

Activities that Support 3rd Grade Learning

How Parents Can Help...

Reading

- ❖ Read aloud to your child daily.
- ❖ Have your child read to you and check for understanding by discussing the content, characters and setting.
- ❖ Provide your child access to reference materials such as a children's dictionary, thesaurus, encyclopedia, atlas and computer. *All of these are available at the library.*
- ❖ Encourage the enjoyment of reading by providing a variety of reading materials of your child's choice, for example magazines, series books, library books, books by the same author.
- ❖ Monitor your child's independent reading so that selections are within his or her ability level.
- ❖ Demonstrate how reading is an important tool in our daily lives, for example signs, menus, labels on products, newspapers, flyers.
- ❖ Play reading games with your child, for example word searches, crossword puzzles.
- ❖ Let your child see you reading for purpose and pleasure.

Writing

- ❖ Encourage your child to write within the family setting, for example notes, lists, pen pals, letters and journals.
- ❖ Provide fun writing tools such as colored paper, pens and markers.
- ❖ If possible, provide access to a computer with a keyboard, word processing, spell check and thesaurus.
- ❖ Remind your child to carefully proofread all written work for content as well as the correct spelling and punctuation.
- ❖ Assist your child in mastering the grade level spelling lists
- ❖ Partner read aloud and keep a reading log.
- ❖ Write about a trip or special event.
- ❖ Keep a word log for spelling and vocabulary.

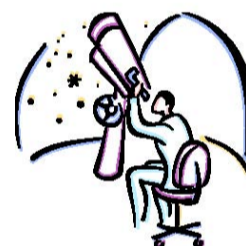


Listening & Speaking

- ❖ Model and encourage good listening and speaking skills for your child daily.
- ❖ Attend live theatre or storytelling events.
- ❖ Support your child in memorizing poems, songs, plays and oral reports.
- ❖ Let your child express him/herself daily in the family setting.

Mathematics

- ❖ Support your child in mastering addition and subtraction facts and learning multiplication and division facts through 5's.
- ❖ Involve your child in mathematical situations when they occur in the family setting, for example time, money, measurement, cooking and problem solving.
- ❖ Use beans, coins, drawings and calculators to explain concepts.
- ❖ Play math games using playing cards, dice and dominoes together as a family.
- ❖ Provide access to math computer games.



Science

- ❖ Visit science centers, museums, interpretive and nature centers.
- ❖ Encourage your child to make observations and predictions about things that interest him/her.
- ❖ Encourage your child to ask questions and seek answers from more than one source.
- ❖ Consider a science kit, chemistry set, weather tools, geology set, as a gift.

History/Social Science

- ❖ Support units of study by providing other resources, for example videos, library books, maps, atlas, globe and games.
- ❖ Help your child learn about geography, history and culture of the local area.
- ❖ Help your child to identify and define landforms such as mountains, valleys and rivers in your travels and on maps and globes.
- ❖ Help your child identify and locate his/her own city, county, state, country and continent on a map. Help your child to interpret basic map symbols and scales.
- ❖ Show your child how changes such as a new freeway impact the environment.
- ❖ Involve your child in historical/social science activities as they occur in the family setting, for example elections, multicultural celebrations, community services and projects.
- ❖ Visit local museums.
- ❖ Encourage your child to ask questions and seek answers from more than one source.

Study Skills

- ❖ Be aware of grade level and teacher standards. Be aware of units of study and check for understanding.
- ❖ Promote and teach self-discipline and good work habits.
- ❖ Provide a quiet, well-equipped area for homework and study. Have your child log homework assignments in a log book.
- ❖ Check the log book for completion and sign the notebook for verification.
- ❖ Make your child responsible for putting all completed work and important papers into a backpack.
- ❖ Contact your child's teacher if there are problems completing the homework.
- ❖ Lead your child to answers by questioning rather than giving him/her the answers.
- ❖ When there are challenges, help your child understand that persistence will bring success.
- ❖ Limit television and video games.
- ❖ Show your child that you value education by making sure he/she is on time, prepared and ready to learn.
- ❖ Attend school functions and conferences.
- ❖ **Make learning a priority in your home!**