**WELCOME TO THIRD GRADE!!!**

**Hello!**

We look forward to having you next year in the 3rd grade. We want you to remember to be prepared for next year, so you’ll need to practice your skills over the summer...but have fun too! Remember let’s not get caught up in the “catching up” mindset...we will be successful! Please keep in tune with the news for updates relating to COVID and CPS.

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**Unfinished Learning**

We can spend the next year shouting from the rooftops, “WE NEED TO GET CAUGHT UP!” But, that shouting isn’t going to get us anywhere. The greatest impact will be to commit to working as a team: student, teacher, and parent. As teachers, we will do our best to engage and push each child forward on his/her educational path. As students, to recognize that effort and attitude make all the difference. And as parents, to support their children through the good days and the tough days, reminding them that feelings of confusion and minor frustration are often signals to “keep pushing and keep learning!” We have unfinished learning to get back to in the fall!

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**Reading**

“Learning to read,” along with the foundational reading skills learned in grades K-2 will be essential for success in 3rd grade. Third grade is a benchmark year in CPS and the phrase “reading to learn” is very important. Over the summer make sure you find time to practice your reading skills. Attached is a suggested *Summer Reading* list for incoming third grade students. Students are encouraged to read one fiction and one non-fiction book and complete the activities. **These completed activities will be collected....I also included extra book report templates for BONUS points!**

**Writing**

Write about your summer adventures in a spiral notebook...draw pictures with captions! Practice writing stories too! Everyone loves to read a story! Show off the writing skills you learned in Kindergarten-second grades.

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**Math**

It’s very important for 3rd grade students to be able to quickly recall basic addition and subtraction math facts. Please use flashcards to practice this skill. Reading in math is very important too! Be sure to practice word (story) problems on IXL. Finally help your grown-ups with recipes and measuring!

Practice math facts!!! We will have a 3-minute timed addition and subtraction test the first week of school.

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**IXL.COM**

IXL: Student accounts should be available throughout the summer. Please log on from time to time to work on Reading, Writing, and Math skills

**Suggested Materials**

A suggested material list for students will be posted on the third grade website in early August

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Have a healthy, safe, and wonderful summer. Enjoy your time with friends and family!

Sincerely,

Mr. Graves, Room 201
Mr. Idlas, Room 202

**3rd Grade Website**

[https://sites.google.com/cps.edu/murray-third-grade/third-grade-information](https://sites.google.com/cps.edu/murray-third-grade/third-grade-information)
2021 Summer Projects Suggested Activities

Dear 3rd Grade Grownups,

Thank you so much for all your support during this time! Here is a list of sites you can explore this summer:

Reading:

https://www.startwithabook.org/summer-reading-learning

www.storylineonline.net

https://www.scholastic.com/site/summer/home.html

https://www.brainpop.com/

Social Studies:

https://www.icivics.org/family

Math:

https://www.funbrain.com/math-zone

https://www.coolmath4kids.com/

https://www.khanacademy.org/

Science:

https://www.startwithabook.org/summer-science#sciencecamp

https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/

https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html

https://pbskids.org/designsquad
Suggested Summer Reading List...independently or with someone
Take aim at the "Summer Slide" and get your students excited about reading with these titles
picked specifically for kids at the third grade reading level.

_The Best School Year Ever_
by Barbara Robinson
The Herdmans are the most famous kids at Woodrow Wilson School. In fact, they are the
most famous kids in the whole town -- and they are the worst kids in the history of the world.
They are dirty, rotten, lazy, and ornery. They tell lies and smoke cigars and set fire to things.
They stay away from school whenever they want to and won't learn anything when they are
there. Every September the students and teachers gear up for another year of dealing with
the Herdmans. But no matter what precautions are taken, these modern-day outlaws still
manage to cause hilarious mayhem year-round. Their wild behavior always leads to disaster
for someone, but somehow all six of them continually escape blame. Could there be
something good about this horrible clan after all? Also recommended: _The Best Christmas
Pageant Ever._

