

# Third Grade Reading

## Unit 7 - Learning Through Reading: Countries Around the World

- **Focus Question of this Unit:** How can I use all that I know about nonfiction reading and writing in order to launch a research inquiry about the factors that shape life in different countries? How can I think critically about the reasons that texts offer contrasting information on the same topic?
  - **Part I:** How can I learn about a country using a variety of different kinds of texts and lenses to fuel my research? How can an understanding of social studies themes help me learn about a community?
  - **Part II:** How can I research a second country, doing this work with greater Independence, and then apply what I learn to help me understand another community?
  - **Part III:** How is life in one country similar to and different from life in another country I've studied, and what factors contribute to the similarities and differences?
  - **Part IV:** How does literature reflect the characteristics of a culture?

### Activities and Skills for Practicing at Home

#### Basic Word Recognition and Phonics Skills

- Identify and know the meaning of most common prefixes and suffixes (e.g., re-, un-, -ness, -er)
- Decode words with common suffixes (e.g., -ject, -script)
- Decode words with multiple syllables

#### Demonstration of Fluency

- Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

#### Developing Understanding of What is Read

- Ask and answer questions about a text, referring directly to the text to answer the questions
- Recount stories from diverse cultures and determine the central message, lesson, or moral of the text
- Describe characters and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events
- Students distinguish their own point of view
- Compare and contrast the themes, settings and plots from a series of books
- Determine the main idea and explain how key details support the idea
- Use text features and search tools to locate information to a given topic
- Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text
- Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic

#### Reading Standards

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.