

3rd Grade Family Letter Language Arts
Reading Unit: Reading to Learn
Writing: The Art of Information Writing
Phonics: Long Vowels, Compound Words, Syllable Types

Dear Third Grade Families,

We are excited about the next stop on our learning adventure: Informational Texts! We will learn that informational texts teach us and help us gain information about a specific topic. We will use text features as a map to lead our learning and structure our writing.

As readers, we will learn that the central idea and supporting details, recognizing text structures and organizational patterns will help us comprehend informational text. Readers will grow in knowledge as they pay attention to details, put parts of text together, and ask questions about texts. They will work to tackle both tricky words and vocabulary development needed to navigate nonfiction text. Readers will also build knowledge as they read topic sets of texts, comparing, contrasting, and connecting information.

In writing, we will create writing pieces that display our expertise on a topic of our choice. As we write, we will think about questions that readers may have about the topic and try to answer them in our writing. As writers, we will write different kinds of nonfiction books to support transfer and independence. Writers will consider their audience as they are given lots of opportunities for elaboration and revision.

In phonics, we will work on reading and writing words with long vowels i and e. We will also work with the syllable types: R-controlled vowels, open and closed syllables, compound words, and high frequency words.

Family Support

You can help your child in several ways:

- Engage in discussion with your child about his/her reading.
- Ask your child what he/she is reading about and what he/she is learning about that topic.
- Generate ideas for writing: places you've been, sports, topics studied, things you like to do, celebrations, holidays, etc.
- Share connections made from what your child is learning about to other texts and real life.
- Ask your child questions that will help clarify the details of his/her stories.
- Encourage your child to read his/her writing aloud, and listen without interrupting.

Sincerely,

The Third Grade Team