

Coweta County  
School System

Assessment

- Throughout the year, classroom teachers will assess each student's growth and progress toward achievement of the learning goals specified in the state curriculum (GPS or QCC if GPS have not been implemented).
- These classroom assessments will be used to guide instruction in order to provide every child with the opportunity to learn and to succeed.
- Students will be made aware of the performance expectation for 3rd grade and will acquire self-monitoring and self-assessing skills to help them maximize their achievement.
- In the spring, Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests in Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies will be administered to 3rd graders in order to provide a standardized measure of student learning.
- Beginning in the year the Georgia Performance Standards are implemented for a content area, the CRCT will directly align with those GPS.
- The writing of all 3rd graders will also be assessed. This assessment is based on teacher judgment of the developmental stage most representative of student writing collected throughout the year.
- Georgia law also mandates the administration of a norm-referenced test to all 3rd grade students sometime during the school year. The state provides the Iowa Test of Basic Skills; a school may choose to administer an alternative norm-referenced test at the system's own expense.

# 3rd Grade Expectations

What should a child be able to do at the completion of 3rd Grade?



What are the characteristics of a Third Grader?

Third graders are concrete learners who are just beginning to think abstractly. They are curious and active learners. Third graders become more independent, organized, and responsible.

## Promotion and Retention Policy from Coweta County Schools Board of Education Policy

### Third Grade

1. In order for students to be successful in fourth grade, each student will exhibit at least 70% mastery of reading, vocabulary skills, math skills and three of the four following subjects: science, social studies, language, and spelling. The 70% will reflect an average of grades from each 9 nine weeks throughout the school year. Grades will be based on daily grades, end of selection tests, and authentic assessments.
2. For a student to be promoted to the fourth grade a rating of meets expectations or above is required on the reading portion of the third grade Criterion-Reference Competency Test. No third grade student shall be promoted to the fourth grade if the student does not achieve grade level (meets expectations) on the Criterion-Reference Competency Test in reading and meet promotion standards and criteria established by the local board of education.
3. In all subject areas professional assessment, written documentation, and portfolio assessment of the student's performance shall carry great weight in the final decision for promotion and retention.

**Implementation  
Schedule**  
for the Georgia Performance  
Standards in 3rd Grade

**English Language Arts**  
2005-2006

**Mathematics**  
2007-2008

**Science**  
2006-2007

**Social Studies**  
2008-2009



## 3rd Grade Language Arts

Third grade students will receive instruction in reading, writing, and listening, speaking, and viewing. By the end of the 3rd Grade, students will be able to:

- Read aloud with fluency and comprehension
- Read more thoughtfully, discover more details, and extract deeper meaning from what they read
- Summarize main points from fiction and nonfiction texts
- Work independently on research projects
- Practice with some guidance, the steps of the writing process in order to produce compositions and reports
- Use more abstract skills of synthesis and evaluation in writing
- Respond to questions with logically developed answers
- Vary language patterns in both speaking and writing
- Engage in abstract discussions as they respond to text and to life experiences

## 3rd Grade Social Studies

Third grade students will explore the origins of American democracy as well as the lives of important Americans. In addition, 3rd graders will continue to acquire basic economic concepts. By the end of 3rd Grade, students will be able to:

- Explain the political roots of American democracy
- Discuss the lives of selected Americans who expanded people's rights and freedoms in democracy
- Locate and describe the major topographical features of America
- Describe the cultural and geographic systems associated with historical figures in American democracy and explain how these Americans display positive character traits
- Explain the importance of the basic principles that provide the foundation of a republican form of government
- Describe and explain economic concepts involving productive resources, taxation for public services, and interdependence and trade



## 3rd Grade Science

Third grade students will use inquiry to focus on questions about the world around them, including questions related to earth science, physical science, and life science. By the end of 3rd Grade, students will be able to:

- Investigate how heat is produced and the effects of heating and cooling
- Investigate magnets
- Observe things with many parts and describe the ways in which the parts influence or interact with one another
- Represent objects in the real world with geometric figures, number sequences, graphs, diagrams, maps, and stories; and compare/contrast these representations to their objects
- Observe and compare objects, record findings accurately, and analyze data in order to answer their own questions
- Use information about the relationship between the form and shape of an object and that object's use, operation, or function to explain fossils, rock cycles, and features of plants and animals
- Differentiate between habitats in Georgia and the organisms that live in our state
- Recognize the effects of pollution and humans on the environment

## 3rd Grade Mathematics

All students will be actively engaged in developing mathematical understandings in real and relevant contexts. By the end of 3rd Grade students will be able to:

- Understand place value of numbers through the ten thousands
- Apply skills of addition and subtraction to problem solving
- Use mental mathematics and estimation strategies, and use logical reasoning to solve problems
- Understand the relationship between division and multiplication and between division and subtraction
- Know multiplication facts and multiply and divide whole numbers (2-3 digits by 1 digit)
- Model addition and subtraction of decimals and common fractions
- Use Mathematical expressions to represent relationships between quantities
- Understand the concepts of, and measure, length, perimeter, area, and time
- Draw and characterize previously studied geometric shapes
- Solve problems by collecting, organizing, displaying, and interpreting data in tables and bar graphs