

# THIRD GRADE CURRICULUM GUIDE

## RELIGION – Spirit of Truth Program

- God’s plan of salvation, from creation to the Incarnation and Redemption, to the birth of the Church at Pentecost, and our life in the Church. Special emphasis on the importance of Confession, Communion, and the Mass.
- Students learn about the Catholic Church, the Holy Spirit and how He guides Her, and how Jesus continues His mission through Her.
  - Basics of the Trinity and all seven Sacraments.
  - Prayer and living as children of God.
  - Jesus’ Parables of the Kingdom, and Mary as the Mother of the Church.
  - Includes a supplement on Confirmation for restored order dioceses.

## READING

- Read fluently with expression.
- Apply phonetic and decoding skills in sounding out words.
- Learn and effectively apply a variety of reading strategies for comprehension:
- Visualize details of a passage.
- Categorize information.
- Clarify by asking questions.
- Recall critical details.
- Identify the purpose.
- Sequence main idea.
- Retell source text in your own words.
- Make inferences.
- Make predictions.
- Draw conclusions.
- Identify points of view
- State the author’s purpose.
- Focus on the development and mastery of story elements: characters, setting, plot, climax, resolution, cause and effect, compare and contrast, fact or opinion.
- Study a variety of genres. These may include: fairy tales, fables, novels, short stories, biographies, poems, and historical fiction.
- Memorize poetry and selected passages from famous speeches, and scripture.



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- Determine vice/virtue depicted in the story and how this applies to daily life.

## CRITICAL THINKING

- Ask questions.
- Support ideas with reference to texts or sources of information.
- Understand that some questions have more than one possible answer.
- Revise and improve on initial answers.

## LANGUAGE ARTS - Logic of English Program

- Learn phonograms and spelling rules
- Use phonemic awareness in reading and spelling
- Learn grammar and basic composition
- Create and use flashcards of phonograms
- Play games that reinforce phonograms and spelling rules
- Write a complete sentence using appropriate grade level spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc. and identify the subject and predicate.
- Identify nouns, verbs and adjectives.
- Write a basic paragraph with topic sentence and details to support that main idea.
- Write a story using the writing process; prewriting, revision, proofreading, publishing. Students will use a variety of methods to assist in the writing process; for example, outlining, word webs, story maps, to organize ideas for a story.
- Types of writing developed and mastered may include personal narratives, descriptive and expository writing, persuasive writing, creative writing, and poetry.

## MATH – BJU Math 3

- Mastery of basic skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- Development and mastery of strategies for problem solving; restate the problem, identify relevant information, brainstorm approaches, identify the answer.
- Development of skills needed to write a number sentence.
- Mastery of one and two step word problems.
- Understanding of perfect squares, square roots, roman numerals, and decimals.
- Adding and subtracting fractions with like denominators
- Identifying mixed numbers.
- Comparing quantities, ordering numbers, and place value to the millions.



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- Introduction and development of multiplication skills: two digit by one digit, two digit by two digit; with and without regrouping.
- Introduction and development of division skills; three and four digit by one digit, with the quotient written as a remainder.

## SCIENCE – Nancy Larson Science Program

- Explore topics of study including astronomy, chemistry, physics, geology, botany, meteorology
- Delve into the world of science and learn the about our solar system, investigate elements and compounds, investigate climate and the atmosphere, explore the Earth’s structure, investigate amphibians and reptiles, and investigate structure of seeds and plants.
- Practice the scientific procedure including observing, describing, comparing, measuring, classifying, predicting, inferring, hypothesizing, and experimenting to better understand the world around us.

