



What your child will learn in Grade 3

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INSIDE

Math

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Encore Classes

Lower Merion School District ♦ 301 E. Montgomery Ave. ♦ Ardmore, PA 19003



Grade 3 Mathematics

	Concepts	Vocabulary	Numerical Fluency	Problem Solving
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic • Develop an understanding of fractions as numbers • Understand properties of multiplication and the relationship between multiplication and division • Reason with shapes and their attributes • Represent and interpret data • Solve problems involving measurement and estimation of intervals of time, money, liquid, perimeter, area, volumes, masses, and lengths of objects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn word meanings with pictures • Use mathematical language and symbols • Use formal and informal language to describe and discuss mathematical concepts and skills • Read and comprehend mathematical vocabulary in isolation and in context 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skip counting • Multiplication and division understanding and basic facts • Develop mental math strategies to add, subtract, multiply and divide • Model fractions • Round numbers to tens and hundreds • Estimate answers when adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solve word problems involving the four operations, and identify and explain patterns in arithmetic • Select or develop an appropriate problem-solving plan after analyzing the problem • Select and use an appropriate problem-solving strategy • Investigate and solve real-world problems • Use logical reasoning • Use mental estimation to determine the reasonableness of answers
What your child will do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply place value strategies to solve problems • Utilize measurement tools • Make predictions and draw conclusions using stories about mathematics • Use manipulatives and appropriate tools to explore concepts and develop in-depth understanding • Organize, display, and answer questions based on data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use graphic organizers to illustrate vocabulary words • Translate mathematical symbols into mathematical language and explain • Engage in discussions that explore concepts with a partner, in small groups, and whole class • Justify conclusions, communicate them to others and respond to the arguments of others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use and explain various strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems • Practice basic facts through strategy math games presented in class or web based such as First in Math • Engage in mental math activities • Apply basic facts within the context of a story problem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solve mathematical and real world problems using the four operations, and estimation strategies • Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them • Apply reading comprehension to facilitate understanding of word problems • Distinguish between one-step and multiple-step problems

Grade 3 Mathematics

	Concepts	Vocabulary	Numerical Fluency	Problem Solving
What you'll see (Products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problems, projects, graphic organizers, and posters that show an understanding of mathematics • Mathematical stories and problems that require the application of mathematical concepts. • Various strategies to solve multi-digit addition and subtraction problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increased understanding of math vocabulary and the ability to explain the meaning of the vocabulary • Use of vocabulary in written explanations to problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative computational strategies • Improvement in basic fact • Improved number sense • Examples of numerical fluency in math homework • Math games that require strategy and reinforce computational strategies and basic facts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing in mathematics • Written explanation and justification of solutions • Application of problem-solving strategies to real-life situations • Use of the problem solving process and strategies
How you can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have your child search for math in everyday life and explain how it is used • Help your child discover mathematical concepts around the house (e.g. shapes, patterns, measurement) • Read literature that relates to mathematics • Point out the math in games, sports, music, shopping, etc. • Ask your child the time and what time it will be after a certain time passes (e.g. What time should it be when we arrive if it takes 40 minutes to get there?) • Provide a number and ask for various ways to represent that number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access vocabulary for each unit of instruction on the District math eBoard and reinforce in conversations at home • Set aside a time for daily homework discussion • Ask your child to explain their mathematical thinking when solving problems – “Why did you solve it that way?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist your child in finding Web sites on the Math eBoard and Internet where they can practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division through games • Play strategy based games students learned in class • Encourage use of First in Math to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division as well as other concepts • Ask your child to explain the strategies used in computation • Provide opportunities for estimation in computation and measurement (e.g., when shopping, cooking, traveling etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find ways to show that you enjoy math not only through routine activities like cooking or paying bills but also by playing strategy/number games and solving number puzzles • Read the home connection newsletters that preview the unit and provide valuable tips for helping your child • Help your child to see that problem solving is all around us and applies to all areas of life • During homework ask “What do you know that will help you solve the problem? And “Does the answer make sense?”

