

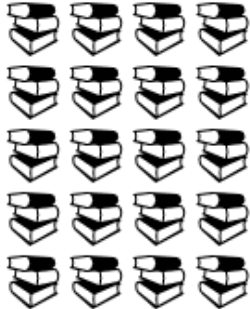


# 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Homework, Curriculum & Field Trips

## Paperwork

My weekly newsletter will be emailed to you each Monday. If this doesn't work for you and you'd prefer to have a paper copy, please do let me know. Parent Bulletins are sent out on Tuesdays.

## Homework

- See document entitled "Third Grade Homework" that is posted on our class orientation page. This paper was also sent home on 9/8/14.
- Book It calendars are sent home monthly. Reading research tells us that daily reading in a book that is at a child's specific reading level is the single most influential thing on a child's reading progress.

<b>WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?</b>		
<b>Student A Reads</b>	<b>Student B Reads</b>	<b>Student C Reads</b>
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.
<p><b>If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.</b></p> <p><small>(Ogry and Brennan, 1992.)</small></p>		
<b>WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.</b>		

- If your student does not complete work in class due to making poor choices, that homework will be sent home with a red slip. It is my expectation that this homework will be signed and returned the next school day.
- Bible memory verses will be tested either verbally or as a fill in the blank, your child and I will figure out which suits him or her better.

## Curriculum

**Bible:** CSI: Walking with God and His People. We study the book of Ephesians and Becoming a Bible Explorer. Then we move to the Old Testament and study the stories of Creation through the Israelites going to the Promised Land.

**Spelling:** We use the Sitton Spelling curriculum and have a test each Friday. Our spelling goal is to have students learn and able to spell words forever, not just for a test.

**Language Arts:** We use the MacMilan/McGraw-Hill Third Grade series, which includes a variety of short stories as well as a significant number of trade books. We use this within the framework of Daily 5 (see separate “Daily 5” document). I also read aloud each day from a chapter book.

**Math:** Each day we do an A.D.D. (Arithmetic Developed Daily) and Rocket Math to sharpen overall math skills. In addition to these two things we use a math book (not a workbook) or worksheets for daily math. We begin using notebook paper for our math work. We review addition and subtraction, time, and money. We then move on to multiplication tables from 0-10 and division. We begin multiplication in October.

**Science:** We are excited to introduce the Enhanced Outdoor Education partnership with Blandford Nature Center. Third grade will be having these enhanced lessons in November-February. In third grade science we study the scientific method, simple machines, the solar system, and living things.

**Social Studies:** Our overarching theme is communities; within this context we study Native Americans, Pioneers, Grand Rapids, and Michigan.

**Handwriting:** We review manuscript handwriting together and then dive into cursive.

## Field Trips

We take several field trips over the course of third grade. On all of these trips we go with Miss Kurosu’s class. Parents are usually invited to come along. I will give you as much notice as I have so that you can make plans accordingly. There is a small charge

for some of these trips. If the cost is problem, please let me know, there are funds available for these situations.