

3rd GRADE
CURRICULUM GUIDE



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
MENOMONEE FALLS

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2013-2014

PURPOSE of the Curriculum Guide:

The School District of Menomonee Falls is committed to developing a partnership between school and family. This curriculum guide has been developed to provide valuable information for parents related to end of year goals and resources for third grade students to ensure academic growth for all..

Reading/Language Arts:

By the end of the year, students in third grade will be able to...

Read and comprehend literature at a 3rd grade level. (Level O-Q)

Use questioning to help me understand a text.

Answer questions to demonstrate that I understand a text.

Retell the elements of the story and figure out the author's message, lesson or moral of the text.

Read accurately and fluently with understanding.

Write a piece based on my own opinion.

Provide reasons that support my opinion.

Introduce a topic.

Use linking words and phrases to connect ideas.

Provide a concluding statement or section.

Write poems about real or imagined events.

Write a poem in an order that makes sense.

Use descriptive details to show thoughts, feelings, and actions.

Produce simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Use capital letters appropriately.

Use reference materials.

Use the spelling patterns that I know when writing.

Have on topic discussions with others sharing my own ideas and building on the ideas of others.

To help students be independent readers and writers, the district uses a “workshop” model for instruction. This instructional model uses a combination of focused mini-lessons, read alouds, independent reading, writing & conferring, guided reading and writing, and reflection to build strategies for reading, writing, and comprehension and to foster a love of reading and writing.

Math:

By the end of the year, students in third grade will be able to...

Show understanding that a fraction is an equal part of a whole.
Identify equal fractions if they are the same size or the same point on a number line.

Recognize and explain that equivalent fractions represent the same amount.

Recognize and explain that whole numbers can be written as fractions.

Compare two fractions with like numerators or like denominators.
Use multiplication and division up to 100 to solve word problems involving equal groups, arrays, and measurement.

Fluently multiply within 100 using strategies like fact families.

Fluently divide within 100 using strategies like fact families.
Multiply 1 digit numbers from memory.

The District uses *Everyday Mathematics* developed by the Center for Elementary Mathematics and Science Education from the University of Chicago. *Everyday Mathematics* provides a curriculum that is rigorous and balanced and that emphasizes conceptual understanding while building a mastery of basic skills. It also explores a broad mathematics spectrum, not just basic arithmetic. *Everyday Mathematics* builds understanding over a period of time from informal exposure to more formal and direct instruction. The curriculum also helps students make connections and build upon their existing knowledge base.

Science:

By the end of the year, students in third grade will be able to...

Communicate about my investigations.

Use data to draw a reasonable conclusion about my investigation.

The science curriculum is guided by the Full Option Science System (FOSS) program developed at the University of California, Berkeley. Students engage in inquiry based scientific and engineering practices to help answer the essential questions, “What’s in this world?” and “How does it work?” Students engage in multi-sensory, hands on learning activities, simulations, models and reading. Through these developmental activities, students construct understanding of science concepts. Putting ideas and experiences into words, helps students develop an in-depth understanding of science.

Social Studies:

By the end of the year, students in third grade will be able to:

Show my understanding of vocabulary

Show my understanding of social studies knowledge and concepts.

In Social Studies, the third grade students understand the importance of local communities. Readings and activities focus on roles, expectations, and make-up of different businesses and services available in Menomonee Falls as an example of a community. Students learn map skills including ordinal directions. Students also explore social studies through non-fiction literature including the use of *Time for Kids (TfK)*, a weekly classroom news magazine.

Resources for Families:

To extend learning at home, families can utilize the following sites:

District Electronic Libraries

<https://sdmf.follettdestiny.com>

Provides links to learning games, non-fiction books, research tools, news sources, encyclopedias, and more.

3rd Grade Reading Suggestions

Level O Geronimo Stilton
Boxcar Children

Level P American Girl
Encyclopedia Brown

Level Q Little House
Judy Blume (Fudge Books)

For students who are below or above these levels in reading, the district provides a continuum of services to challenge students accordingly. For further information on these services, please contact the teacher or building principal.

Reading, Writing, & Math Resources

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/>

<http://www.readwritethink.org>

<http://www.timeforkids.com>

<http://www.funbrain.com>

<http://pbskids.org>

<http://coolmath4kids.com>

<http://mathplayground.com/games.html>

Compass Learning

<http://compass.sdmf.k12.wi.us/clologin.aspx>

Compass Learning is an online academic learning tool that provides reading and math activities matching individual student scores on their most recent Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment. Each student has a unique login and password. At the beginning of the school year parents will receive information regarding Compass Learning.

State of Wisconsin Assessment System

http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/oea_parents

Beginning in third grade, the state of Wisconsin requires schools to test students' understanding of skills, knowledge, and concepts in math, reading, language arts, science, and social studies.

Saving for College (529 Accounts)

<https://www.edvest.com/>

The state of Wisconsin works with Edvest to encourage and support college savings plans. The money in these accounts can be used for higher education costs including technical and four-year

