

Science Course Purpose

Your child will engage in scientific inquiry using scientific literacy. Students will apply a range of thinking processes, such as recalling facts, applying knowledge, analyzing, evaluating and creating.

Grade Level Expectations

PROPERTIES OF MATTER

Students will be able to sort and classify materials based on properties such as dissolving in water, sinking and floating, conducting heat, and attracting to magnets. They will also describe the effect of heating on the melting, evaporation, condensation and freezing of water.

HEREDITY AND EVOLUTION

Students in third grade will work with the big idea that organisms can survive and reproduce only in environments that meet their basic needs. Plants and animals have structures and behaviors that help them survive in different environments.

THE CHANGING EARTH

While learning that earth materials have different physical and chemical properties students should be able to differentiate between rocks and minerals; observe and analyze rock properties (e.g., crystal size or layers) to infer the conditions under which the rock was formed. Students should also be able to evaluate the usefulness of different rock types for specific applications.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN SOCIETY

Third grade students will understand that Earth materials provide resources for all living things, but these resources are limited and should be conserved. Through the inquiry method, students will discover decisions made by individuals can impact the global supply of many resources.

Social Studies Course Purpose

Your child will discuss information from history and social studies to enhance their understanding of our community, nation and our world using literacy, inquiry and research skills to analyze, evaluate and present history and social studies information.

Grade Level Expectation

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE

In third grade your child will be able to: explain history-related holidays; develop an understanding of the need for rules and laws through Responsive Classroom instruction; analyze when an individual's rights in school must be limited to ensure safety; compare resources that are made, learned, built or grown through Junior Achievement; identify different cultural/ethnic groups within one's community.

HISTORY AND SOCIAL STUDIES LITERACY

Third grade students will be able to: assess information from print materials with assistance; write one-to-two sentence descriptions of historical scenes; participate in classroom discussions; create relevant social studies materials such as maps, charts or displays (identifies locations using map symbols, give and follow directions using N, S, E, W, identify land/water formations on a map/globe, scale, keys/legends).

HISTORICAL APPLICATION

Students will be able to explain why there are different sides/points of view of one event. They will be able to predict and analyze how another person might feel in a specific situation .

Unified Arts Course Purpose

Music and Visual Arts

Your child will gain an understanding and appreciation of the arts, as well as the ability to participate in creating and performing the arts, as they are essential attributes of an educated person. Your child will understand and use the materials, techniques, forms, language, notation, literature/ repertoire, and diverse cultural and historical contexts of each art form.

Physical Education

Your child will take responsibility for protecting his/her own health. Students will learn about nutrition and physical activity, and apply this knowledge by making healthy choices for themselves. Each child will have opportunities to:

- demonstrate mature motor patterns in simple combinations
- demonstrate control in traveling activities, weight bearing, and balancing on a variety of body parts
- exhibit a physically active life-style and healthy level of fitness
- demonstrate the skills and knowledge necessary to participate in a variety of physical activities;
- make decisions to establish and maintain a healthy lifestyle to promote individual wellness throughout his or her entire life;
- recognize and understand the different effects of physical activity on one's mind and body; and
- develop interpersonal skills and exhibit positive character traits during physical activity.

Grade Three

Curriculum

East Windsor Public Schools



Mission:

Broad Brook Elementary School's mission is to offer our entire community of learners a varied and challenging curriculum, in a safe and nurturing environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. The school community is committed to developing respectful behaviors, personal responsibility and productive citizenship.

Student Profile:

Third graders have much energy and are highly social. They work well together in groups, but might work quickly because of limited attention spans. They enjoy many friendships and love to share their ideas in detail with others.

Grade Three/Course Purposes and Expectations

Language Arts Course Purpose

Your child will engage in the workshop instructional model to read, think, analyze, question and converse about books on a daily basis, so that every student will be highly skilled in reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing and presenting across all content areas.

Grade Level Expectations

WRITING

Students in third grade will be exposed to different types of genre writing including descriptive, narrative, expository, persuasive and poetry. They will write detailed stories using an episodic structure to detail beginning, middle and end and will be asked to generate a piece of informational text.

Writing Process

Students will communicate with others by applying English Language Conventions through the writing process of *Plan, Draft, Revise, Edit, Publish, and Reflect*. Students will be able to explain why a representative piece of work is better than another.