Grade 3 Reading

	Reading Comprehension	Reading Fluency	Vocabulary	Writing
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key ideas and details in literature and informational texts. Demonstrate understanding of craft and structure in literature and informational texts. Make connections within, between, and/or among texts. Identify and judge evidence that supports particular ideas in an author's argument to change a reader's point of view. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand vocabulary and figurative language in literature and informational texts. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies. Recognize word relationships and nuances in word meanings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write narratives (real or imaginary), informational, explanatory, and opinion pieces on topics or texts, with supporting details. Write using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences. Understand on-level grammar and usage, capitalization, punctuation, & spelling.
What your child will do to demonstrate understanding of a text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask/answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text. Retell and summarize poems or stories from diverse cultures. Determine the main idea of a text. Explain a central message or moral in a story and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text. Describe characters, and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events. Explain the point of view of a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orally read with understanding on-level text 110 words per minute (by end of year) Read on-level text with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression. Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase. Determine the meaning of a new word formed when a known prefix/suffix is added. Use a known root word as a clue to the meaning of an unknown word. Demonstrate understanding of vocabulary and figurative language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write Narratives, opinion and informational pieces. Introduce and organize ideas on a topic which supports the writer's purpose and audience. Provide reasons that support an opinion. Provide a concluding statement or section. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and/or details. Use linking words/phrases to join ideas. Choose words/phrases for effect. Develop characters in narratives. Use temporal words and phrases to signal event order.

Grade 3 Reading

	Reading Comprehension	Reading Fluency	Vocabulary	Writing
What you will see (Products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oral/written retelling of stories Projects, timelines, charts, and illustrations that show understanding of the text through oral and/or written responses. Summarize text with key details Integrate information from several sources to answer questions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will read with understanding grade level material aloud at 110 words per minute. Your child will read with appropriate rate and expression. Your child will use context to self-correct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Word maps and drawings to show word meanings Word lists and skill sheets Use of academic vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webs and flow charts used for planning Corrections and changes made by the student Both narrative and informational writing
How you can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support nightly reading. Supply or read with your child more non-fiction texts. Read multiple books on the same topic. Encourage evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements. Talk with your child about the book s/he is reading. Ask open-ended questions. Have your child retell events from a favorite story, show, or experience. Take your child to the library to check out books. Take your child to bookstores when author visits occur. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read aloud to your child. Encourage your child to read to you. Practice reading in unison with your child. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask your child the meaning of unfamiliar words while you are reading together. Figure out and discuss new words with your child as they are encountered. Support your child's use of newly learned words in every-day context. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage your child to keep a diary, write letters, poems, or other home writing projects. Discuss and support the need for revising and editing. Plan and write a story with your child.

Grade 3 Science

What your child will learn	<p>Measurement, the process of quantifying observations, is one of the cornerstones of science. Measurement compares nature - the unknown - to a standard unit - the known. Through such comparison, the organization of the world becomes more comprehensive. The FOSS Measuring Matter Module has four investigations that introduce students to tools and procedures for making comparisons of matter in its common forms - solid, liquid, and gas.</p> <p>Water is the most important substance on Earth. Water dominates the surface of our planet, changes the face of the land, and defines life. These powerful pervasive ideas are introduced here. The FOSS Water Module provides students with experiences to explore the properties of water, changes in water, interactions between water and other earth materials, and how humans use water as a natural resource.</p> <p>The FOSS Structures of Life Module consists of four investigations dealing with observable characteristics of organisms. Students observe, compare, categorize, and care for a selection of organisms. In so doing, they learn to identify properties of plants and animals and to sort and group organisms on the basis of observable properties. Students investigate structures of the organisms and learn how some of the structures function in growth and survival.</p>
What your child will do	<p>In the Measuring Matter module, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply the conventions of measurement - accuracy, position, orientation, repetition.• Use tools to make accurate measurements and represent measurements by using numbers and units; use measurement data to construct explanations.• Plan a procedure, and apply it to solve a problem.• Use tables and graphs to organize and display data for analysis.• Weigh materials to confirm conservation of matter.• Investigate the relationship between phase change and heating and cooling.• Make and separate a number of simple mixtures; mix materials to observe solutions and reactions.• Use reading strategies to comprehend nonfiction texts• Write to demonstrate understanding of concepts.

