



Grade 3 English Language Arts

Major Learning Targets for This Grade

Reading

- Students will read grade-level books, stories, poems, and articles with understanding and fluency.
- Students will read closely to find main ideas and supporting details.
- Students will be able to describe the logical connection between particular sentences.
- Students will be able to compare the most important points and key details presented in two books on the same topic.
- Students will build a foundation of knowledge through reading and listening to books in history/social studies, science, and other subjects.

Writing

- Students will write opinions or explanations that group related information and develop topics with facts and details.
- Students will write stories that establish a situation and include details and a clear sequence of events that describe the actions, thoughts, and feelings of characters.
- Students will be able to independently conduct short research projects that build knowledge about various topics.

Language

- Students will be able to distinguish the literal and nonliteral meanings of words, such as *something's fishy* and *cold shoulder*.
- Students will use spelling patterns and generalizations to spell correctly and consult dictionaries to clarify meanings of words.
- Students will follow rules of punctuation and grammar.

Speaking and Listening

- Students will ask and answer questions about information heard from a speaker or while participating in classroom discussions, offering appropriate elaboration and detail that builds on what others have said.
- Students will build a foundation of knowledge through reading and listening to books in history/social studies, science, and other subjects.



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College, Career, and Life Readiness

Students will be working to develop the following capabilities of a literate individual:

- Demonstrate independence.
- Build strong content knowledge.
- Respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.
- Comprehend as well as critique.
- Value evidence.
- Use technology and digital media strategically and capably.
- Come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

How Can I Support My Child?

1. Read with Your Child

- Keep reading to your child. It is important to continue this practice even after they have started reading on their own. Read stories, poems, and other materials in any language.
- Listen to your child read to you and take turns reading together.

2. Build on Language in Everyday Life

- Build listening skills and vocabulary by talking through your daily activities. Talk about what you are doing as you cook, drive, shop, or visit new places.

3. Allow a Productive Struggle

- Don't interrupt your child's reading to correct mistakes unless the mistake changes the meaning.
- Help your child to sound out new and difficult words.

4. Explore Words Together

- As your child begins reading their own, point out new words and practice pronouncing them.
- As your child's reading takes off, point out parts of words that are important to the meaning, such as "un-", "-full", and "-less."

5. Talk about Reading

- Discuss the characters and the events in the story. Ask your child about relationships between different characters, how a character might solve a problem, or what happened in the beginning, middle, and end.
- Develop comparison skills. Ask how characters or subjects in one book are similar or different from other books your child has read.
- After reading, ask your child to name anything that they enjoyed or learned.
- Talk about the author's intention. "Did she try to teach us a lesson in this story?" "How did he want to make us feel?"
- Ask your child to name favorites and tell why. Discuss which books are mysteries, adventures, or other genres.
- Discuss key details in informational books. Ask your child to describe the connection between two ideas or pieces of information in a text.
- Talk about information provided by pictures and illustrations as compared to information provided by the words in the text.

6. Encourage a Love of Reading

- Look for books on topics your child enjoys.
- Make reading together an opportunity to enjoy time together.
- Make reading for fun a part of your child's daily routine.

For more information, visit scusd.edu/ela or contact Denise-Leograndis@scusd.edu, ELA Coordinator

SCUSD's Vision for Instruction and Assessment: *As a community of learners, we strive to create positive and engaging environments where a rigorous, student-centered curriculum is central. Teachers use inquiry-based instruction and formative assessment practices to support ALL learners in maturing socially and in becoming disciplinary thinkers.*