differences of organisms' life cycles.
- Understand some traits are inherited in an organism and some are influenced by their environment.
- Explain how character variations may provide advantages to survival.



### Student success at home:

- Ask probing questions "Why do you think...?" and "What evidence do you have to support that...?"
- Go outside or stay inside to experiment with motion. Take a variety of objects (e.g., a ball, a balloon, a paper airplane or a toy car) and have them move in different ways.
- Research animal habitats and animal survival.
- Start a rock collection. Investigate a selection of the most common rocks and minerals that make up Earth's crust.
- Go to the park and play a game of "catch." Talk about the different forces involved in throwing and catching a ball.
- Cut open different fruits and vegetables. Talk about the seeds, the difference between fruits and vegetables, and other observations.
- Discuss the cause and effect associated with a natural phenomenon.
- Encourage the engineering design process: Generate and compare many solutions to a problem. Plan and conduct fair tests to improve a design.
- Connect science with a family vacation. Explore non-formal education sites (museums, zoos, science centers, and aquariums).
- Discuss the importance of engineering, science, and technology in the world.

Your child's achievement is a partnership between you and your child's teacher. Below is information about the CCSD English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science third grade curriculum resulting from the ongoing implementation of the Nevada Academic Content Standards (NVACS).

## Tips for Reading with Your Child at Home

There is nothing more important to academic success than being a proficient reader. Studies show that regularly reading aloud to children will produce significant gains in reading comprehension, vocabulary, and the decoding of words. To help your child reach this goal, here are a few tips to ensure their success:

- Make reading a regular activity in your home.
- Read a book together. This is the perfect opportunity for you to model what reading should sound like for your child and listen to your child read aloud.
- Ask questions to check for understanding. Ask them to retell the story or summarize what they have read so far. If they are reading an informational text, have them determine the main idea and important facts. Discuss any new vocabulary that they encounter in the reading.
- Your child will be more engaged with the reading if they are able to select their own topics.
- Remember reading is not just books anymore!
- Encourage your child to read to younger siblings.
- Remember when your child is selecting a book, make sure it is "just right" for their reading level. Have your child read the front and back cover and the first page of the book. If there are more than five words that he/she cannot pronounce or understand in context, the book may be too challenging. Be supportive about finding a more perfect fit.

If your child has trouble reading a word, allow for five to ten seconds before providing support or assistance. Some tips for support may include:

- What word would make sense?
- What do you think the word could be?
- Skip over the word and read to the end of the sentence or paragraph. Then, ask what word would make sense and reread the sentence or paragraph.
- Help your child sound out the word or tell them the word.

Remember reading should be a pleasant experience for your child. Provide encouragement and time to read together.

## Websites to Support Reading and Mathematics Skills



[www.pbskids.org](http://www.pbskids.org)



James Patterson's  
**READKIDDOREAD.com**  
Dedicated to making kids readers for life.

[www.readkiddoread.com](http://www.readkiddoread.com)

**Coolmath  
4kids.com**

[www.coolmath4kids.com](http://www.coolmath4kids.com)



[www.mathisfun.com](http://www.mathisfun.com)

# 3rd Grade English Language Arts

## Semester 1

### Student success at school:

- Read literature and informational books and materials to determine the main idea and recount details that support the main idea.
- Write narratives to share real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, descriptive details, and clear event sequence.
- Write informational texts to convey ideas and information clearly.
- Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text.
- Describe the traits, motivations, or feelings of characters in a story and how their actions impact the story's events.
- Explain how illustrations, maps, photographs, etc. in both literary and informational text support the understanding of the text.
- Demonstrate in writing the use of temporal words and phrases, such as "eventually" or "the following day," the correct usage of commas and quotation marks when using dialogue, and providing effective opening and concluding statements.
- Use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.



### Student success at home:

- Read different types of books together including informational texts such as magazines, and literature such as fables, folktales, and myths; discuss the main idea/central message.
- Read together and find details that support the main idea such as asking your child to explain the decisions characters make in the story.
- Encourage your child to write daily by writing narrative stories together, where all family members contribute to the story. Your child can do all the writing, or the whole family can take turns writing.
- Show your child how to use commas, quotation marks, and possessives in writing.

## Semester 2

### Student success at school:

- Read stories and informational books and materials to compare and contrast key details presented in two texts on the same topic.
- Compare and contrast themes, settings, and plots of stories.
- Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.
- Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.
- Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant descriptive details.
- Write opinion pieces on topics or texts that include an introduction, supporting a point of view, reasons for their opinion, and a concluding statement or section.
- Use linking words and phrases (e.g., because, therefore, another, also, for example) to connect ideas or opinions
- Use technology to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

### Student success at home:

- Read different stories together (e.g., fables, folktales, and myths) written by the same author and compare the themes, settings, plots, and points of view of the characters.
- Read different informational texts and Internet sources together written on the same topic and compare key details; use text features and search tools to find information.
- Encourage writing by suggesting your child keep a personal journal or log, helping your child add details to support his/her ideas, and researching on the Internet to locate information and then writing about it.

# 3rd Grade Mathematics

## Semester 1

### Student success at school:

- Interpret products of whole numbers (e.g.,  $5 \times 7$  represents the total number of objects in 5 groups of 7 objects each).
- Interpret whole-number quotients of whole numbers (e.g.,  $56 \div 8$  is the number of objects in each share when 56 objects are divided equally into 8 shares).
- Use properties of operations to multiply and divide (e.g., if  $6 \times 4 = 24$ , then  $4 \times 6 = 24$ ).
- Develop understanding of fractions as numbers (e.g., a fraction  $1/b$  is one part of a whole that is partitioned into equal parts (b); fractions are numbers on a number line).
- Understand concepts of area measurements.
- Partition shapes into parts with equal areas, then express the area of each part as a unit fraction of the whole (e.g., a whole divided into 4 parts where the area of each part is  $1/4$  of the whole).



### Student success at home:

- Encourage your child to interpret multiplication and division problems.
- Have your child practice multiplication and division within 100.
- Help your child understand the concepts of multiplication and division.
- Create and solve story problems involving equal groups and measurement quantities.
- Discuss how fractions and dividing shapes into equal parts are related.

## Semester 2

### Student success at school:

- Fluently multiply and divide within 100.
- Solve two-step problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- Fluently add and subtract within 1,000.
- Solve word problems within 1,000 using multiplication and division.
- Compare fractions by their size and generate simple equivalents.
- Tell and write time to the nearest minute and measure time intervals in minutes.
- Compare two fractions with the same numerator or denominator.
- Measure and estimate liquid volumes and masses of objects using standard units (e.g., grams, kilograms, and liters).
- Solve real world and mathematical problems involving perimeters of polygons.



### Student success at home:

- Tell story problems involving more than one operation and have your child solve these problems.
- Explain how fractions are used in everyday life (e.g., cooking, measuring lumber).
- Practice telling time to the nearest minute and determining elapsed time in minutes.
- Practice comparing two fractions (e.g.,  $2/3$  and  $2/10$ ) using reasoning, such as "If I have two-thirds of a cracker, I have more than if I had two-tenths of a cracker. Each of 10 equal parts of a cracker are smaller in size than each of 3 equal parts of a cracker."
- Practice measuring and estimating liquid volumes and masses of objects.