

Three Rivers Community Schools

Curriculum Guide for Third Grade

Three Rivers Community Schools focus on the academic, social, emotional, and physical development of each child. Children engage in a variety of experiences designed to foster their continual growth.

This curriculum guide is based on Common Core Standards established for each subject area. These are the learning expectations that will be taught and assessed to determine your child's progress this year. Through the cooperative efforts of parents, students, and school, your child will reach his/her potential.

As a parent, active participation in your child's education is essential.

Your child is very valuable to us, and we want him/her to succeed at school.

Please support this effort through ensuring good attendance, helping with homework, and encouraging your child to always do his/her personal best.

Here is what your child will be learning this year. Please note: The shaded areas indicate in which marking period each of the standards will be taught and assessed.

READING	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Phonics and Word Recognition				
Knows and applies grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words				
Fluency				
Reads with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension at grade level				
Literature Text Comprehension				
Describes characters and how their actions contribute to a story				
Determines the meanings of words and phrases using context clues				
Asks and answers questions to demonstrate understanding of a story				
Determines the moral and explains how it is conveyed through details				
Reads and comprehends stories at the beginning of fourth grade level				
Compares and contrasts themes, settings, and plots of stories				
Informational Text Comprehension				
Asks and answers questions to demonstrate understanding				
Determines the main idea, supporting details, and sequence of text				
Determines the meanings of words and phrases in context				
Uses text features and research tools to locate information				
Compares and contrasts key details of two texts				
Reads and comprehends informational text at a third grade level				
Speaking and Listening	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Engages effectively in collaborative discussions				
Determines the main idea and supporting details of information given orally				
Reports on a topic, tells a story, or recounts an experience with detail				
Speaks in complete sentences				
WRITING	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Language				
Explains the functions of abstract nouns, plural nouns, and pronouns				
Uses capitalization in titles				
Forms and uses regular and irregular verbs correctly				
Forms and uses simple verb tenses				
Uses subject verb agreement and pronoun antecedent correctly				
Forms and uses possessives correctly				
Explains the functions of adjectives and adverbs				
Produces simple, compound, and complex sentences				
Uses commas and quotation marks correctly in dialogue				

WRITING	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Narrative Writing				
Engages effectively in writing workshop and successfully applies skills				
Effectively completes an independent narrative writing piece				
Informational Writing				
Engages effectively in writing workshop and successfully applies skills				
Effectively completes an independent informational writing paper				
Effectively completes an independent research report				
Opinion and Persuasive Writing				
Engages effectively in writing workshop and successfully applies skills				
Effectively completes an independent opinion writing paper				
MATH				
Operations and Algebraic Thinking				
Interprets products of whole numbers				
Interprets whole number quotients of whole numbers				
Uses multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems				
Solves two-step word problems using the four operations				
Number and Operations				
Explains any one part of a fraction as part of a whole				
Represents a fraction on a number line				
Explains equivalent fractions using denominators 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8				
Compares two fractions with the same numerator or denominator				
Measurement and Data				
Tells and writes time to the nearest minute and measure intervals				
Estimates volume and mass; solves word problems involving volume and mass				
Measures area by counting square units				
Relates area to multiplication and division				
SCIENCE				
Life Science				
Describes and classifies the function of plant parts based on observable characteristics				
Classifies plants on the basis of observable physical characteristics				
Relates characteristics and functions of plant parts that allow them to live in their environment				
Identifies and compares structures in animals used for controlling body functions				
Classifies animals on the basis of observable physical characteristics				
Relates characteristics & functions of body parts to ability of animals to live in their environment				
Physical Science				
Describes how a push or pull is a force				
Calculates speed of an object based on the amount of time it took to travel				
Demonstrates that a change in motion of an object is related to strength of force & mass				
Demonstrates when an object does not move in response to a force, it is due to another force				
Compares and contrasts the motion of objects in terms of direction and change in motion				
Identifies the force that pulls objects towards the earth				
Explains how we need light to see objects; light reflects off objects and enters the eyes				
Demonstrates how some materials are heated by sunlight				
Relates sounds to their sources of vibrations				
Distinguishes the effect of fast or slow vibrations on pitch				
Earth Science				
Identifies natural resources				
Classifies renewable resources				
Describes ways humans are protecting, extending, and restoring resources				
Recognizes that paper, metal, glass, and some plastics can be recycled				
Plans and conducts a simple investigation				

SOCIAL STUDIES	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Geography				
Uses thematic maps to identify and describe physical and human characteristics of Michigan				
Describes the different regions to which Michigan belongs				
Economics				
Describes some movements of goods/people to, from, and within Michigan and gives reasons for it				
Describes how people adapt to, use, and modify the natural resources of Michigan				
Describes how entrepreneurs combine resources to produce goods and services				
History				
Identifies questions historians ask in examining the past of Michigan				
Uses information about Michigan Native Americans to describe cultures of the past and present				
Uses sources to construct an historical narrative of daily early settlement life				
Creates a timeline to sequence early Michigan history				
Civics and Government				
Identifies the three branches of Michigan state government and the powers of each				
Describes the purpose of the Michigan constitution				
Identifies the rights and responsibilities of citizenship				
Clearly states a problem on a public policy issue; analyzes perspectives; evaluates resolutions				
PERSONAL MANAGEMENT				
These life skills are focused upon throughout the school year. They are essential behaviors not only for the classroom, but many are skills that will help each child develop into a successful, productive adult.				
Listens and follows directions				
Assumes responsibility for belongings and materials				
Stays on task				
Completes in-class and homework assignments				
Works independently				
Exhibits organizational skills				
Seeks help when needed				
Respects self, others, and property				
Exhibits self-control				
Follows classroom and school rules				
Contributes to whole group discussions and activities				