



Southmoreland School District

Third Grade ELA Curriculum Overview

Third Grade English Language Arts Overview:

The third grade English language arts curriculum is divided into five modules: (1) Foundational Skills, (2) Speaking and Listening, (3) Reading Informational Text, (4) Reading Literature, and (5) Writing. Third grade students determine the main idea of a text, answer questions regarding the text, make inferences about the text, explain the author's point of view, and use text features to locate and interpret information. They compare and contrast two different texts on the same topic. Students continue to develop their understanding of how to identify the main idea of a text and how it is conveyed in the text. In addition, students describe characters in a story and how their actions influence the sequence of events. The students refer to chapters, stanzas, verses, and scenes and how each successive part builds on the next. They write informative, explanatory, and opinion texts to convey ideas or information clearly. Students develop the topic with details, facts, definitions, and illustrations and use an organizational structure that is connected logically and has a concluding statement or section. The students write a narrative that develops real or imagined events. Finally, students use description in their writing to develop experiences and events and organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.

Module Titles:

Module 1: Foundational Skills

Module 2: Speaking and Listening

Module 3: Reading Informational Text

Module 4: Reading Literature

Module 5: Writing

Module Overviews:

Module 1: Foundational Skills

The goal of this module that is integrated throughout the year is for students to gain a working knowledge of concepts of print, alphabetic principle, and basic conventions of standard English. Third grade students apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words as they read grade level text with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

Module 2: Speaking and Listening

The goal of this module that is integrated throughout the year is for students to demonstrate engagement in classroom discussions as an active listener and express themselves appropriately. Third grade students demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English when speaking based on grade 3 level and content.



Southmoreland School District

Third Grade ELA Curriculum Overview

They engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions on grade-level topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. Students create engaging audio recordings of stories or poems that demonstrate fluid reading, adding visual displays when appropriate to emphasize or enhance certain facts or details. Finally, students present their knowledge and ideas in small-group and whole-group discussions.

Module 3: Reading Informational Text

The goal of this module is for students to read and comprehend a variety of different texts and genres, reading independently and proficiently. Third grade students demonstrate understanding of key ideas and details in informational texts. They determine the main idea using key details. Students explain how the key details support the main idea. In addition, students identify and explain the point of view. The students use text features and research tools to find important information quickly and easily. They gain knowledge and gather information from text features, recognizing shades of meaning in text. Students understand the author's purpose and identify the organization of text. Finally, students acquire new vocabulary while reading and use new vocabulary accurately in writing.

Module 4: Reading Literature

The goal of this module is for students to read and comprehend a variety of different texts and genres, reading independently and proficiently, to improve their reading stamina. The third grade students determine the central message of a passage. They identify the key details of a passage and use the key details to recount the passage. Students identify the point of view of the author. In addition, students compare and contrast information between two texts. Finally, students acquire new vocabulary while reading and use new vocabulary accurately in writing.

Module 5: Writing

The goal of this module that is taught throughout the year is for students to use the conventions of writing to convey meaning and engage in the steps of the writing process: pre-writing, writing, revising, editing, and publishing. Third grade students write informational, opinion, and narrative pieces of text. They develop a topic and convey ideas using facts and details from informational and explanatory writing. Students write an opinion using valid reasons supported by relevant facts and details. In addition, students use writing techniques, descriptive details, and a clear event sequence to create narrative writing. The students use the conventions of writing to convey meaning. Finally, students check and edit their work.