

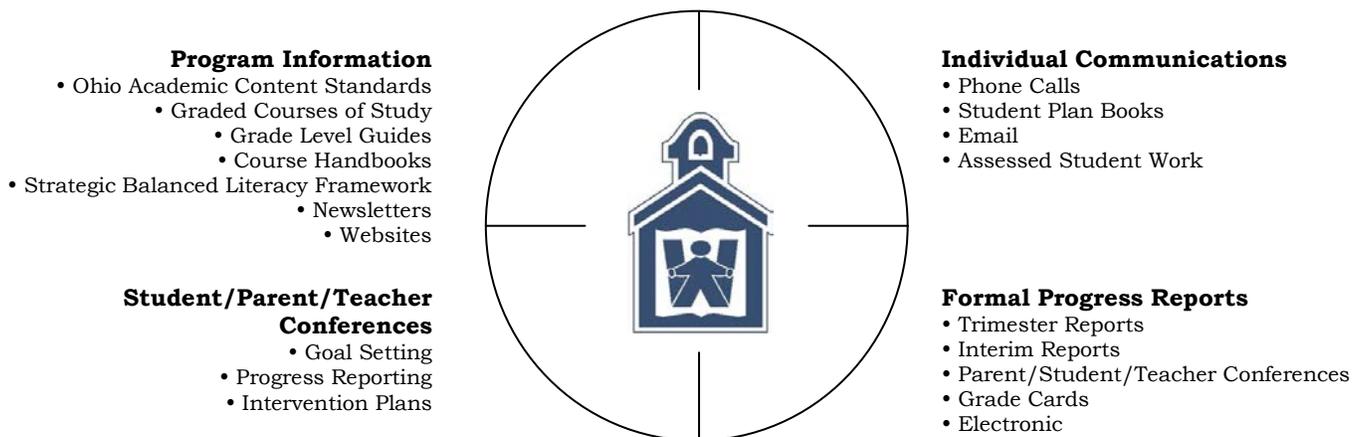
WHAT TO EXPECT IN 3rd Grade

Purpose of the Grade Level Guide

- Provide parents a general overview of the content taught at each grade level
- Provide information regarding the district instructional materials used to teach the content
- Provide parents a general overview of the intellectual, social, physical, and emotional characteristics of a child in this grade level
- List resources that can be used to gain additional information regarding Worthington's Learning Standards in ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies
- Provide resources to assist parents in supporting their child's learning
- Provide district contacts to whom questions can be directed

Communication with Parents

Communication regarding a student's program and progress in learning comes in many different ways and forms throughout the year. The chart below best describes the total "Communication Pie." The Grade Level Guide is one "slice" of the pie. It is intended to give you a snapshot of what to expect at each grade level and resources to help you gain more information about both Worthington's Learning Standards for ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies.



3rd Grade

This Grade Level Guide is intended to give you an overview of the content in the core academic courses, materials used, and resources to help you gain more information about Worthington's Learning Standards in ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies.

NOTE: This document contains hyperlinks connecting you with samples of the resources used in Worthington Schools if the document is read electronically. These hyperlinks are meant to be a representative sample of the resources and not a comprehensive list of the materials used in our classrooms.

Worthington Schools – Grade Three Guide

Language Arts

Worthington's Learning Standards in English Language Arts, adopted by the Worthington Board of Education, are K-12 standards that provide the basis for a rigorous education in the Worthington Schools.

The board adopted approach to comprehensive literacy instruction is the [Strategic Balanced Literacy Framework](#) (SBLF) adopted by the Worthington Board of Education in April 2006. The [SBLF Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) document provides more information on the guiding principles of this framework.

The third grade Language Arts curriculum builds on second grade foundational literacy skills. Through word acquisition (spelling correctly, using common affixes, correct use of nouns, verbs, and possessives) students develop knowledge of word families, use multi-syllabic words, and distinguish between nonliteral and literal language. They demonstrate an understanding of informational and literary texts through questions, assessments, projects, activities, presentations, and conversations. As students read a variety of complex texts (including those in math, science, and social studies) they use comprehension strategies to show understanding of central messages and main ideas. Those strategies include predicting, recalling information, interpreting, and forming and supporting opinions. Students use research skills to present their learning or recount their experience clearly and appropriately using details and

facts. They continue to build their vocabulary and spelling as they identify and develop writing strategies for a variety of purposes. Students plan, revise and edit their written work. They write informational/expository text that includes organizational structure appropriate to the topic and is developed using facts and details. Students also write narratives using dialogue and descriptions to develop the story. Students share personal experiences and information clearly with others during participation and collaboration in group discussions and class activities. Students use a variety of print and digital resources as they conduct research to build knowledge about a topic.

District Instructional Materials:
[Handwriting Without Tears](#) - *cursive*;
Words Their Way; *Vocabulary Workshop*

Mathematics

Mathematics standards around the world indicate that children will need mathematical knowledge beyond basic arithmetic skills. The following concepts are experienced in third grade: The students will be multiplying and dividing up to 10 X 10 quickly and accurately, including knowing the times tables from memory; solving word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; beginning to multiply numbers with more than one digit; understanding fractions and relating them to the familiar system of whole numbers; measuring and estimating weights

and liquid volumes and solving word problems involving these quantities; reasoning about shapes and finding areas of shapes; relating area to multiplication; and representing and interpreting data.

