Art

In 3rd through 5th grade, students learn class rules, procedures, and art room safety tips which create a safe work environment. Students work with advanced color theory, elements and principles of design. Students are encouraged to create and experience art outside of the classroom through events such as Grand Rapids Festival of the Arts and Grand Rapids Art Prize, as well as visiting art museums. In doing so, they begin to recognize the influence and positive effects of art throughout our world.

Music

In 3rd through 5th grade, students continue to develop their singing voices and expand their tonal and rhythmic vocabularies. They use the skills they have learned to create their own music. Students increase their movement skills to include more complicated folk and popular dances. They begin working with music notation and expand their knowledge of different musical styles, composers, and band and orchestra instruments.

Physical Education

Older children develop maturity and versatility in the use of fundamental motor skills. In 3rd through 5th grade, students are encouraged to choose activities for both the enjoyment and the health benefits they derive. Students identify the purposes for and follow activity-specific safe practices, rules, procedures, and etiquette. They continue to develop cooperation and communication skills to facilitate completion of a common goal.

Kentwood Public Schools
Elementary Students...

Respect Other People's Feelings, Space and Things
* Always use appropriate and respectful language
* Never accept "bullying" and intimidation
* Do not tolerate physical or verbal confrontation
* Keep the building and grounds clean and "litter-free"

Are Honest, Responsible, and Hard Workers
* Are on time to every class every day
* Respectfully identify themselves when asked

Learn and Improve Every Day
* Come to class prepared every day
* Put forth their best effort

Create Great Options and Choices For Their Lives
* Make good decisions
* Have a "plan" and look to the future

"Dress For Success"
* Come to school dressed and groomed appropriately, every day

Kentwood Public Schools
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Welcome to Third Grade!

A Parent's Guide to Curriculum

Kentwood Public Schools
Excellence and Equity in Education

English Language Arts

Students in third grade will gain more skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

*Your third grader will:

- Read closely to find main ideas and supporting details in a story
- Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in stories
- Compare the most important points and key details presented in two books on the same topic
- Write opinions or explanations that group related information and develop topics with facts and details
- Write stories that establish a situation and include details and clear sequences of events that describe the actions, thoughts, and feelings of characters
- Independently conduct short research projects that build knowledge about various topics
- Ask and answer questions about information he or she hears from a speaker or while participating in classroom discussions, offering appropriate elaboration and detail that build on what others have said
- Read stories and poems aloud fluently, without pausing to figure out what each word means
- Distinguish the literal and nonliteral meanings of words, such as something's fishy and cold shoulder
- Spell correctly and consult dictionaries to clarify meanings of words

Science

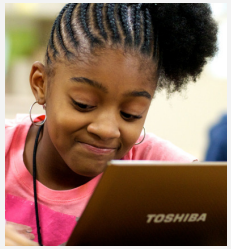
Third grade students will continue building their inquiry and investigation skills through the use of observations and data collection. This learning requires using measurement with appropriate units of measure and conducting simple and fair investigations. Students use their data as evidence to separate fact from opinion, and compare and contrast different sets of data from multiple trials. Third graders begin to describe the effect of humans and other organisms on the balance of the natural world and how people contribute to the advancement of science. Your child will focus on: changes in motion; light and sounds; structures and functions of living things; and Earth materials, change, and resources.

Social Studies

Third grade students will explore the social studies disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics through the context of Michigan studies. Building on prior social studies knowledge and applying new concepts of each social studies discipline to the increasingly complex social environment of their state, the third grade content expectations help prepare students for more sophisticated studies of their country and world in later grades.

Technology

Third graders will have the opportunity to utilize technology to enhance their learning in all core academic subject areas. Teachers and students will use technology to investigate new concepts, practice existing skills, and demonstrate their knowledge.



Mathematics

Kentwood math students: make sense of problems and persevere in solving them; reason abstractly and quantitatively; construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others; model with mathematics; use appropriate tools strategically; attend to precision; look for and make use of structure; and look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

*Your third grader will:

- Multiply and divide up to 10 × 10 quickly and accurately, including knowing the times tables from memory
- Solve word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
- Begin to multiply numbers with more than one digit (e.g., multiplying 9 × 80)
- Understand fractions and relate them to the familiar system of whole numbers (e.g., recognizing that 3/1 and 3 are the same number)
- Measure and estimate weights and liquid volumes, and solve word problems involving these quantities
- Reason about shapes (e.g., all squares are rectangles but not all rectangles are squares)
- Find areas of shapes, and relate area to multiplication (e.g., why is the number of square feet for a 9-foot by 7-foot room given by the product 9 × 7?)

*from PTA's Parent Guides