

This guide provides an overview of what your child will learn by the end of 3rd grade in mathematics and English language arts/literacy. If your

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A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 3rd Grade

Multiplying and dividing up to 10×10 quickly and accurately, including knowing the times tables from memory
 Solving word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
 Beginning to multiply numbers with more than one digit (e.g., multiplying 9×80)
 Understanding fractions and relating them to the familiar system of whole numbers (e.g., recognizing that $\frac{3}{1}$ and 3 are the same number)

Measuring and estimating weights and liquid volumes, and solving word problems involving these quantities
 Reasoning about shapes (e.g., all squares are rectangles but not all rectangles are squares)
 Finding areas of shapes, and relating area to multiplication (e.g., why is the number of square feet for a 9-foot by 7-foot room given by the product 9×7 ?)

TALKING TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything. Instead, keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In 3rd grade, these include:

Multiplication and division
 Fractions



Try to create a quiet place for your child to study, and carve out time *every day* when your child can concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics. Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

English Language Arts & Literacy

Make reading for fun a part of your child's daily routine.
 Encourage your child to find a picture from a newspaper or magazine, cut it out, paste it on paper, and write a story about it.
 Start a family vocabulary box or jar. Have everyone write down new words they discover, add them to the box, and use the words in conversation.

Mathematics

Look for "word problems" in real life. Some 3rd grade examples might include:
 Notice those everyday occasions when you find yourself using your times tables — such as to determine how many days there are in four weeks. Ask your child for the answer.
 Involve your child when you notice yourself using division to "work backward" in the times tables — such as determining how many candies each child will get if 36 candies are shared equally among nine children at a party.

For more information, the full standards are available at www.corestandards.org.



everychild.one voice.® National Office: 1250N Pitt Street • Alexandria, VA 22314 • Toll-Free: (800) 307-4PTA (4782) • PTA.org • info@pta.org

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