

# THIRD GRADE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The grade three program includes the classes below. Elective courses that can be added are detailed in our [course catalog](#).

## CORE CLASSES

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Learners enjoy exploring a diverse collection of texts and stories, including fables, folktales and myths while building comprehension skills. Third graders write narrative, explanatory/informative, compare-and-contrast and opinion pieces that engage the learner with authentic assignments, such as writing a news report, comparing and contrasting cultures, and publishing a magazine article.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 3 continues to develop healthy online habits by studying how to handle cyberbullies. Learners explore the geography of our world, diversity in the United States and the ways in which local and national economies compare. They also research good citizens such as Rosa Parks.

### SCIENCE

Learners explore forces and magnetism, changes in ecosystems, life cycles, traits of organisms and climate. The course examines three science careers: a roller-coaster designer, a marine ecologist and a severe storms researcher. Experiments include exploring static electricity, replicating a fossil, graphing a life cycle and exploring climates around the world.

### MATH

Third grade math focuses on understanding multiplication and division, comparing and rounding whole numbers, solving word problems using all four operations, fractions, measurement and understanding properties of shapes.

## SPECIALS

### ART

Learners explore and create art inspired by famous artists, including Dali, Ringgold, Cassatt, Toulouse-Lautrec, Homer and Monet. Different eras of art, including impressionism, cubism and surrealism, are introduced, and learners consider how the definition of art has changed over time. They discover key elements and principles of art, including movement, symmetry, shadow, line, composition and color.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Learners develop the motor skills for healthy physical development and growth. The course provides learners the knowledge and skills to live a healthy life at their stage of development. Topics include skills for movement activities, assessing physical fitness, creating an exercise program, nutrition, disease prevention and safety.

### MUSIC

The course focuses on the elements of music: timbre, rhythm, melody, expression, form and texture. Grade three learners receive and have the opportunity to learn to play music using a recorder. Each of the units engages learners in listening, reading, composing, arranging, performing, analyzing and describing music. Learners experience various musical genres, composers and performances from around the world.

### SUCCESS SKILLS FOR LEARNERS

Learners build academic, social and emotional skills through a variety of learner-focused videos, stories, discussions, games and activities. Each unit introduces essential life skills, such as managing emotions, building empathy, self-exploration or problem-solving. Each unit also includes early explorations for college and career readiness.



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