## HISTORY

- Further develop understanding of chronological thinking, changes over time, and calendar time.
- Focus on the Earliest Americans, exploration of North America (1500s), Thirteen colonies, American Revolution (1775), Declaration of Independence (1776), U.S. Constitution (1787), Bill of Rights (1789), Lewis and Clark (1804), Westward Expansion, Native Americans, Slavery, North South Divide, Civil War (1861), Cultural regions in North America, National and local folk tales, National and local celebrations and holidays, historical figures from U.S. history.
- Further develop understanding of maps and globes, keys and legends, symbols, grid system, coordinates, compass rose, cardinal/intermediate directions, hemispheres, the Equator, and poles.
- Identify and use various types of maps: political, physical, climate, atlas, population.
- Identify various physical land formations: boundary, cape, channel, delta, isthmus, oasis, plateau, swamp, tundra, valley.
- Identify various water formations: bay, gulf, reservoir, strait.
- Locate places on a map: home, school, city, state, regions, countries, continents.
- Focus on early American settlements, Original Thirteen Colonies, westward movement, American Indian settlements.
- Study use and care of natural resources, renewable and non-renewable



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## EVALUATIONS

- Weekly tests in Spelling and Math.
- Weekly reading comprehension and vocabulary assessments (oral and/or pencil and paper).
- Oral assessments and brief quizzes may be given in all subject areas on a daily basis, unannounced.
- Bimonthly tests in Religion.
- Bimonthly (dependent on material) tests in Science, Social Studies/Geography, and Language Arts.

## STUDY SKILLS AND HOMEWORK

In Third Grade, students will continue to develop study habits. A successful third grader will become a self-motivated learner by praising him for showing initiative towards his studies and homework. The goal is for the student to become reliable, responsible, and independent. Excellent organizational skills provide a strong foundation for success.

- Stay on task for a period of 30-40 minutes.
- Keep a calendar with important dates and events that apply to school work: due dates, tests, specials, friends' birthdays, etc).
- Keep a folder at home where important material is kept for future review in preparing for tests.
- Write assignments in an assignment book correctly. Gather necessary homework materials, preferably working for self-responsibility without teacher reminders.
- Turn in homework on the day it is due.
- Review math facts, spelling words, vocabulary, and spend time reading on a daily basis.
- Use time wisely by being organized, write neatly and follow directions carefully.
- The length of time spent on homework is heavily dependent on the individual child. On a typical night, expect a minimum of 30-45 minutes, plus additional time reviewing math facts and outside reading.
- Establish a routine at home as to when and where homework is to be done every day, away from distractions and interruptions, with all the necessary tools and books at hand.
- Classes include Religion, Math, Writing, Grammar, Spelling, Reading, Science, and Social Studies

## SPECIALS

- Library – 1 time per week
- PE - 2 times per week
- Music – 2 times per week
- Art – 1 time per week
- Media Arts – 1 time per week

## 3rd GRADE PUBLIC SPEAKING EVENTS

- Saint Report



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- Science Project

## TIPS FOR PARENTS

Parents should be available to assist their child should questions arise, however it is very important that the child develops strong, independent work and study skills as the year progresses. Parents are reminded that students need to make mistakes and learn from them, and that school work is the child's responsibility, and a vehicle for growth and maturity.

- Class begins promptly at 8:05am. Arrive at least fifteen minutes early to provide adequate time for your child to prepare for the day (unpack backpack and lunch, organize books, turn in homework, copy assignments, complete morning seatwork, etc.).
- Encourage independence and allow your child to take on personal responsibilities and face the rewards and consequences for their actions.
- Do not walk your child to the classroom after the first week of school unless something heavy or awkward has to be delivered.
- In terms of discipline, please support the efforts of the teacher. If you disagree with the teacher's discipline measure, please discuss this with the teacher. Disagreeing with the teacher in front of your child may undermine the teacher's authority.
- Above and beyond homework, it is extremely important to drill math facts with your child until over-learning takes place and answers are accurate and automatic.
- When reading to or with your child, stop and ask questions about what has been read, and ask him/her to predict what they think will happen. Ask about lessons learned from the stories you read. This helps to promote active thinkers, not passive listeners.
- Minimize television viewing and computer games on school days, promote active outdoor play, promote arts and crafts for a creative outlet, encourage use of their imagination in their play with others.
- Be very selective in TV viewing. Be mindful of the time in front of the television, and the subject matter your child is viewing.
- Have set structure in your morning and evening routines in order to help your child. For example, layout the uniform before bedtime, prepare lunch and snack the night before, place the backpack in the same location, help set his/her own alarm.
- Communicate with your child's teacher about any questions or concerns you may have. You are your child's first educator and the teacher will support you in that role.

