

High Expectations

3rd Grade

Your Third Grader's Academic Success Begins with You

Your involvement in your child's academic success, at every stage, opens the door to opportunities and increases their options for the future.

Do you know what your child is expected to learn in school this year? Part of being an engaged parent is knowing about key academic milestones and how you can support your child in meeting them. Third grade is an especially important year for your child. Children need to be reading by grade level in third grade to ensure their future academic success. In fact, research tells us that students who are behind in third grade have a hard time catching up. If you aren't sure if your child is reading at grade level, talk with his/her teacher and find out what you can do help ensure your child is on track. Here are some of the key academic skills your child will need to master in the third grade and ideas for ways you can supplement the learning at home.

Academic Skills

- Read third grade level books – check with your school or community library for appropriate books for your child.
- Know the difference between different types of text: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, plays and narratives.
- When reading, compare and contrast the characters, setting and plot of different stories.
- Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division.
- Add and subtract four-digit whole numbers.
- Practice measuring length, weight and capacity of objects.

Activities to do at Home

- Take a trip to the local library. Walk around and locate the different types of text. Look at the different types of books and point out the differences in each.
- While at the store, ask your child to write down the prices of items, and ask him to add the total.
- Provide your child with a ruler, measuring cup and a scale. Ask your child to measure a variety of objects around the house and categorize the items by type of tool used to measure.

Ways to Create a High Expectations Culture in Your Home

- Make student academic success a family priority. That means school comes before extracurricular and social activities.
- Set completing college or other postsecondary program as the ultimate academic goal for your student.
- Commit to be actively engaged in your child's education at every stage – from birth through postsecondary – and take ownership for being a partner in your student's success.



Note: Every child develops at his/her own pace. These are recommended age specific guidelines for academic skill development.

The above Academic Skills are based on the Common Core Standards. Please talk with your child's teacher to get more specific information about each of these skills. A full list of common core standards by grade level is available at www.azed.gov.



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