

Third Grade Curriculum and Expectations

Welcome to third grade! Third grade is a substantial jump from second grade. Students are expected to be more mature and responsible for their own learning. Yet, third grade is very exciting and you will see immense growth in your child this year.

Communication

If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please don't hesitate to email us. Our classroom website is another helpful resource to check out. [Our website](#) is updated regularly with homework, reminders, schedules, as well as useful links. Communication is important for your child's success this year.

- Ms. Alden- Andrea.Alden@jeffco.k12.co.us
- Ms. Kung- Maggie.Kung@jeffco.k12.co.us

Weekly Report

Weekly Reports go home each Friday. The purpose is to keep you updated on your child's behavior and work completion in class. **Please review the report with your child and initial each week. Return the Weekly Report by the following school day (usually Monday).**

Assignment Notebooks

Assignments will be written daily in their blue 3-ring binder. Please check these nightly. **Parents, please initial at the bottom of each day when the assignments are completed.** Please remind your child to bring his or her Assignment Notebook to school each day. Graded papers and school flyers will be sent home in these notebooks as well (instead of a separate Friday Folder). Assignment Notebooks should be kept orderly and need to be cleaned out regularly.

Reading Homework

Students are expected to read **20-30 minutes, five days per week in third grade.** Students should be reading aloud to an adult at least 2 days per week. This helps to improve reading fluency and accuracy. Also, many of our reading assessments involve oral reading. You can also check their comprehension as they are reading by asking some simple questions about characters, events, problem/solution, and lessons learned. **Please make sure your child is reading age-appropriate books at his or her reading level.**

Math Homework

Math homework is sent home as it aligns with our math curriculum. **Check the Assignment Notebook for Math homework due dates** (students usually have several days to complete it). We will be practicing math facts as part of our homework. **Addition and subtraction facts should have been mastered (memorized) by the end of second grade. Multiplication facts are expected to be mastered (memorized) by the end of third grade.**

Spelling

Correct spelling will be emphasized in students' daily work in third grade. For this reason, students will be expected to utilize dictionaries and thesauruses to help with their daily school work. We recommend that you provide your child with a student/children's dictionary at home. The only formal spelling tests third graders will be given in over "No Excuse" words. More information and the list will come home soon.

Writing

Students will be writing in many genres using the writing process. Rubrics and checklists may be used to grade final copies of work. Thinking Maps will also be used when writing.

Handwriting

Handwriting is expected to be neat and legible on all assignments. Please encourage your child to use neat handwriting on all homework assignments and to **complete ALL homework in pencil**. **Students will re-do work that doesn't demonstrate third grade quality.**

Keyboarding

All third graders will work on keyboarding this year and will be required to complete typing lessons at home. **Chromebooks will go home each night and MUST be returned to school each day so they can be used in class. Students who forget to bring their CHARGED Chromebook back to school after receiving a couple of reminders, will no longer be allowed to take the Chromebook home.** Please inform your child's teacher if you DO NOT want your child bringing home a Chromebook. Proper posture and the use of home row keys is expected when typing at school and at home.

Science/Social Studies

We will teach both Science and Social Studies simultaneously (Monday through Thursday). Science units include Forces and Interactions, Weather and Climate, Inheritance and Variation of Traits, and Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems. Social Studies will focus on the regions in and around Colorado.

Third Grade Assessments

***Students MUST have working headphones/earbuds to complete testing (No Wireless Allowed)**

- **DIBELS (MAZE)**

DIBELS is administered 3 times per year and tests reading skills.

- **MAP**

Students will be assessed in Language Arts and Math. This online district assessment is given three times a year and is used to monitor student progress and guide our instruction throughout the year.

- **CMAS**

In April, students will take the state assessment referred to as CMAS. It is designed to assess reading, writing, and math skills. More information will be sent home later in the year.

Snacks/Water Bottles

Please make sure your child brings **ONE HEALTHY snack each day**. Avoid sugary or messy snacks. Students are **NOT** allowed to share snacks, especially since we have MANY food allergies. **NO DRINKS** are allowed for snack. However, students should bring a **FILLED** water bottle each day. Please make sure that the water bottle does not leak and it can **only contain water**. Families will be responsible for replacing Chromebooks and library books with water damage from leaky water bottles.

Thanks for helping us create a positive and productive learning environment for your child. We look forward to a great school year!