READING

Phonics and Word Study

Students in third grade will be expected to be able to:

- Know sounds for a wide range of suffixes and prefixes; e.g.; -able, -tion, -ment, ex-, re-
- Use letter-sound correspondence, structural analysis and syllable patterns to decode multisyllabic words.
- Infer word meanings from roots, prefixes and suffixes.
- Analyze the meaning of words and phrases in context.
- Use context to accurately read words with more than one pronunciation, e.g.; *an object* vs. *to object*.

- Read words containing complex letter patterns and/or word families, e.g., -ieve, -eive, -ield in isolation and in context.

Fluency

Students by the end of third grade should be able to read aloud while comprehending, unpracticed text with a fluency of 110 - 120+ correct words per minute. They can read aloud informational/expository text accurately, using appropriate pacing, phrasing and expression and they can read longer, more complex texts.

Vocabulary

Students will be able to use a glossary, dictionary and thesaurus to find and confirm word meanings. They will use prior knowledge, context, pictures, illustrations and diagrams to predict, clarify and/or expand word meaning, including multiple-meaning words. Students will also define words and concepts necessary for understanding math, science, social studies, literature and other content area text.

Reading Comprehension

Students will utilize and perfect before reading, during reading and after reading strategies to support thinking while reading. Example strategies include:

- Articulating what is known about the text topic based on the title, author, pictures, illustrations and prior knowledge.
- Making relevant predictions about what will probably happen in a story (fiction) or what will be learned (nonfiction) based on title, cover, chapter heading, illustrations., etc.
- Applying strategies of a strategic thinker: making connections, predicting, questioning, inferring and visualizing.
- Identifying specific words or phrases that cause comprehension difficulties and self monitor.
- Making inferences based on explicit information in the text, and providing justification for those inferences.

Students in second grade will also display a general understanding of text by stating the theme or stating the main idea with supporting details. They will also be able to develop a new title that best fits a text.

Reading Reflection/Behaviors

Students will choose a variety of “just right” books of various genres to read, and/or listen to and explain their appeal, and be able to answer the question, “What did I learn today about myself as a reader?” They will be able to read independently for a variety of purposes and will respond to oral or written questions regarding story elements in fiction, or facts in an informational text. Cite favorite authors and books and support with reasons.

Mathematics Course Purpose

Your third grade student will learn mathematical thinking to explain and use problem-solving strategies in the following math areas: Algebraic Reasoning: Patterns and Functions; Numerical and Proportional Reasoning; Geometry and Measurement; and Working with Data.

Grade Level Expectations

Algebraic Reasoning: Patterns and Functions

Students will be able to:

- Create and describe patterns using different objects and symbols.
- Identify mathematical relationships as equations.

Number and Proportional Reasoning

Students will be able to:

- Use estimation strategies to determine and justify the reasonableness of an answer.
- Identify needed and extraneous information in story problems.
- Use place value concepts to locate, identify, compare and order whole numbers to 1000 including multiples of 10 and 100.

- Identify alternative ways of expressing 2- and 3-digit whole numbers.
- Demonstrate mastery of multiplication facts.
- Develop strategies for retrieving division facts.
- Add 1- and 2- digit numbers with and without regrouping.
- Identify alternative forms of expressing whole numbers using expanded notation.
- Solve problems involving estimates of sums and differences including money amounts.
- Represent numbers in expanded and regrouped forms in the base ten place value system.
- Solve multiplication and division problems using rectangular arrays, number patterns, skip counting and repeated addends.
- Compare fractions, identify equivalent fractions, add and subtract fractions with like and unlike denominators using models and pictures.

Geometry and Measurement

Students will be able to:

- Understand the relationship between standard and metric units of measurement.
- Use models and familiar objects to estimate, compare and order fractions.
- Solve problems involving time, elapsed time (15 minute increments) and calendar.
- Use standard units of measure to communicate measurement in a universal manner.
- Identify geometric shapes including angles and sides of polygons.
- Plan events and make schedules.

Working with Data: Probability and Statistics

Students will be able to:

- Create bar graphs and pictographs from data in tables and charts.
- Use samples and simulations to determine probability, and to make and test predictions.
- Develop strategies for estimating quantities, sums and differences, and measurement.
- Design surveys for the collection of data and justify conclusions drawn from the data.