



WHAT 3RD GRADE KIDS SHOULD KNOW

3rd Grade SURGE Standards™

Skills Used for Readiness, Growth & Excellence

A colorful, family-friendly guide to the important knowledge, skills, and learning habits children build in 3rd Grade.

START STRONG. SURGE AHEAD. ACHIEVE.™

The SURGE Standards™

Skills Used for Readiness, Growth & Excellence

S	Skills Build the essential academic and learning skills students need for success.
U	Used Apply learning through reading, writing, mathematics, investigation, discussion, and problem solving.
R	Readiness Strengthen grade-level foundations that prepare students for the next challenge.
G	Growth Practice, feedback, reflection, and persistence help every learner make progress.
E	Excellence Build confidence, independence, and the ability to transfer learning to new situations.

For families: These standards are written in everyday language as guiding examples of important grade-level learning. They are informed by Texas grade-level expectations and are not a replacement for the official TEKS.

Reading, Language & Writing

READ IT • THINK IT • WRITE IT

Reading & Comprehension

A 3rd Grade SURGE reader is learning to...

- Decode multisyllabic words using syllable patterns, roots, prefixes, and suffixes.
- Read grade-level text fluently and use strategies when meaning breaks down.
- Determine central idea or theme and identify details that support it.
- Make inferences and support responses with relevant evidence from the text.
- Analyze characters, plot, setting, point of view, text structure, and author's choices.
- Compare information, ideas, and themes across literary and informational texts.

Writing & Communication

A 3rd Grade SURGE writer and speaker is learning to...

- Develop organized compositions with a focused central idea and related details.
- Use introductions, logical organization, transitions, and conclusions.
- Revise for clarity and development and edit grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
- Write narratives, informational pieces, correspondence, and responses to texts.
- Use increasingly precise vocabulary and varied sentence structures.
- Generate research questions, gather relevant information, and present findings in an organized way.

Mathematics

MODEL IT • SOLVE IT • EXPLAIN IT

Mathematical Thinking

A 3rd Grade SURGE mathematician is learning to...

- Represent, compare, and order whole numbers through 100,000.
- Use place value and properties of operations to add and subtract accurately and efficiently.
- Recall and apply multiplication and division facts through 10 by 10.
- Solve one- and two-step problems involving multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction.
- Understand fractions as parts of a whole and represent common fractions on number lines and models.
- Measure perimeter, area, time, liquid volume, and mass and interpret data in tables and graphs.

Math SURGE habit: Strong mathematicians choose strategies, represent their thinking, explain how they solved a problem, and check whether an answer is reasonable.

Science & Social Studies

EXPLORE IT • DISCOVER IT • CONNECT IT

Science Explorers

Students investigate the natural world by learning to...

- Use scientific practices to ask questions, plan investigations, collect data, and communicate evidence-based explanations.
- Describe properties and changes of matter and classify materials.
- Investigate forces, motion, and forms of energy.
- Recognize patterns involving Earth, weather, natural resources, and objects in space.
- Compare structures, functions, life cycles, and traits of organisms.
- Explain relationships among organisms and environments, including simple food chains.

History, Geography & Citizenship

Students connect people, places, government, economics, and history by learning to...

- Explain how communities, government, citizenship, and civic participation shape society.
- Identify significant people, events, ideas, and chronology in local and United States history.
- Use maps to locate places and analyze geographic features and human-environment relationships.
- Explain earning, spending, saving, scarcity, production, and basic free-enterprise concepts.
- Compare cultural traditions and contributions of diverse groups.
- Use primary and secondary sources to gather evidence and communicate conclusions.

Ready-to-Learn Skills

CONFIDENCE + INDEPENDENCE + PERSEVERANCE

Academic growth in 3rd Grade also depends on habits that help students become confident and increasingly independent learners.

- Use text evidence, mathematical models, or scientific observations to justify answers.
- Break larger assignments into smaller steps and manage materials responsibly.
- Use academic vocabulary when explaining learning.
- Revise work after receiving feedback.
- Participate actively and respectfully in group problem solving.
- Develop independence with assignments, homework, and deadlines.

The 3rd Grade SURGE Check

- Read grade-level text fluently and use strategies when meaning breaks down.
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- Develop organized compositions with a focused central idea and related details.
- Recall and apply multiplication and division facts through 10 by 10.
- Solve one- and two-step problems involving multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction.
- Use scientific practices to ask questions, plan investigations, collect data, and communicate evidence-based explanations.
- Explain how communities, government, citizenship, and civic participation shape society.
- Develop independence with assignments, homework, and deadlines.

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Family note: Children develop at different rates. Use the SURGE Standards to celebrate growth, notice strengths, and identify skills that may benefit from enrichment, review, or additional support.