



AISL Grade Three Syllabus

Literacy

Students in third grade apply the foundational skills learned earlier automatically and flexibly to decode and comprehend fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. They use critical thinking skills that they apply strategically across the disciplines to comprehend and clarify information and ideas. They compose fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama for a variety of purposes and audiences. Third graders become increasingly independent and flexible in their use of communication skills and strategies.

The learner will:

- * Read with fluency and comprehension fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama.
- * Apply strategies flexibly and strategically for recognizing words, learning new words, and constructing meaning from text(s).
- * Expand vocabulary through wide reading, word study, and discussion.
- * Write for a variety of audiences and purposes using appropriate formats.
- * Use active listening and effective oral communication.
- * Use media, a variety of information sources, and technological resources as tools for learning.
- * Apply grammar and language conventions to access and communicate information and ideas.
- * Reflect upon and make connections among language, texts, and personal experience.
- * Apply comprehension strategies and skills to a wide variety of genres.

Social Studies/African Studies

The third grade study is designed to expand the students' concept of "leaders" in relationship to their communities. Students study people of diverse groups, their cultures, religions, traditions, and contributions to the community. Students compare aspects of familiar communities with those of other cultures and other times. They are introduced to problems that "leaders" and communities confront and how conflicts are resolved. The students build on a foundation of knowledge that gives them a deeper understanding of how culture, social and political systems, history, economics, and geography affect communities.

Third graders discover how literature is integrated in the social studies discipline by reading about local, state, national, and global leaders (fictional and non-fictional). They investigate the contributions that these individuals have made to society. Students make connections between deeds leaders perform and the character traits each hero possesses such as courage, self-discipline, perseverance, integrity, respect, responsibility, kindness, and good judgment.

African Studies: Third grade students expand their knowledge and understanding of rural and urban Nigerian communities. The students study cultural celebrations, and the role of art and its importance in Nigeria. In addition, they learn about the history, climate, natural resources, agricultural products, and the money systems of Nigeria.

Math

Third grade students continue to develop their understanding of number operations and problem solving. They are expected to improve accuracy and rate when computing addition that is more complex and subtraction problems. They will learn how to multiply and divide whole numbers. They will identify equivalent fractions and place value of decimals to hundredths. Concepts in geometry will be expanded to include the study of points of a polygon and right angles. They will use standard and metric units to measure and convert units within a system. They will use a variety of strategies to solve problems and explain how they arrived at the solution. They will begin to understand the basic concepts of probability.

Science

Third grade students will continue to develop their understanding of scientific process and inquiry in order to gather information, make observations, and inferences, and draw conclusions. They study concepts learned in previous grades in more depth and explore new concepts as well. They study the life cycle of seed plants and the adaptation of plants and animals made in order to survive. The food chain is studied. They investigate magnetism and electricity. They learn about the movement of the earth and its impact on seasons. They gain a greater understanding of work and force through simple machines.

P.E.

Third grade students will continue to participate in activities designed to develop and enhance muscle strength and endurance, flexibility, and cardio-respiratory endurance. The students will also participate and develop mental activities for power, agility, speed, coordination, reaction, and balance as well as participate in the Presidential Physical Fitness Test.

Music

Third grade students will continue to learn songs from diverse backgrounds, such as our host country, Nigeria. They will continue to expand their knowledge of the elements of Music. They will begin to play the auto Harp individually and continue to play rhythm and classroom instruments. Students learn about harmony and sing rounds, partner songs and counter melodies. They will expand their sight-reading ability. They will create their own songs using increasingly difficult notations.

Arts

Students create art based on imagination, recall and observations. They learn portrait details, depict actions, and combine ideas or materials in various ways. At this level, students acquire greater flexibility in using familiar materials and learn to try different ways of solving problems. Activities develop skills in a variety of media. As in previous grades, students develop positive attitudes toward the process of looking at art. They learn to perceive more subtle visual qualities in their own arts and the arts of masters. Students begin to use art terms to describe and contrast visual qualities. They become aware of the functions, cultural origins and relative age of selected works of art. Students become aware of and develop an ability to use different vantage points, for example side views and top views, for observing objects and scenes. Students learn more about artists and their methods for creating diverse arts.

Technology

Third grade students will continue to learn how to care for computers properly and understand the ethical issues pertaining to computers and their use. Students will learn proper posture and hand position on the keyboard. Students will move towards the guided level to create personal products. They will save to the server and print to various laser printers. They will learn to use computer graphic programs. They will learn to research using CD ROM encyclopedias.

French

The Grade 3 program will lead to the development of communicative proficiency in one language other than English. It can be a beginning program, which lays the foundation for further language study in upcoming grades, or a continuing program, which strengthens and extends concepts and skills introduced during the previous year(s) of language study.

The emphasis at this grade level is on:

- * Oral language development with a focus on listening and speaking skills
- * Pre-reading/writing activities through oral language.
- * Awareness of other cultures
- * Comparison of language and culture to the students' own language and culture
- * Connections to the third grade curriculum
- * Awareness of the importance of learning another language and culture

Concrete activities involve students in oral language development within a social setting and include interaction with their teacher and their peers in a variety of groupings. Students communicate through basic words and short memorized phrases within a context and may begin to combine words and phrases to exchange information about everyday topics.

Students will be introduced to reading and writing of the basic vocabulary words learned in the previous years.

Library

Third grade students will learn about the Dewey Decimal classification system and begin to locate materials using call letters. They will be exposed to a variety of literature through story reading. They will also use the computer catalogue to access materials. They will continue to use basic reference resources to complete class assignments. Library and research skills are coordinated with the grade level curriculum and are taught by the librarian within the assigned library class time and by the classroom teacher.