_The BFG_
by Roald Dahl, Quentin Blake (illus.)
Kidsnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant) who spends his life blowing
happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other
man-gobbling cannybull giants. Also recommended: _Charlie and the Chocolate Factory_ and
_Fantastic Mr. Fox._
Brother Eagle, Sister Sky, A Message from Chief Seattle
by Susan Jeffers
During the 1850s, the white man negotiated to buy some land from the Northwest nations. Chief Seattle, head of the Suqamish and Duwamish Indians, spoke to the white man in his native tongue about the importance of preserving the earth. His speech, translated and lushly illustrated by Susan Jeffers, eloquently conveys the message that we must respect the Earth and all it has on it. This speech has been the inspiration for many environmental movements.

Charlotte's Web
by E. B. White
This is the story of a little girl named Fern who loves a little pig named Wilbur -- and of Wilbur's dear friend, Charlotte A. Cavatica, a beautiful, large, gray spider who lives with Wilbur in the barn. With the help of Templeton, the rat who never does anything for anybody unless there is something in it for him, and by a wonderfully clever plan of their own, Charlotte saves the life of Wilbur, who by this time has grown up to be quite a pig.

Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective (Encyclopedia Brown Series #1)
by Donald J. Sobol
A Civil War sword ... a watermelon stabbing ... missing roller skates ... a trapeze artist's inheritance ... and an eyewitness who's legally blind! These are just some of the ten brain-twisting mysteries that Encyclopedia Brown must solve by using his famous computerlike brain. Try to crack the cases along with him -- answers to all the mysteries are found in the back of the book!

Go Free or Die, A Story About Harriet Tubman
by Jeri Ferris, Karen Ritz (illus.)
A biography of Harriet Tubman, the black woman whose cruel experiences as a slave in the South led her to seek freedom in the North for herself and for others through the Underground Railroad.

How to Eat Fried Worms
by Thomas Rockwell, Emily A. McCully (illus.)
Billy makes a bet with his friends that he can eat 15 worms in 15 days. Even with a free choice of condiments -- from peanut butter to horseradish -- Billy wonders if he can really do it.

The Keeping Quilt
by Patricia Polacco
When Patricia Polacco's great-great-grandmother came to America from Russia, she made a quilt out of the family's old clothes. This quilt became a cherished symbol of love passed down from mother to daughter for almost a century -- and was used for a variety of purposes. Heartwarming pictures of the quilt welcoming new babies and
celebrating weddings -- even being used as a Sabbath tablecloth -- tie together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family and chronicle their enduring love and faith. In this tenth-anniversary edition, Polacco has expanded her beloved story with new pages of text and paintings to include her own two children using the quilt in the same ways that their ancestors did.

*Miss Nelson Is Missing!*
by Harry Allard, James Marshall (illus.)
The children in Miss Nelson's class go beyond misbehaving; they are downright terrible! Near her wits' end, Miss Nelson thinks up a brilliant plan. The next day the kids have a substitute -- the nasty Viola Swamp -- who loads the boys and girls with homework and never gives them a story hour. By the time Miss Nelson finally returns, the children are so grateful they behave well. But now Viola Swamp is missing!

*Mr. Popper's Penguins*
by Richard Atwater, Florence Atwater, Robert Lawson (illus.)
It is hard enough for Mr. Popper to support himself, Mrs. Popper, Bill, and Janie Popper. The addition of 12 penguins to the family makes it impossible to make both ends meet. Then Mr. Popper has a splendid idea -- the talented penguins will be a sensation on the stage. And so they are.... A classic of American humor, this Newbery Honor-winning story of a gentle housepainter and his high-stepping penguins has delighted children for generations.
Poppy
by Avi, Brian Floca (illus.)
As ruler of Dimwood Forest, Ocax the hoot owl has promised to protect the mice occupying an abandoned farmhouse as long as they ask permission before "moving about." Poppy, a timid deer mouse, is a loyal, obedient subject -- until she sees Ocax devour her fiancé. To prove that the intimidating ruler is a phony, Poppy embarks on a dangerous and eye-opening quest, which ends with her one-on-one battle with Ocax.