Grade 3 Science

What your child will do

In the **Water** module, students will:

- Conduct surface-tension experiments
- Observe and explain the interaction between masses of water at different temperatures and masses of water in liquid and solid states.
- Construct a thermometer to observe that water expands as it warms and contracts as it cools.
- Observe weather by using senses and simple tools.
- Investigate the effect of surface area and air temperature on evaporation, and the effect of temperature on condensation.
- Investigate what happens when water is poured through two earth materials—soil and gravel.
- Design and construct a waterwheel and use it to lift or pull objects.
- Use field techniques to compare how well several soils drain.
- Use reading strategies to comprehend nonfiction texts
- Write to demonstrate understanding of concepts

In the **Structures of Life** module, students will

- Observe and compare properties of seeds and fruits.
- Investigate the effect of water on seeds by monitoring and recording changes over time.
- Observe plant structures as they appear during the plant's life cycle.
- Care for plants and animals and compare their needs.
- Observe crayfish structures and describe their functions in terms of growth, survival, and reproduction. Compare crayfish structures to structures of other animals.
- Analyze and interpret observations of crayfish behavior.
- Investigate food chain dynamics through a simulation.
- Study skeletal systems using bones, images, and models.
- Use reading strategies to comprehend nonfiction texts
- Write to demonstrate understanding of concepts.

Grade 3 Science

What you'll see (products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Science Readers• Science Notebooks with recorded observations, drawings, diagrams and predictions• Science vocabulary• Math concepts• Home and School Connection activities• Family letters for each module• Safety Rules and Procedures
How you can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use family discussions to review concepts taught in school• Read the Family Letter that provides suggestions for follow-up activities at home• Do the Home and School Connection Activities noted in each of the modules• Read about Science with your child• Review and discuss the Science Notebook with your child• Visit FOSSweb with your child for additional engaging activities for parents and students• Listen to your child and engage him/her on STEM topics that interest him/her• Visit the library and science museums

Grade 3 Social Studies

What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Types of communities and how they have changed• How natural resources and technology help people live & communities grow• Why the past is important and its impact upon the future• How people communicate history, culture, traditions, and beliefs• Cultures: understand how all people and events shape history• Citizenship – rights and responsibilities• The difference between wants and needs
What your child will do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in whole and small group discussion and collaborative activities• Build specific grade level vocabulary words and concepts• Use graphic organizers, timelines, graphs, maps, and charts of information and ideas• Use maps, globes, and other resources to study geography• Use grade appropriate resources such as <i>Time for Kids</i>, <i>Scholastic News</i>, and <i>National Geographic</i> to read and discuss current events• Use grade level text and technology to enhance learning• Use reading strategies to help comprehension fiction and nonfiction texts• Write to show understanding of concepts
What you'll see (Products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summaries and restatements of gathered information• Oral discussions, presentations, and projects to showcase learning
How you can help*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read with your child• Listen to your child and engage him/her in conversation on topics of interest to him/her• Allow your child to do simple tasks to gain experience and confidence• Be there to guide and encourage your child in his/her effort to complete a task• Visit the library, museums, and historical sites• Encourage map reading on outings

Grade 3 Encore Classes

FLES (Foreign Language in the Elementary School)

