

3rd Grade Reading Law

A Parent Guide to Public Act 306



1 What Is The Law All About?

- In an effort to boost reading achievement, Michigan lawmakers passed Public Act 306 in October 2016.
- Michigan's test scores on both the Michigan-based M-STEP ELA assessment and the NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) reading assessment have shown a need for attention to early reading and literacy.
- On the 2015 NAEP, Michigan was 41st in the nation for 4th grade reading achievement.
- To help more students be proficient by the end of 3rd grade, the law requires extra support for K-3 students who are not at grade level in reading.
- The law also states that a child may be retained in 3rd grade if he/she is one or more grade levels behind in reading at the end of 3rd grade.

2 What Do I Need To Know As a Parent?

- Your child's reading progress will be closely monitored.
- If your child is not reading where expected, a plan to improve reading will be created. This includes:
 - Extra instruction or support in areas of need.
 - Ongoing checks on reading progress.
 - A read at home plan.
- If you are notified your child may be retained, you have the right to meet with school officials and to request an exemption if in the best interest of your child. You have the right and are encouraged to be involved every step of the way!



3 How Will This Affect My Child?

In Grades K-3:

- Your school will use tests to identify students that need extra help with reading. These students:
 - Are at risk of not passing the M-STEP ELA in 3rd grade.
 - Are not reading at the expected level for his or her grade level and time of year.



If your child is identified as needing additional supports (extra help), your school will provide your child with an individual reading improvement plan. This means your child's teacher and school will work with your child to find where your child needs support in his reading development and create a plan to support him or her.

- The extra supports in your child's reading improvement plan will occur in small groups during the school day.
 - Your child will not miss regular reading instruction.
 - Part of your child's reading plan will include a read at home plan that encourages you and your child to read and write outside of the school day.
 - Your child may also be encouraged to participate in summer reading programs.
- Your child's teacher will also receive supports in evidence-based effective practices in teaching reading and writing supporting all learners to grow as readers and writers.

In 3rd Grade:

- Starting in 2019-2020, a student will not be promoted to 4th grade unless he or she:
 - Receives a reading score of less than 1 year behind on grade 3 ELA state assessment (M-STEP).
 - Shows a grade 3 reading level on another test approved by superintendent of public instruction.
 - Shows a grade 3 reading level through a portfolio, or collection, of student work in all grade 3 ELA standards.
 - A child will only be required to repeat 3rd grade once.
- You will be notified by the state and district if your child may be required to be retained.
- You as a parent have the right:
 - To ask for a "good cause exemption" with the school or district within 30 days once notified.
 - To request a meeting with school officials (principal, etc.).



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3 How Will This Affect My Child? *continued*

Are there any exceptions? Considerations **may** be made if your child:

- Has an IEP or 504 plan.
 - Is an English Learner who has less than 3 years of English instruction.
 - Has had a reading improvement plan for 2 years and was previously retained.
 - Has been enrolled in current district for less than 2 years and did not receive reading support.
 - Is grade level in all other subjects.
 - Is in the best interest of the student and requested within 30 days.
- If a request is made, the district superintendent will make a decision in writing and notify parents.
- The decision will be shared at least 30 days before school begins. The decision is final.

If your child repeats 3rd grade :

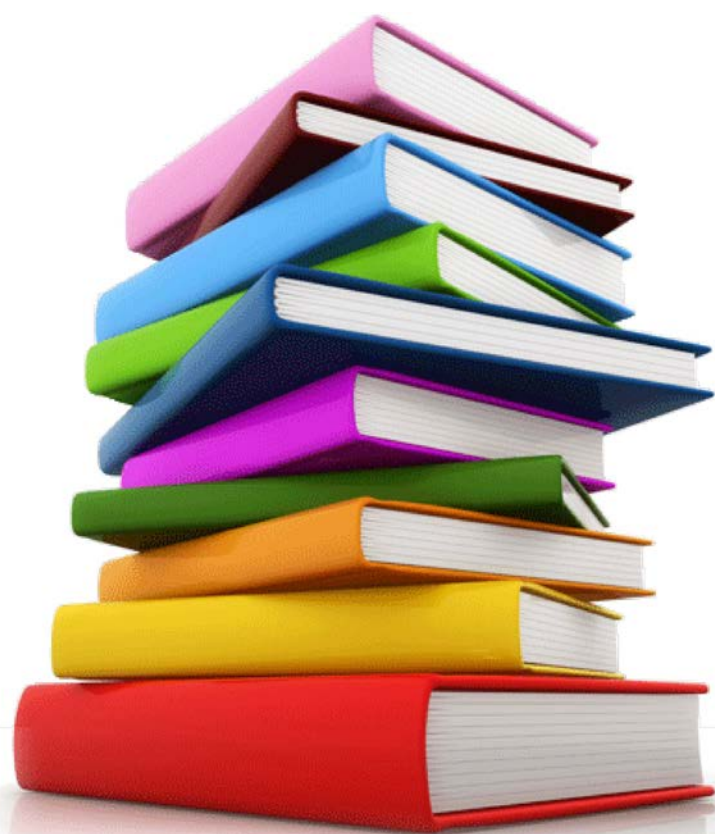
- His/her class will be with a highly rated teacher and/or reading specialist.
- Most of the day will be spent on reading instruction, but some 4th grade standards will also be taught.
- Students will still have an independent reading improvement plan and get extra support.
- Student progress will be closely monitored.



