

## SCIENCE/HEALTH

The primary goal for the third grade science/health program is for the students to take part in direct, hands-on studies. They will be involved in activities encouraging them to actively question, closely observe, classify, predict and record through the use of science notebooks. The scientific method will be used to investigate science concepts.

In Physical Science, students will be studying matter, electricity and magnetism. In Earth Science, students will be studying rocks, minerals, ecosystems and life cycles. The topics for Health will be the skeletal system and muscular system.

## WORK HABITS/SOCIAL SKILLS

Assuming responsibility plays a major role in the third grader's work habits. They must learn to keep materials organized, ask for assistance when needed, and take risks and challenges in learning.

The third grader is expected to listen and follow directions without disturbing others. They should show a positive attitude while working alone or in a group. The students need to complete class work both on-time and accurately.

\*Homework Policy—after three missed homework assignments, the student is kept after school for detention.

## **WORK HARD AND BE KIND**

## SPELLING

OTES third grade uses the Spelling Connections program. Students are encouraged to use correct spelling in all writing. With individual and whole group instruction, students are supported in their efforts to do this in many ways. These include weekly previews and post-tests and weekly homework assignments.

The purpose of third grade spelling homework is to provide extra practice on weekly spelling lists, as well as to revisit words from past lessons. The goal is that students will be able to spell independently.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

Students in third grade will learn about the city of Old Town. Students will also learn about Old Town's government, as well as its structure and the needs it satisfies for the people of our community. To create a sense of history, students will be taught about people and events in Old Town's past. They will be aware of how these events and people have shaped our present.

Third graders will also study map skills such as using a scale, legend, compass-rose and grid system. They need to be able to locate the continents, equator and oceans. Students will learn to identify landforms and use geographical terms when talking about maps. Students will also study Penobscot culture in traditional and contemporary times.

# THIRD GRADE CURRICULUM



7/15/09

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

You are cordially invited to partner in your 3<sup>rd</sup> graders education. Your children will be working toward their independence this year; and, your support from home will help them to grow to their full potential. We are looking forward to working as a team to ensure that your child will receive the best education possible.

Sincerely,

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Team

## READING

### **Read Aloud**

Children continue to love stories by hearing them read aloud with fluency. It is especially important for students who are reading simple books on their own because it gives them the opportunity to have more complex plots and rich language available to them. Children are able to build their vocabulary through read alouds. Teachers read informational books and model thinking strategies to help with comprehension.

### **Shared Reading**

Shared Reading is a collaborated participation by all the students using a big book, multiple copies of texts, or print used on the overhead. It is a way all of the students can be immersed in literature without worrying about the reading level of the text. The students have opportunities to develop comprehension strategies with support from the teacher. Students feel successful reading this way.

### **Guided Reading**

Guided Reading is a more formal method of teaching reading. The teacher has small temporary groups to provide explicit teaching of reading strategies. The purpose is to show the students how to read for meaning. During the reading group, the students and teacher talk their way through the book. The goal is for students to read independently and silently. There is an emphasis on comprehension. There is an ongoing assessment of the student's progress so that they continually get regrouped according to their needs.

## **Independent Reading**

Independent Reading is when students read on their own or with partners, books of their choice. The children each have a different book and read at their own pace and level. When students read independently, they develop responsibility. They are challenged to use strategies on a variety of texts independently. Reading frequently is essential for reading achievement. Students who read on their own, who read books chosen for themselves, become the strongest readers.

## WRITING

Old Town Elementary School has adopted the 6 + 1 Traits of Writing. The 6 Traits that we are incorporating into our daily writing pieces are:

\*Conventions—spelling, spacing, punctuation and capitalization

\*Ideas—knowledge and interest in topic and sensible writing

\*Voice—“hearing” the student in their piece, sensing their enthusiasm for the topic and adding “Sparkle” to their piece

\*Fluency—easily read aloud by the student, words and phrases go together, and good sentences

\*Organization—strong start, sequenced and stays on topic

\*Word Choice—the words sound and feel right, new words are used and the reader can create a picture in their mind when the story is read

\*\*Handwriting is taught through formal lessons and reinforced whenever they write. Teachers will model and correct formation of each letter in both print and cursive.

## MATH

OTES uses the Everyday Math program. Here are the important concepts covered in third grade:

- \*Count by 10's and 100's
- \*Tell and show time to the nearest minute
- \*Find equivalent names for numbers
- \*Know addition facts
- \*Classify a number (up to 4 digits) as even or odd
- \*Read and write money amounts in dollar-and-cent notation
- \*Complete “What's My Rule” tables
- \*Know addition and subtraction facts
- \*Complete fact and number families
- \*Measure line segments to nearest ½ inch
- \*Measure line segments to nearest cm
- \*Know multiplication facts having 0, 1, 2, 5, or 10 as a factor
- \*Read, write and compare whole numbers up to 5 digits
- \*Identify place value in whole numbers up to 5 digits
- \*Know multiplication facts (0's, 1's, 2's, 5's, 10's and squares)
- \*Identify and name 2-D and 3-D shapes
- \*Identify symmetric figures and draw lines of symmetry
- \*Make ballpark estimates for sums (not products)
- \*Know extended multiplication facts (10's x ..) from their basic facts only
- \*Solve extended multiplication facts (100's x ..) from their basic facts only
- \*Know units of measure for length, weight and capacity
- \*Make a bar graph
- \*Complete a secure test on math facts