District Instructional Material:
Stepping Stones

Social Studies

Communities: Past and Present, Near and Far

The local community serves as the focal point for third grade as students begin to understand how their communities have changed over time and to make comparisons with communities in other places. The study of local history comes alive through the use of artifacts and documents. They also learn how communities are governed and how the local economy is organized.

District Instructional Materials:
Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Timelinks: Communities; Social Studies Alive! Our Community and Beyond; How Worthington Grew; and They Came to Worthington: A Family Adventure

3rd Grade

Science

The third grade theme focuses on helping students develop the skills for systematic discovery to understand the science of the natural world around them in greater depth by using scientific inquiry. Students will learn about Earth's resources. While resources can be living and nonliving, the emphasis is on Earth's nonliving resources, such as water, air, rock, and soil, and the energy sources they represent. Students will also focus on the relationship between matter and energy. Matter has specific properties and is found in all substances on Earth. Heat is a familiar form of energy that can change the states of matter. Students will explore life cycles of organisms and the relationship between the natural environment and an organism's (physical and behavioral) traits which affect its ability to survive and reproduce.

District Instructional Material:

[Harcourt Science](#) and [Focus Curriculum](#)

Health

Third grade learners enlarge their emotional world to include people in the community, neighbors, government officials, and others; e.g., coaches, teachers, parents of friends. The human growth and development unit taught in third grade focuses on the skeletal and muscular systems. Also in the curriculum are safety and risk reduction; exercise and nutrition; and an awareness of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

District Instructional Material:

Health Resource Guide – 3

Visual Arts

Art History

- Identifies processes used by various cultures, past and present

Communicating Through Art

- Uses art processes from past and present cultures to create works of art
- Explores the use of elements and principles of design in organizing work

Art Criticism

- Expands art vocabulary to discuss or write about works of art

Valuing Art

- Gains an understanding of how and why an art form is valued by an individual or group

Music

Historical, Cultural, and Social Contexts

- Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of a variety of music styles, cultures, and musicians both past and present

Creative Expression and Communication

- Sings, plays instruments, moves, reads, notates, improvises, and creates music

Analyzing and Responding

- Listens to a varied repertoire of music and responds by analyzing and describing music using correct vocabulary
- Evaluates the creating and performing of music

Valuing Music/Aesthetic Reflection

- Develops an understanding of why people value music and is encouraged to respect diverse opinions regarding music preferences
- Expresses the significance of music in his/her life

Connections, Relationships, and Applications

- Identifies the similarities and differences and recognizes the relationship between music and other arts disciplines, as well as other curricular subjects
- Develops a desire for lifelong learning in music

Wellness 4 Life

Value of Lifetime Fitness

- Engages in regular physical activity inside and outside of school to meet national recommendations for daily physical activity
- Meets or exceeds criterion-referenced health-related physical fitness standards
- Understands the principles, components, and practices of health-related physical fitness

Sport Skills and Strategies

- Applies the critical elements of fundamental manipulative skills in a variety of physical activities
- Demonstrates and applies basic tactics and principles of movement

Character Development

- Understands the purpose of and applies appropriate rules, procedures, and safe practices in physical activity settings
- Interacts and communicates positively with others

Wellness Connections

- Appreciates physical activities that promote self-expression and social and group interaction

Worthington School District **Grade Level Three** Guide

General Characteristics of Grade 3 Children

Intellectual

- learn best by concrete terms
- little abstract thinking
- need encouragement
- develop capacity to evaluate self
- become more verbal

Physical

- increase use of small muscles
- grow slowly, yet steadily
- have improved eye-hand coordination
- increase manipulative skill
- increase attention span
- tire easily, yet are energetic
- may develop nearsightedness
- may develop poor posture

Emotional

- are concerned about right and wrong
- have a growing awareness of self
- become more judgmental
- are self-critical
- strive to do well
- assume some responsibility
- are sensitive to criticism

Social

- are sensitive to the feelings of others
- play more with members of the same sex
- enjoy working with adults
- become aware of individual differences
- are still dependent upon the security of home
- develop responsiveness to group activities

District and State Assessment Schedule

To view the [District Assessment Calendar](http://www.worthington.k12.oh.us), log on to the district website <http://www.worthington.k12.oh.us>, select the “Academics” tab, select “Academic Achievement” in the drop down menu, then click on “Assessment” on the left hand rail.

Resources

For additional information regarding our curriculum and programs, please refer to the following resources:

Worthington Schools Website:

<http://www.worthington.k12.oh.us/>

Ohio Department of Education Website:

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/>

If you have questions, please feel free to discuss them with your child’s teacher, the building principal, or contact any of us in the Department of Academic Achievement. You can also use the district website to contact any administrator in the district through email.