4 What Can I Do To Support My Child?

➤ Read at home with your child daily with books they enjoy- even in the summer. Some ways to do this:

- Read out loud to your child.
- Listen to your child read.
- Echo read (You read a line, then they repeat).
- Read together at the same time.
- Reread or retell favorite stories.
- Talk to your child about the reading.



➤ As you read:

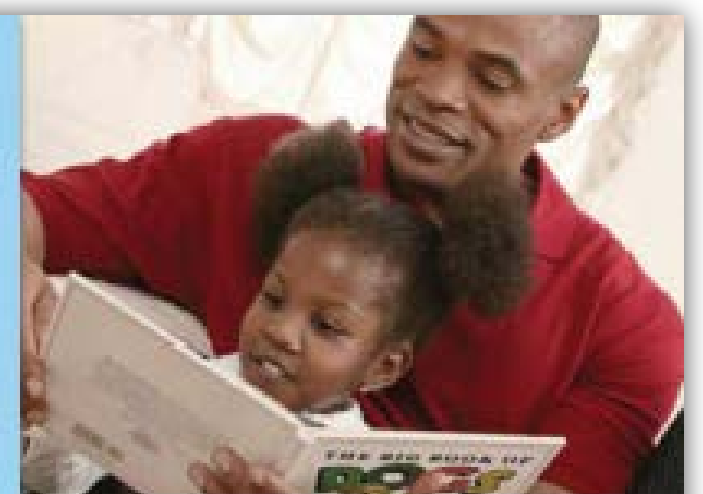
- Ask your child to share what they remember.
- Ask questions about the reading.
- Talk about your favorite parts, what you have learned, or who is in the book and what they do.
- Talk about the pictures in the book how they connect to the words on the page.
- Help connect the stories to your child's life or other books you have read.

- Encourage writing- Let children write the sounds they hear, spelling is developmental and a work in progress.
- Be involved in your child's education and support the reading plan if your child has one.
- Talk to and with your kids a lot- knowing more words helps kids to understand the words they read better.

Watch this reading activity and try it at home with your child:
Echo Reading:



<http://bit.ly/2dUEDPI>



Contact your building principal for further information and support for your child.

Kent ISD Contacts:

MarkRaffler@kentisd.org; KatieMomber@kentisd.org; JenniferMerkel@kentisd.org
SarahShoemaker@kentisd.org; KimVanAntwerp@kentisd.org



Did you know?

30 million

Children from professional families have heard 30 million more words by the time they are three years old than those from families in poverty.

4x

Students who are not proficient readers by 3rd grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school.

$\frac{1}{2}$

In Michigan, less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of third Graders are not proficient on the 3rd grade state ELA assessment.




85-90%

For 85-90% of poor readers, intervention and support programs implemented before 3rd grade can increase reading skills to average grade levels.

85%

Children spend 15% of their lives from age five to age 16 in school and 85% with families parents and communities.

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A reads:	Student B reads:	Student C reads:
➤ 20 minutes per day	➤ 5 minutes per day	➤ 1 minute per day
= 3,600 minutes per school year	= 900 minutes per school year	= 180 minutes per school year
= 1,800,000 words per year	= 282,000 words per year	= 8,000 words per year
		
= Scores in the 90th percentile on standardized tests	= Scores in the 50th percentile on standardized tests	= Scores in the 10th percentile on standardized tests

If a student starts reading 20 minutes per night at home in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3 school days. This gap in reading experience and resulting vocabulary knowledge adds up across time.

