

Third Grade Promotion Resources for Families



Third-Grade Summer Reading Family Guide

Summer is an important time to build reading skills in fun, everyday ways. This guide is filled with **simple activities you can do together** — from daily calendars and book lists to easy at-home practice and games that support reading.

Try to aim for about **20–30 minutes a day practicing reading and writing skills**. You can break it up in ways that work best for your family — for example, 10 minutes of a simple activity or game at breakfast and 20 minutes of reading later in the day.



Summer Calendars | Daily Activities for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening

- ★ [June](#)
- ★ [July](#)
- ★ [August](#)



Summer Reading Book List

Excellent Core 3rd Grade Books

These are commonly recommended for grades **2–4** and work well for independent reading or read-alouds.

- [Charlotte's Web](#) by E. B. White – Beautiful themes of friendship, kindness, and sacrifice. A classic for this age.
- [Ramona the Brave](#) by Beverly Cleary – Relatable school and family experiences that 3rd graders love.
- [Because of Winn-Dixie](#) by Kate DiCamillo – Strong character development and emotional themes. Excellent for discussion.
- [James and the Giant Peach](#) by Roald Dahl – Imaginative and funny adventure with memorable characters.

- [The World According to Humphrey](#) by Betty G. Birney – Very accessible and popular with 2nd–4th graders.

Good Transitional / Early Chapter Books

Great for students still **building stamina with longer books**.

- [Magic Tree House](#) by Mary Pope Osborne – Short chapters, exciting history adventures.
- [Cam Jansen](#) by David A. Adler – Fun mysteries with repetitive structure that supports comprehension.
- [Encyclopedia Brown](#) by Donald J. Sobol – Encourages problem solving and inference skills.

Slightly More Challenging / Great Read-Alouds

These work well **with teacher or parent support**.

- [Stuart Little](#) by E. B. White – Vocabulary is a little older, but the story is engaging.
- [The Indian in the Cupboard](#) by Lynne Reid Banks – Exciting story with themes about responsibility and empathy.
- [The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane](#) by Kate DiCamillo – Beautiful but emotionally deeper. Great read-aloud.

High-Interest / Graphic Options


Good for **reluctant readers**.

- [Lunch Lady and the Cyborg Substitute](#) by Jarrett J. Krosocska – Fast-paced graphic novel humor.
- [Stephen Curry Sports Superheroes](#) by Blake Hoena – Appeals to sports-focused readers.



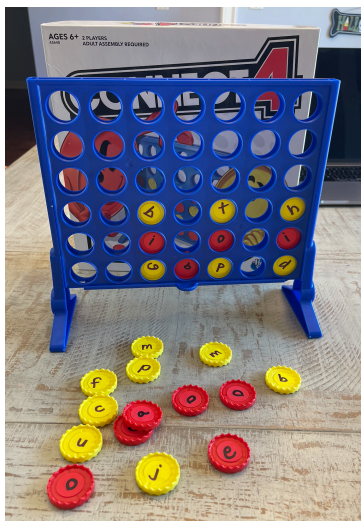
Simple Materials for Everyday Activities to Support Reading

Materials	Ways to Use The Materials
Whiteboard and Dry Erase Marker	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sentence building Say a simple sentence (The dog barks). Ask your child to say the sentence, write the sentence and build a longer, more detailed sentence.● Sentence editing: Your child rereads their writing and corrects errors.● Write and read words● Practice spelling patterns with letter/sound mapping Parent says a word Student repeats the word Student draws one line for each sound Student puts a letter or letters in each line that stands for the sound● Give the student a base word (pack) and ask them to practice spelling with common prefixes (un, re) and suffixes (ing, ed)
Plastic letters	<p>Word Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Play Guess My Word Parent builds a word with plastic letters. Child reads it. Parent gives clues about meaning. Example Word: planet <p>Word Chaining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parent says a word (cat)● Child builds the word using plastic letters.● Parent asks the child to change one letter (mat)● Continue with more difficult patterns, changing just one letter in each round. Example: tap tape cape cap clap clap clap
Spiral Notebook and pencil	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Keep a reading log that shows the books read and the number of minutes each day as a record to look back and celebrate

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As you work through the summer writing prompts from the calendars, keep writing in the notebook.
<p>Post-it Notes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hold place in a book ● Student writes bulleted notes after reading a section ● Build stamina - when reading a chapter book, begin by placing a post-it note about 3 pages into the first chapter as the target for the first day. As students continue to read, move the post-it note target so that the target number of pages grows as they become more confident.
<p>Pop it board with letters</p> 	<p>Build spelling words, spelling fluency practice</p>



Commercial games that support literacy



Connect Four and Yard Sale price stickers
Consonants = yellow; Vowels = red
Build words and connect



Duplo blocks- write letters with a marker



Headbanz - vocabulary building game;
Apples to Apples - oral language building game

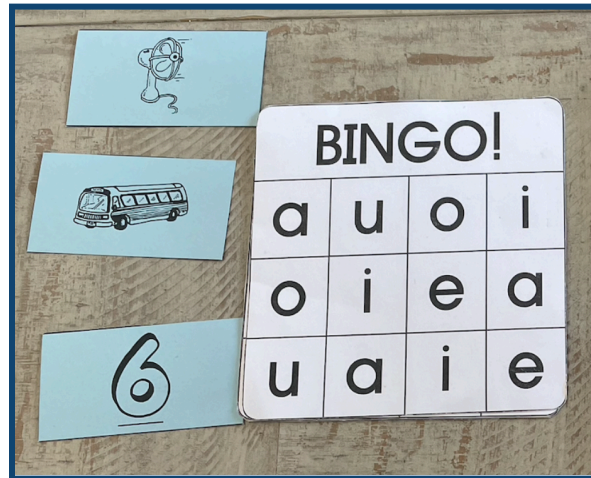


Scrabble Junior, Boggle Junior or Bananagrams-
word building games



Games families can make to help with literacy

[Florida Center For Reading Research Games](#) for each skill



Pool noodles with letters written on them for word building and spelling practice



Letter cubes for roll a word

