



Curriculum Overview

Subject: Language Arts Literacy

Grade: Three

By the end of the year, you can expect your child to:

- ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers
- recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text
- describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events
- determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language
- refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections
- distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters
- explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting)
- compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series)
- determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea
- describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect
- determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area
- use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently

- distinguish their own point of view from that of the author of a text
- use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur)
- describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/second/third in a sequence)
- compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic
- write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons
- write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly
- write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences