

NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Curriculum Summary

GRADE THREE

This brochure describes the critical learnings for the Third Grade

NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
19 Sherman Road
North Reading, MA 01864

(978) 664-9557
(978) 276-0683 (fax)

Dr. David S. Troughton
Superintendent

Carl J. Nelson
Business Manager

Pamela A. Beaudoin
Director of Curriculum & Technology

Christine E. D'Anjou
Director of Pupil Personnel Services

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

The English Language Arts program, through various forms of literature and textbooks, integrates the learning of speaking, listening, reading, writing, and thinking skills. Language conventions are practiced and applied to many forms of writing throughout the curriculum to help students become more effective communicators.

Reading

- Understand different genres.
- Apply decoding strategies.
- Identify story structure.
- Distinguish between cause/effect; fact/opinion.
- Summarize main ideas & supporting details.
- Develop and expand vocabulary through the use of context clues.
- Identify the theme of the story.
- Read for literal and inferential comprehension.

Composition

- Apply the rules for punctuation & capitalization.
- Demonstrate understanding of sentence structure.
- Recognize parts of speech.
- Apply rules of grammar, spelling and usage consistently.
- Understand and apply the steps of the writing process, including editing and revising
- Develop a complete paragraph with topic sentence, details and concluding sentence.
- Use a variety of writing forms.
- Develop expository writing based on research.

MATHEMATICS

The math program allows students to engage in problem solving, communicating, reasoning, and making “real world” connections.

- Round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100.
- Read and write numbers to 1,000,000.
- Add and subtract with regrouping through 4-digit numbers.
- Compare and order numbers.
- Apply skills of estimation.
- Exhibit mastery of facts and compute problems in basic operations.
- Use graphs, tables, & charts to interpret data.
- Solve story problems using learned problem solving strategies.
- Measure using standard and metric units.
- Calculate time to the minute and elapsed time.
- Understand the concept of fractions.
- Describe, classify and draw geometric shapes.
- Recognize patterns.
- Explain mathematical concepts in writing

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCE

The third grade social studies curriculum emphasizes geography, topography, climate, natural resources, and mapping skills.

- Identify physical features of United States geography (oceans, rivers, mountains, lakes, deserts, plateaus, plains).
- Investigate Native American life.
- Discuss early American colonial life, including the Jamestown Colony.
- Understand the events leading up to the American Revolution.
- Chart the movement of the pioneers in Westward Expansion and along the Oregon Trail.
- Identify the responsibilities of the branches of U.S. government.
- Explore the significance and specifics of Washington, D.C.
- Demonstrate map skills.
- Acquire knowledge of civics and local government.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING

The Grade Three Science program is a hands-on, experiential course centered on three areas: Life Science, Physical Science, and Earth Science. Technology is integrated into these three areas.

- Investigate the properties of matter.
- Use the scientific method to perform accurate experiments.
- Demonstrate knowledge of rocks, soil and minerals.
- Acquire knowledge of the solar system (planets, sun, constellations).
- Examine plant growth and development.
- Understand the water cycle.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Comprehensive health instruction includes health literacy, health promotion, and health education that enhance health and wellness. Using health information for self-management and to build healthy lifestyles is the overall goal. The program has four components: Physical health, social and emotional health, safety and prevention, and personal and community health. Topics are addressed in a developmentally appropriate sequence and depth.

- Fundamental physical skills
- Personal fitness
- Problem solving/ cooperative activities
- Low organized games
- Specialized skills & sports activities
- Dance and rhythms
- Tumbling stunts, apparatus
- Sportsmanship

THE ARTS

The Arts program consists of the study and practice of dance, music, theatre and the visual arts. These classes provide an opportunity for development of students' skills and understanding of creating, performing, and responding as well as learning about the historical and cultural content of the arts.

Music

- Expand vocal range upwards with more expressive control and confidence in solo singing.
- Play recorder with proper hand and finger position.
- Perform locomotor and non-locomotor skills simultaneously.
- Expand notation recognition and tonal center awareness.
- Hear and recognize various instruments of different cultures and different tone qualities.
- Describe music using appropriate terms.

Art

- Demonstrates an understanding of concepts of line, color, texture, form and shape.
- Creates artwork using a variety of 2D and 3D processes such as drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking and ceramics.
- Draws from life.
- Looks at the work of famous artists.
- Makes connections between Art and other subjects and cultures.
- Uses art vocabulary to discuss and assess artwork.

To Parents/Guardians:

This brochure contains a brief description of the subjects your child will study at each grade level. It has been designed to provide you with a general overview of the content and skills that are taught throughout the year, as well as other pertinent information.

It is hoped that the combined use of this brochure and meetings with your child's teachers and principal will keep you informed of the curriculum goals of the North Reading Public Schools.

It is important to note that children learn and grow at different rates. Although a child will develop skills and learn at his or her own pace, each child will be challenged to demonstrate a level of progress during the school year.

The Mission of the North Reading Public Schools is to educate all students by providing a safe learning environment which challenges and encourages them to be thinking, creative, and responsible individuals who are confident and committed to excellence, service, and life-long learning.

WAYS PARENTS CAN HELP THEIR CHILD...

- Develop good nutritional, rest, and safety habits.
- Promote home study skills and self-discipline.
- Provide time at home to show an active interest in your child's daily school activities.
- Help your child select materials and ideas at home that will contribute to class activities.
- Plan family experiences that support topics studied at school.
- Encourage your child to pursue his or her own individual interests.
- Volunteer in your child's school.
- Attend individual conferences and other school events.
- Consult with the teacher about specific ways to help your child.
- Encourage the use of public resources (e.g. libraries, museums, theaters, concerts, community events, etc.)
- Provide a place and time for your child to comfortably and successfully complete homework assignments.
- Assist your child with the completion and correction of homework, but ensure the final product is reflective of the child's understanding of the assignment.

If you have questions about the curriculum summaries, please contact your child's teacher first. If you need additional assistance, you can call your child's principal or the Director of Curriculum.

North Reading High School

Jon C. Bernard, Principal
(978) 664-7800

North Reading Middle School

Richard C. Hodges, Principal
(978) 664-7806

L.D. Batchelder School

Sean T. Killeen, Principal
(978) 664-7814

J. Turner Hood School

Thaiadora Katsos, Principal
(978) 664-7817

E. Ethel Little School

William P. Leccese, Principal
(978) 664-7820

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Gerald Venezia, Chair
Nicole A. Davis
Stephen D. Jervey
Maureen H. Vacca
Melvin K. Webster