

Department: English

Course Name: Third Grade Language Arts

Course Description:

The core of the third grade Language Arts program is to produce students who enjoy reading for pleasure and engage in discussions about varying texts, who can effectively convey information and stories through writing, and who can articulately and confidently speak in public. The reading course focuses on developing independent reading skills, fluency, and strengthening comprehension skills through novel studies. Third graders further writing skills by focusing on craft, mechanics, vocabulary, spelling, and grammar. The students learn to write a well-organized paragraph. The 5-step writing process is followed to write a personal narrative, friendly letter, fiction story and a research paper. Students also write a variety of poetry, expository pieces and opinion papers. Journaling is integrated into the daily routine of third graders. To build essential skills that are carried over into the students' writing, students engage in daily mechanics and grammar practice. Students are also encouraged to learn new vocabulary and practice deciphering meaning from context clues. Throughout the year, third graders are provided numerous opportunities to practice oral presentation skills.

Content:

Independent fiction and non-fiction reading based on each child's instructional level

Third Grade Angels, Jerry Spinelli

Romona Quimby, Beverly Clearly

Ferris, Kate DiCamillo

Land of Roar, Jenny McLachlan

Hero Two Door Down, Sharon Robinson

Myths

Non-fiction text

Oral Presentations

Writing Process

Grammar

Paragraph

Vocabulary

Narrative, poetry, fiction, friendly letters, expository, research and opinion writing

Skills:

Correctly choose and read a variety of developmentally and instructionally appropriate books

Re-read, predict, and evaluate to self-monitor comprehension

Practice comprehension and reading strategies

Read grade level text fluently

Make judgments and generalizations, draw conclusions, make inferences, and predict outcomes in stories read

Compare and contrast, categorize and classify material within selections and between selections

Discern fact and opinion, fantasy and realism, and cause and effect in selections read

Identify story structure, text organization, and story sequence

Make, confirm and revise predictions

Visualize scenes as reading texts

Describe a character's traits, motivations, feelings and actions

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text

Locate words in reference materials such as dictionary, thesaurus or text index

Identify the topic, main idea, and note supporting details in a selection
Identify and explain the meaning of a myth's allusion and theme
Identify and correctly use the basic parts of speech and writing conventions including: nouns, verbs, subjects, predicates, sentences, compound sentences, adjectives, adverbs, capitalization, quotations, commas and ending punctuation
Identify and use different styles of writing such as narratives, poems, directions, fiction, friendly letters, expository, opinion and research
Practice the steps of the writing process
Write a well-developed paragraph that answers a question and gives support
Develop creative story leads
Expand word choice in writing
Expand a small moment and tell it step by step
Incorporate dialogue to tell a story
Use simple transition words to move through a story
Develop conclusions to a story that attempts to bring closure to the topic or story
Use lined paper correctly including correct side, indentation and margins
Find information in text
Identify a reliable source
Write a concise summary of a book
Orally present a report and a speech to a variety of audiences
Speak articulately, with good posture and volume while making eye contact
Journal for at least twenty minutes without stopping

Texts and Materials:

Third Grade Angels, Jerry Spinelli

The Witches, Roald Dahl

Matilda, Roald Dahl

Land of Roar, Jenny McLachlan

Hero Two Door Down, Sharon Robinson

Grammar Workshop- Grade 3 Level Green (Sadlier-Oxford, 2013)

Vocabulary Workshop- Grade 3 Level Green (Sadlier-Oxford, 2011)

Daily Language Review- Grade 3 (Evan Moor, 2009)

The Accelerated Reader Computerized Reading Management System

iPads

Epic! Books app

Scholastic News Magazine

Raz-Plus student accounts

Methods of Instruction:

Direct whole class instruction

Written questions

Whole group novels

iPad

Group discussions

Video presentation

Small group instruction

Independent reading

Independent writing and journaling

Read Aloud

Seesaw app

Methods of Evaluation:

Accelerated Reader tests
Weekly Spelling/Vocabulary quizzes and tests
Novel quizzes and tests
Practice Book exercises
Book Reports
Oral Presentations
Grammar unit tests
Final writing pieces
On-demand writing
Journal writing
Anecdotal
Oral reading
Group projects
Classwork exercises
Chapter questions
Seesaw app activities
Epic! quizzes
Readworks quizzes
Scholastic News magazine