Poppy and Rye
by Avi, Brian Floca (illus.)
Heartbroken over the death of her fiancé Ragweed, Poppy, a deer mouse, journeys west through the vast Dimwood Forest to bring the sad news to Ragweed's family. But Poppy and her prickly porcupine pal, Ereth, arrive only to discover that beavers have flooded the serene valley where Ragweed lived. Together Poppy and Ragweed's brother, Rye, brave kidnapping, imprisonment, and a daring rescue to fight the beavers. At the same time, Rye -- who has lived in Ragweed's shadow -- fights to prove himself worthy of Poppy's love.

Ramona Quimby, Age 8
by Beverly Cleary, Alan Tiegreen (illus.)
Ramona feels quite grown-up taking the bus by herself, helping big sister Beezus make dinner, and trying hard to be nice to pesky Willa Jean after school. Turning eight years old and entering the third grade can do that to a girl. So how can her teacher call her a nuisance?

*Sarah, Plain and Tall*
by Patricia MacLachlan
When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay. This tender, reassuring story is a Newbery Medal winner and a timeless classic.

*Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*
by Judy Blume, Roy Doty (illus.)
Living with his little brother, Fudge, makes Peter feel like a fourth-grade nothing. Fudge is never far from trouble. He's a two-year-old terror who gets away with everything -- and Peter's had enough. When Fudge walks off with Dribble, Peter's pet turtle, it's the last straw.

*Walking the Road to Freedom*
by Jeri Ferris
This is the important and inspiring story of a woman who called herself Sojourner Truth. Using only the power of her voice, she spoke out against slavery throughout New England and the Midwest.
What Are You Figuring Now?, A Story About Benjamin Banneker
by Jeri Ferris, Amy Johnson (illus.)
A biography of the African-American farmer and self-taught mathematician, astronomer, and surveyor for the new capital city of the United States in 1791, who also calculated a successful almanac notable for its preciseness.
Book Report Form Grades 3+

Name _________________________ Date ____________________

Title of Book ____________________________________________

Author __________________________________________________

Illustrator (if there was one) ________________________________

Setting—Where does the story take place?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Main Characters—Give a brief description of each character.
1.____________________________________________________________________________
2.____________________________________________________________________________
3.____________________________________________________________________________

Summary—What happened in the book?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Moral of the Story—What did you learn from reading the book?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Conclusion—How did the story end?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

What did you think of the story? (Circle one of the choices below)

• Excellent. It was great! • Good. I liked it. • Fair. It was OK. • Poor. I didn’t enjoy it.

Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?
_____________________________________________________________________________

This book was (Circle one of the choices below)

• easy to read • just right to read • a little difficult to read • too hard to read
Setting—Where does the story take place?

_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Main Characters—Give a brief description of each character.
1.____________________________________________________________________________
2.____________________________________________________________________________
3.____________________________________________________________________________

Summary—What happened in the book?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Moral of the Story—What did you learn from reading the book?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Conclusion—How did the story end?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

What did you think of the story? (Circle one of the choices below)

*Excellent. It was great!  *Good. I liked it.  *Fair. It was OK.  *Poor. I didn’t enjoy it.

Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

This book was (Circle one of the choices below)

*easy to read  *just right to read  *a little difficult to read  *too hard to read
Non-Fiction Book Report

Name: ___________________________
Date: ___________________________

BOOK TITLE & AUTHOR

The 3 Most Interesting Facts I Learned...

1. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

2. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

2 New Words I Learned...

WORD: _____________________________________________
DEFINITION: ______________________________________

WORD: _____________________________________________
DEFINITION: ______________________________________

Illustration

1 Question I Still Have...

_________________________
_________________________
_________________________
_________________________

Star Rating

Explanation: ___________________________

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Non-Fiction
Book Report

BOOK TITLE & AUTHOR

The 3 Most Interesting Facts I Learned...
1. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
2. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
3. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

2 New Words I Learned...

WORD: ___________________
DEFINITION:_____________
   ______________________

WORD: _________________
DEFINITION:_____________
   ______________________

1 Question I Still Have...

Illustration

Star Rating

Explanation: