

Balanced Literacy

The School District of Fort Atkinson offers a balanced literacy approach to teaching reading, writing and spelling. In a balanced literacy program, how you teach is as important as what you teach. Students are taught at their instructional level insuring that all students progress and learn. Reading, writing and spelling are continuously integrated to develop all language arts skills.

READING

By the end of third grade, we expect students to have the following reading skills:

- Reads aloud with fluency and expression
- Uses a variety of word-solving strategies including letter sound relationships, word structure and context clues
- Applies reading strategies to process and comprehend text at a variety of type and length
- Self-corrects, self-monitors and rereads while reading
- Summarizes or retells a variety of texts or materials orally and in written form
- Identifies the setting, characters and plot of a story
- Makes connections to literature
- Makes inferences based on text information
- Reads a variety of materials for enjoyment and information at an independent level
- Uses a variety of research skills



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WRITING

Our district uses a Writer's Workshop approach to writing instruction. Daily, students write about self-selected topics and then conference and share their writing with peers and the teacher.

By the end of third grade, the students will demonstrate the following writing skills:

- Prewrites using grade-appropriate strategies
- Creates draft from prewriting ideas that makes sense and utilizes a genre
- Conferences with teacher and peers and reflects to improve writing
- Revises own writing by adding, subtracting, rearranging and rewording text based on conference and self-assessment
- Self-assesses and applies the 6 Traits
- Edits writing for capitalization, spelling, punctuation and grammar according to grade-level expectation
- Publishes for a variety of audiences in a variety of genres
- Identifies and uses craft from published authors in own writing
- Uses cursive writing when requested
- Handwriting is neat and legible
- Uses Writer's Workshop effectively

SPELLING

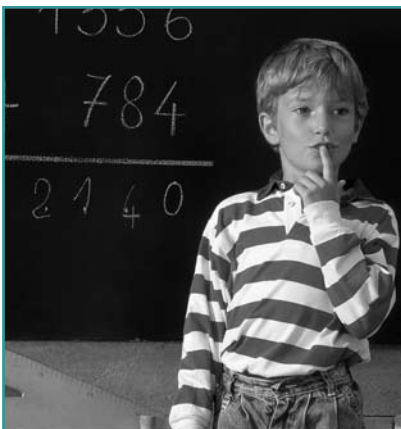
By the end of third grade, we expect students to have the following spelling skills:

- Learns to apply spelling patterns to spell unfamiliar words
- Uses conventional spelling in all writing
- Recognizes misspellings
- Spells high frequency words correctly in all writing

Mathematics

By the end of third grade, we expect students to have the following math skills:

- Reads, writes and orders numbers to 10,000
- Uses reasonable estimation (number, weight, length) rounding numbers to nearest 10 & 100
- Adds and subtracts 2 to 3 digit numbers with regrouping
- Knows basic multiplication facts (0 through 10)
- Represents numbers through 10,000 using place value concepts and expanded notation
- Represents decimals through the tenths place
- Uses the concept of lesser than, greater than and equal to as well as their signs (<,>,$=$)
- Collects, organizes, records and interprets data using graphs, tables and charts
- Builds, sorts, names and draws 2D and 3D figures and identifies symmetry / congruence
- Identifies locations using a coordinate grid
- Reads, writes and orders fractions (halves, thirds and fourths)
- Tells time to the 1 minute interval
- Determines value of a group of coins and bills
- Counts and makes change up to \$10.00
- Recognizes and describes the attributes of length and weight and chooses the correct unit to measure them
- Finds perimeter
- Recognizes and predicts outcomes
- Uses and communicates problem solving strategies
- Works with accuracy



Social Studies

Third grade social studies is taught in thematic units designed to help students learn more about themselves as well as the people and the world around them. The theme of “communities” is present throughout the year. Essential understandings or social studies “big ideas” are presented along with geography and map skills, vocabulary and a selection of key historical figures, events and symbols.

During third grade, students will experience the following social studies units:

- Communities Around Us
- Communities & Geography
- Communities Over Time
- Citizens & Government
- People in Communities
- Working in Communities

The program also includes District Geography Map Assessments which focus on key locations of the following geographic areas:

- The World Continents
- North America
- Physical Map of the United States
- Political Map of the World
- United States—Selected States and Cities

Science

During third grade science, students discover and learn about the universe, the world and their own environment.

During third grade, students will experience the following science units:

- Matter
- Energy and Forces
- The Earth's Land
- Cycles on Earth and in Space
- Health and the Human Body
- Plants and Animals

Allied Arts

ART

By the end of third grade, we expect students to have the following art skills:

- Displays creativity in work
- Reflects pride and enthusiasm in art work
- Employs original ideas
- Demonstrates craftsmanship
- Respects efforts of peers and working artists

HEALTH

During third grade, students will learn age-appropriate concepts related to the following areas:

- Safety and Accident Prevention
- Nutrition
- Personal Health
- Mental and Social Health
- Family Life Education
- Substance Use and Abuse
- Prevention and Control of Disease
- Consumer Health

MUSIC

By the end of third grade, we expect students to have the following music skills:

- Uses singing voice to match pitch
- Plays instruments including the recorder
- Composes a rhythmic or melodic phrase
- Reads and write rhythmic and pitch notation
- Describes musical elements
- Identifies instruments through sound and sight

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

By the end of third grade, students will have experienced and enhanced the following physical education skills:

Team Concepts & Strategies	Ball Handling	Personal Fitness	Apparatus/ Tumbling
Rhythm and Dance	Use of Manipulatives	Cooperative Activities & Adventures	Good Sportsmanship