3rd Grade Essential Standards

For students completing 3rd grade.

More about the Standards

Essential standards are a carefully selected subset of the total list of the grade-specific and course-specific standards within ELA and Math that students must know and be able to do by the end of each school year to be best prepared to enter the next grade level. These standards are deeply emphasized in the learning environment throughout the school year and addressed in multiple Math and ELA units of study. Throughout the year, teachers provide support for students who haven't yet mastered these essential standards and extend learning for those who already have. Essential Standards do **not** represent all that is taught during the school year. They do, however, represent the **most critical standards** a student must know and be able to do in preparation for the next school year.



Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

Practice this standard by asking and answering questions while playing games.

Example: Begin by practicing asking simple questions that lead to a "yes" or "no" answer. Expand on the questions to include more detail than one word answers.

In real life: Play games like Guess Who, 21 Questions and/or Charades to practice asking and answering questions. "Is it in the front of the room?", "Can you eat it?"

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ELA Essential Standard



Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

Practice this standard by asking questions about pictures or photographs.

Example: Use picture cards made from clippings of magazines or old books. Show your child a card and say, "Ask me a question about this picture." If you are showing your child "gym shoes," he/she may ask, "What do you wear on your feet? Why should you wear these shoes? When do you buy shoes? Where do you wear these shoes? Who would wear these shoes?"

In real life, find a family picture. Ask a family member the *Who, What, Where, When, Why* and *How* questions about the picture.



Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

Practice this standard by asking questions before, during and after reading a book.

Example: Have students practice asking the **5 W**'s and **H** questions when reading a book. After reading the beginning of the story, have students stop and ask, **Who** are the main characters? **What** is happening in the story? **Where** does this story take place? **When** does this story take place? **Why** are these events important in the story? **How** will this story continue?

In real life, play "Question the Author". Stop and jot some questions on post-it notes as you read the beginning, middle and end of story. Place post-it notes in text and have another person try to answer the questions.

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ELA Essential Standard



Determine theme of story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.

Practice this standard by discussing the main details in a favorite picture book or movie.

Example: Practice the strategy: **Somebody-Wanted-But-So-Then**. Read a picture book or watch a movie. Discuss the main ideas by determining the "somebody" (the main character), what the main character "wanted" (which is the beginning event that gets the story going), the "but" (the problem that keeps the main character from getting what they wanted), and "so-then" (is the resolution or ending of the story).

In real life, after reading a book or watching a movie, play **Somebody-Wanted-But-So-Then** with all family members take turns using this strategy.



Determine theme of story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.

Practice this standard by discussing the main details and themes in a short movie clip.

Example: Watch a Pixar short movie. These movies are easily found on YouTube. Consider Piper, Partly Cloudy, and Lava. After watching the movie, think about the main details and lessons learned.

In real life, write a tweet about the short movie clip. Make sure to include what you think the lesson learned or theme was.

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ELA Essential Standard



Determine theme of story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.

Practice this standard by discussing the theme in inspirational quotes and connecting the themes to favorite books.

Example: Find inspirational quotes. Read these inspirational quotes and identify a theme. Brainstorm stories, movies, or real-life events in which you see these themes played out.

In real life, keep a list of these inspirational quotes in a notebook and make connections to books read throughout the summer.



Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series).

Practice this standard by identifying the similarities and differences in a book turned into movie.

Example: Read the book, "Jumanji" and then watch the movie. Discuss the similarities and differences between the book and the movie with a family member.

In real life: Write a book and movie review of your choice. Have a family member read your reviews and vote on which one they would want to read or watch. Make sure to include similarities and differences on both the book and movie.

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Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series).

Practice this standard by reading and discussing books by the same author.

Example: Read the picture books, "Wemberly Worried" and "Chrysanthemum" by Kevin Henkes. Identify the similarities and differences within both books (i.e. characters, setting, problem, and solution). Discuss and share these similarities and differences with a family member.

In real life: Read books from the same author. When reading the books, keep a record of the similarities and differences in a notebook. Create a Venn Diagram showing these similarities and differences and show to a family member.



Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series).

Practice this standard by reading and discussing the similarities and differences in a book series.

Example: Read multiple books in *The Magic Treehouse* series. Make a list of similarities and differences in a notebook. Answer the following questions: Where did Jack and Annie go on their adventure? What did they bring back from their trip? Who helped them? What obstacles did they face?

In real life: Give a rating to each Magic Treehouse Book (1 to 5 Stars). Write a review on each book and share with a family member. In your review, make sure to include what you liked and disliked about the book.

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Math Essential Standard



Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division. (Roll in double digit sums)

Practice this standard by creating word problems together

Example: 56 students signed up for soccer. If each team has 8 students, how many soccer teams are there?

In real life: Write word problems on sticky notes and leave them around the house for family members to solve

Math Essential Standard



Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division. (Roll in double digit sums)

Practice this standard by creating arrays with a deck of cards.

Example: There are six rows of students with five students in each row. How many students are there?

In real life: Using a standard deck of cards, create an array (neat rows and columns). Write multiplication and division equations for the array.

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Math Essential Standard



Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division. (Roll in double digit sums)

Practice this standard by making up real world problems.

Example: Dad is driving 55 miles per hour (60 minutes). If we have 63 more miles to go, how many minutes will it take?

In real life: Make up problems at the grocery store or on a road trip about groceries or gas mileage.

Math Essential Standard



Solve two-step word problems using the four operations.

Practice this standard by making up and writing real world problems.

Example: There are 4 groups of 5 balls in a basket on the playground. The students take 6 balls to play with. How many balls are left?

In real life: Use playing cards to represent the numbers, and write the operations (+,-,x, --) on Post-its in between the cards. Find the answer.

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Math Essential Standard



Develop understanding of fractions as numbers. Emphasize the concept of unit fraction as the basis for building fractions. Prioritize the number line as a representation to develop students' understanding of fractions as numbers by foregrounding the magnitude, location, and order of fractions among whole numbers.

Practice this standard by analyzing fractions of a whole using food.

Example: 2/2 = ?/4.

In real life: Break a cookie in half. How many halves are there? Does breaking it in half affect the amount of cookie there is total? Explain how much cookie there would be if you broke each piece in half again.

Learn more about the D105 Essential Standards by visiting the Summer Learning for All website.

https://bit.ly/D105CONNECT



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