Want to be a better reader? Just Read.

Read at Home Plan

Daily Overview

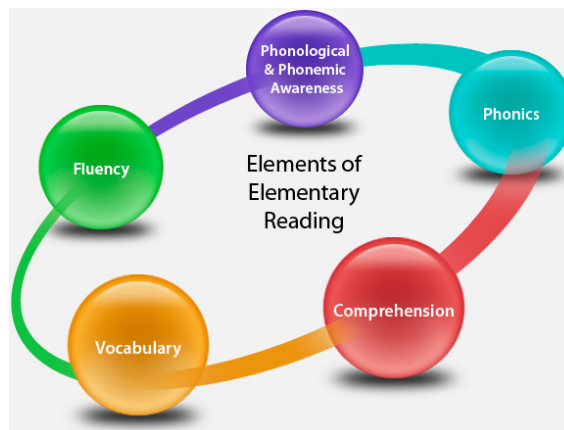
1 **Make time to read outside of school daily for a minimum of 20 minutes.**

- Be creative about ways to find time (riding in the car, in the waiting room for an appointment, while you are cooking, nightly bedtime stories, etc.).
- 20 minutes continuous reading is great! If you are wondering when you might find time for 20 minutes in your schedule, take advantage of smaller chunks of time whenever possible.



2 **Choose one or two quick activities, as recommended from the packet, in your child's area(s) of focus.**

- These activities are meant to support your child's reading development. They are designed to be used in partnership with daily at home reading.
- These activities are brief, three to five minutes, and can be used on the go.





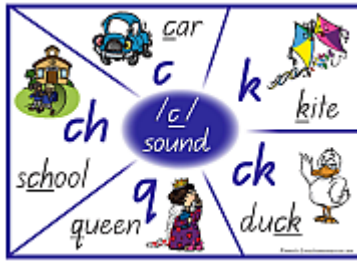
Phonemic Awareness

Phonemic awareness is the ability to hear and distinguish sounds. This includes:

- Recognizing sounds, alone and in words
- Adding sounds to words
- Taking apart words and breaking them into their different sounds
- Moving sounds



Access a parent quick tip video on phoneme blending activities:
<http://bit.ly/parentphonemeblending>



Phonics

Phonics is the ability to understand the relationship between letters and the sounds they represent. This includes:

- Recognizing print patterns that represent sounds
- Syllable patterns
- Word parts (prefixes, suffixes, and root words)



Access a parent quick tip video on phonics activities:
<http://bit.ly/parentdecodingstrategies>

Common Consonant Digraphs and Blends:

bl, br, ch, ck, cl, cr, dr, fl, fr, gh, gl, gr, ng, ph, pl, pr,
 qu, sc, sh, sk, sl, sm, sn, sp, st, sw, th, tr, tw, wh, wr

Common Consonant Trigraphs:

nth, sch, scr, shr, spl, spr, squ, str, thr

Common Vowel Digraphs:

ai, au, aw, ay, ea, ee, ei, eu, ew, ey, ie, oi, oo, ou, ow, oy

Fluency

Fluency is the ability to read with sufficient speed to support understanding. This includes:

- Automatic word recognition**
- Accurate word recognition**
- Use of expression**



Access a parent quick tip video on fluency activities:
<http://bit.ly/parentreadingfluency>

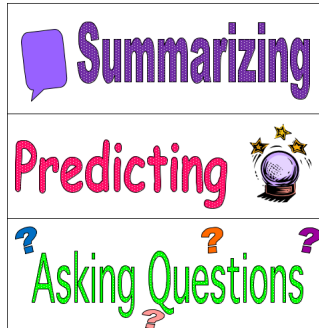




Vocabulary

Vocabulary is students' knowledge of and memory for word meanings. This includes:

- **Receptive Vocabulary**
 - Words we understand when read or spoken to us
- **Expressive vocabulary**
 - Words we know well enough to use in speaking and writing



Comprehension

Comprehension is the ability to understand and draw meaning from text. This includes:

- Paying attention to important information
- Interpreting specific meanings in text
- Identifying the main idea
- Verbal responses to questions
- Application of new information gained through reading



Access a parent quick tip video on comprehension activities:

<http://bit.ly/parentactivatepriorknowledge>

<http://bit.ly/parentsummarizing>

<http://bit.ly/parentpredicting>

<http://bit.ly/parentquestioningforcomprehension>