What your child will learn	What your child will do	What you'll see and hear (products)	How you can help
Review and recycle basic concepts from second grade.	Greetings, Calendar, Weather, Colors, Shapes, Family, Animals, Basic Directions, Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Songs • Posters • Dialogues • Technology-based projects • Graphic organizers • Role playing • Games in target language • Activity sheets • Online activities • Mini books • Oral presentations • School-wide activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become knowledgeable about the program. • Encourage your child to speak the target language outside of school. • Look for the target language and its culture in your own community. • Encourage your child to read in the target language. • Expose your child to a variety of media in the target language. • Volunteer and participate in school-wide language events. • Celebrate your child's success.
Numbers	Identify numbers 0 – 100 Count by tens 0 – 100 Solve basic mathematical equations		
Community	Identify people, places, and modes of transportation in the community.		
Emotions	Further express emotions and feelings.		
Preferences	Express preferences about a variety of subjects.		
Alphabet	Identify letters and their sounds and spell simple words.		
Animals	Identify a variety of wild animals.		
Classroom Objects and Supplies	Name items found in the classroom.		
Place in the school	Describe the location of one object in relation to another.		
Geography	Locate and name continents, oceans, and cardinal directions.		
Prepositions	Describe the location of one object in relation to another.		
Culture	Explore cultural components of countries where the target language is spoken.		

Grade 3 Encore Classes

	Music	Art
What your child will learn	Students will explore rhythmic elements, melodic, and harmonic elements of music as well as tone color, form, and expressive elements in music. This includes the study of sixteenth notes, dotted rhythms, reading treble staff notes, harmonizing, and recognizing major/minor tonalities. Students will identify instruments of the orchestra, dynamics, and various compositional forms.	Your child will build on their prior knowledge of the design elements of line, shape and color and how they are used by a variety of cultures and many types of genre. They will also discuss texture and space and how it is used in art.
What your child will do	Students will sing in unison and in rounds, play accompaniments on classroom instruments, and learn a variety of folk dances. Students will also read, listen to, and analyze music through many musical experiences including the soprano recorder. Students will have the opportunity to make connections between music and other disciplines, such as art, social studies, science, math, and dance. Students will experience a variety of multicultural music.	Your child will explore a wide variety of media while creating paintings, drawings and sculptures. They will identify and create texture in an artwork within these media.
What you'll see (Products)	This grade level has the opportunity to perform vocally and instrumentally in classroom performances. Additionally, there are opportunities for students to perform publicly for the school community.	Your child's portfolio will show examples of both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional artwork.
How you can help*	Provide a variety of musical experiences and age-appropriate listening. Encourage your student to participate in instrumental music lessons and choral ensembles in your community. Sing a song or share an activity from Music class Foster musical appreciation by attending concerts, recitals, and other live music opportunities	You can help by practicing manipulative skills at home, reinforce key ideas learned and exposing them to art in your community. Contact your school for volunteer opportunities.

Grade 3 Encore Classes

	Physical Education	
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conflict resolution • safe practices in physical activity settings • individual responsibility for safety during various activities • engage in physical activities that promote physical activity and health • good sportsmanship • the positive effects of regular participation in moderate to vigorous physical activity • applying ways to monitor and assess body responses during physical activity • factors that affect childhood physical activity practices • reasons why regular participation in physical activities improves motor skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognize positive and negative interactions of small group activities • how to apply basic movement skills and concepts to create and perform movement sequences and advanced skills • how to identify and apply concepts of motor skill development to a variety of basic skills • the relationship between practice and skill development • how to apply exercise principles to the components of health and skill-related fitness • know and describe scientific principles that affect movement and skills using appropriate vocabulary • how to apply game strategies to basic games and physical activities
What your child will do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participate in all aspects of physical education class to improve physical fitness and health • follow safe practices during physical activities • engage in individual, small group, team and whole group activities • practice skills taught during physical education class • use teacher feedback to improve physical fitness and practice skills taught during physical education class. 	
What you'll see (Products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop motor skills such as running, hopping, jumping, skipping, sliding, galloping • develop confidence • acquire an appreciation for physical activities • develop cooperative skills 	
How you can help*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote healthy lifestyle choices in relation to nutrition, fitness, hygiene, sleep etc. • visit your local community centers to become involved in activities • advocate to increase active play time and reduce screen time 	

Grade 3 Guidance / Holistic Supports

Second Step

What your child will learn	What your child will do	What you'll see and hear (products)	How you can help
Unit 1: Skills for Learning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Being Respectful Learners 2. Using Self –Talk 3. Being Assertive 4. Planning to Learn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply focusing-attention and listening skills in response to scenarios • Identify classroom distractions • Demonstrate the use of self-talk in response to scenarios • Demonstrate assertive communication skills in response to scenarios • Evaluate three-step plans for different scenarios using the Good Plan Checklist criteria • Create a simple, three-step plan that meets the Good Plan Checklist criteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home links are simple, fun activities for you and your child to complete together. They are a great way for you to understand what your child is learning and for your child to show you what they know. • Make sure to join www.secondstep.org with activation key for your child's grade level. • KG activation key is SSP3 FAMI LY73
Unit 2: Empathy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Identifying Others' Feelings 6. Understanding Perspectives 7. Conflicting Feelings 8. Accepting Differences 9. Showing Compassion 10. Making Friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name a variety of feelings • Determine others' feelings using physical, verbal, and situational clues • Label their own feelings as the same as or different from others' feelings • Identify others' feelings using physical, verbal, and situational clues • Determine whether others' feelings have changed, in response to scenarios • Identify two conflicting feelings a person could have in response to scenarios • Explain possible reasons for someone's conflicting feelings in response to scenarios • Name similarities and differences between people • Predict how others will feel when teased for being different • Demonstrate focusing-attention and listening skills in response to scenarios • Identify ways to show compassion for others in response to scenarios • Express appreciation for another person's concern in response to scenarios • Demonstrate focusing-attention and listening skills in the context of a game • Initiate, continue, and end a conversation in a friendly way in the context of a game 	

Grade 3 Guidance / Holistic Supports

Second Step

What your child will learn	What your child will do	What you'll see and hear (products)
Unit 3: Emotion Management	11. Introducing Emotion Management 12. Managing Test Anxiety 13. Handling Accusations 14. Managing Disappointment 15. Managing Anger 16. Managing Hurt Feelings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify physical clues that can help them label their own feelings • Identify the first two Calming-Down Steps • Demonstrate using the first two Calming-Down Steps in response to scenarios • Demonstrate correct belly breathing technique • Use belly breathing to calm down in response to scenarios • Demonstrate steps for handling accusations in response to scenarios • Generate positive self-talk they can use to calm down in response to scenarios • Make a simple three-step plan to achieve a goal in response to scenarios • Use counting to calm down in response to scenarios • Use assertive communication skills to get what they want or need in response to scenarios • Identify situations that require using strategies for calming down • Demonstrate using strategies for calming down • Generate alternative explanations in response to scenarios
Unit 4: Problem Solving	17. Solving Problems Part 1 18. Solving Problems Part 2 19. Solving Classroom Problems 20. Solving Peer-Exclusion Problems 21. Dealing with Negative Peer Pressure 22. Reviewing Second Step Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recall the first Problem-Solving Step • Identify and state a problem in response to scenarios • Identify blaming language in response to scenarios • Propose several solutions for a given problem in response to scenarios • Determine if solutions are safe and respectful • Explore positive and negative consequences of solutions • Apply the Calming-Down Steps to an emotional situation in response to a scenario • Use the Problem-Solving Steps to solve an interpersonal problem between classmates, in response to a scenario • Apply the Problem-Solving Steps to the problem of being excluded by peers, in response to scenarios • Demonstrate assertive communication skills in response to scenarios • Apply the Problem-Solving Steps to the problem of being negatively pressured by peers, in response to scenarios • Demonstrate assertive communication in response to scenarios • Recall <i>Second Step</i> skills learned • Identify <i>Second Step</i> skills in a story • Relate personal examples of skill use

Grade 3 Guidance / Holistic Supports

	What your child will learn	What your child will do	What you'll see and hear (products)	How you can help
No Place for Hate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The No Place for Hate program was developed by the Anti Defamation League to organize communities to participate in projects that encourage an awareness of differences as well as to encourage acceptance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To appreciate individual and group differences To have honest and respectful conversations and interactions in order to develop connections with other students and school staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The No Place for Hate® campaign empowers schools to create projects to help children to learn about the differences of others and to work together to build a community where everyone can feel safe and happy at school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At home, you are encouraged to continue the discussion about diversity and to foster a sense of all belonging in the Lower Merion School District.