

3RD GRADE CURRICULUM GUIDE



WE CHALLENGE & INSPIRE

Bible

Using Summit Ministries' Building on the Rock curriculum, students examine their Christian worldview by learning Biblical truths. The Bible survey component focuses on the beginning of Israel's kingdom and its first three kings. Using The Young Peacemaker, students engage in conflict-resolution skills and strategies. Each week our K4-6th graders memorize Scripture or a Gospel Foundation (question/answer) and learn how to apply that truth to their lives. Since all students in the lower school have the same memory work, it allows our families to learn and grow together as they memorize.

Reading and Language Arts

The Wonders reading curriculum is used to implement whole groups and small groups for instruction. Literature Circles and Center activities, and book studies supplement the program. Students master informational text structures such as compare and contrast, description, sequence, cause and effect, and problem/solution. They engage in a poetry unit with figurative language and learn public speaking through class research projects. Students learn to apply knowledge of Latin roots, base words, and affixes, to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words in grade-level content.

Writing

Students will continue to improve in the three forms of writing including: narratives, opinions, and expository. Narrative writing will focus on introducing personal dialogue. Opinion writing will be supported with at least one reason from a second source. Expository writing will include a main idea with supporting details. Students will be proficient in presenting information both written and orally including basic writing and grammar skills within a three-paragraph structure. In addition, students will begin learning to write lower and uppercase letters in cursive. All K4-4th grade students write and present their own book during our Young Author's Day.

<i>Math</i>	Big Ideas Curriculum emphasizes the application of mathematics to real-world situations through technology, manipulatives, and small groups coupled with whole group hands-on activities. 3rd grade utilizes hands-on manipulative learning, teacher-led lessons, independent work time, and math centers. Students are expected to be able to work independently and decode one-step word problems. In addition, students will have multiplication fact fluency to 12.
<i>Science</i>	Carolina Biological curriculum is used to allow 3rd graders to participate in meaningful hands-on investigations. We investigate and discuss God's divine purpose in the nature of science. Science exploration in 3rd grade focuses on Weather and Climate, Force and Motion, and Life in Ecosystems.
<i>Social Studies</i>	Students dive into world geography, economics, government, culture, and archeology along with a Roman Empire study. While discussing economics, students engage in a hands-on business plan where they create and "sell" their products to classmates.
<i>Technology</i>	Technology resources are used to enhance learning and equip students for use and management of electronic devices regarding education and beyond. As an Apple certified school, each student is assigned their own iPad which allows each student access to their reading, math, grammar, and vocabulary curriculum online. They use Seesaw to upload their classwork into their digital portfolio. Promethean Board Technology, iPads, google tools, and the Apple Suite are used to enhance learning and increase student engagement.
<i>Fostering a Faith that Sticks</i>	Our students not only learn the Bible but apply it to their lives to be the hands and feet of Jesus, with the goal of equipping students to transform the world for Christ and His Kingdom. They are encouraged to develop a personal relationship with Christ through daily prayer and worship. Through this relationship students are coached on resolving conflict Biblically with their peers.
<i>We Lead</i>	The students learn responsibility and how to serve their fellow classmates through our kindergarten reading buddies each week. They also have the opportunity to participate in the Student Council and begin to take ownership of their faith by leading their grade-level chapels.
THE HEARTBEAT OF 3RD GRADE	Students in 3rd grade begin to take ownership of their independence and organizational skills. This year, students begin rotating between classrooms for core subjects and are supported by learning how to utilize a planner to track their upcoming tasks, assessments, and events. A favorite organizational tool for most of our 3rd graders is the introduction and use of a personal locker. Highlights of the year are a visit from a Meteorologist, the Thanksgiving Feast, service project to Orlando Rescue Mission, Pastor's Breakfast, Treasure Hunt at Legoland, and their famous gingerbread house creations at Christmas!

