

# What is my child learning in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade?

These descriptions do not cover all of the standards (there are too many to list here) but give a general picture as to what the sub-category Domains mean.

**English Language Arts** has 6 sub-categories and a separate grade for effort and citizenship.

→ **Reading Literature (Fiction)**

- ✓ Read, understand, and retell stories at grade level
- ✓ Refer to parts of stories when comparing and contrasting
- ✓ Tell how the author builds a story

→ **Reading Informational Text (Nonfiction)**

- ✓ Read nonfiction to find and use information
- ✓ Show where information and opinions can be found in a text
- ✓ Use text features (key words, sidebars, hyperlinks, etc.) to find information
- ✓ Tell how the author presented information (first/second/third, cause/effect, comparison, etc.)

→ **Reading: Foundational Skills**

- ✓ Read grade-level text smoothly, accurately and with understanding
- ✓ Use phonics, sight words, and word analysis skills

→ **Writing**

- ✓ Write stories, opinions, explanations, and research projects that clearly express ideas
- ✓ Choose a way to organize writing that makes sense for the topic and has a clear sequence of events
- ✓ Use connecting words (however, finally, etc.) and expand ideas with details and/or explanation
- ✓ Work with teachers and other students to improve writing and create a final draft

→ **Speaking and Listening**

- ✓ Participates in extended conversations, on topic, using complete sentences
- ✓ Ask and answer questions to improve learning
- ✓ Clearly expresses thoughts, feelings, and ideas
- ✓ Read and study to prepare for a discussion and/or presentation using relevant, organized facts and details

→ **Language**

- ✓ Use conventions and grammar correctly in speaking and writing (pronouns, verbs, spelling, punctuation, etc.)
- ✓ Understand parts of speech (nouns, adverbs, etc.) and how they work in sentences
- ✓ Understand figurative language (take steps, straighten up, etc.)
- ✓ Learn and use new words from reading and class discussions

**Mathematics** has 5 sub-categories in all grades and a separate grade for effort and citizenship.

→ **Operations and Algebraic Thinking**

- ✓ Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division within 100.
- ✓ Understand how multiplication is related to division.
- ✓ Solve problems involving the four operations, and identify and explain patterns in arithmetic.

→ **Number and Operations in Base ten**

- ✓ Understand how, when, and why to round whole numbers to the nearest 10 or 100.
- ✓ Fluently add and subtract within 1000.
- ✓ Multiply one-digit whole numbers by multiples of 10.

→ **Geometry**

- ✓ Classify quadrilaterals (four-sided shapes.)
- ✓ Partition shapes into parts with equal areas.

→ **Number and Operations – Fractions**

- ✓ Develop understanding of fractions as numbers that represent part of a whole.
- ✓ Represent a fraction on a number line between 0 and 1.
- ✓ Compare fractions and create equivalent fractions.

→ **Measurement and Data**

- ✓ Solve problems involving measurement and estimation of intervals of time (to the minute), liquid volumes, and masses of objects.
- ✓ Create and interpret bar graphs and line plots.
- ✓ Understand area is a surface measurement; find area using multiplication and/or addition.
- ✓ Find perimeter and use perimeter to find unknown side lengths.

**Science, Social Studies, Fine Arts, and Health** each receive an overall grade plus a separate grade for effort and citizenship.

**Music** has 6 sub-categories and a separate grade for effort and citizenship.

- History and Culture
- Improvising
- Instrumental
- Listen and Analyze
- Reading and Notating
- Singing

**PE** has 3 sub-categories and a separate grade for effort and citizenship

- Expressive and Efficient Moving
- Fitness for Lifetime
- Self-Management and Social Behavior

**Every school has either a music specialist and/or a PE specialist providing instruction to students.** Many schools have one or the other. The smaller schools may have just one day a week of each class. This means classroom teachers provide instruction when possible in these areas and will most likely not have specific grades for the sub-categories in these specific subjects.

If your child's school does have a music or PE specialist then those teachers are using specific standards to assess their students.

***A note from our Music Teachers:***

You will see a lot of strands for music on the report card this year. The number of strands assessed throughout the year will depend on your child's frequency of instruction. We are learning a new system and are very excited to show all of the areas we cover throughout the year. You will see: history and culture, improvising, instrumental, listen and analyze, reading and notating, and singing. We, as an elementary music teaching staff, are increasing the rigor of what is being expected in music class.

Students are being assessed on skills in addition to citizenship and effort. We are working toward creating tuneful, beatful and artful music students. Please contact your child's music teacher if you have additional questions.

***A note from our Physical Education Teachers:***

This year's report card is going to look much differently than years previous. We are learning a new grading system, and are excited to give you a more in depth look at your child as a whole in our realm of Physical Education. The amount of standards graded will depend on how often your child receives PE, and standards being taught will vary between the different grade levels. Your child will also be receiving a citizenship and effort grade aside from their standards based grade.

As an elementary Physical Education staff, we are dedicated to providing high quality instruction, with the goal of giving your child the tools they need to live and value a healthy, active lifestyle. Please contact your child's Physical Education teacher with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have.