

St. Mary of Gostyn School

Grade 3 Curriculum Guide



Social Studies

Third grade students develop an awareness of the world around them and how people affect their environment.

The focus will be:

- Communities
- Native Americans
- Immigration
- Geography/Map Skills
- Government - Federal, State, Local
- Economy

Religion

Third graders will learn through stories, activities, Scripture, prayer, discussion and reflection about their Catholic faith. Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in Religion, but in all learning.

The focus is on:

- God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit
- Planning and assisting in the liturgies
- Service
- Liturgical seasons
- Lives of the Saints
- Church as community

Physical Education

In third grade, students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle. Students will:

- Maintain personal fitness
- Develop muscle strength, endurance and flexibility
- Use rules, safety and strategies of sports and games
- Demonstrate sportsmanship and participation in sports and games

Spanish

The focus is on:

- History and geography of Latin America and Spain
- Grammar
- Conversation
- Good Spelling and Pronunciation
- Begin Conjugating Verbs

Science

Students use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They learn through observing, predicting, questioning and explaining.

Students will:

- Collect and chart data
- Describe simple life cycles of plants and animals
- Recognize relationship of living things and their environment
- Describe features and processes of the Earth and its resources, such as the water cycle
- Identify force and motion
- Identify importance of Science

Math

Third grade students acquire a knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills to solve problems through the use of the text McGraw-Hill My Math, extended activities and hands-on experiences.

Third grade math standards include:

- Identify place value in four digit numbers
- Use number lines
- Add and subtract 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers
- Solve multiple step word problems
- Chart, compare and graph data
- Know multiplication and division facts
- Recognize fractional units
- Measure and compare units of length capacity and weight
- Identify patterns using fact families
- Identify, classify, compare and describe characteristics of shapes

Technology

Students will use electronic devices to enhance the curriculum and learn introductory computer skills.

Students will:

- Login to local computer
- Open and close programs
- Navigate a browser
- Practice keyboarding using Internet software

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Music

The students will be able to:

- Identify expressive musical qualities such as melody, harmony, rhythm, meter and pattern
- Clap and/or verbalize rhythms via standard musical notation
- Count music in 4/4 time signature
- Demonstrate a broader understanding of music concepts presented in Grades 1 and 2
- Distinguish between Major and Minor modalities
- Accurately sing a variety of musical selections via the Christmas Program
- Emphasis is on standard music notation with a focus on rhythm and note identification
- Prepare for playing recorders in Grades 4 and 5

Language Arts/Writing

The Language Arts Program includes reading, writing, speaking, listening and the study of literature. The components of the program emphasize the development of those skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired and understood are applied and reinforced in all content areas. The textbook used for reading is McGraw-Hill Wonders.

Reading/Literature:

Children through the series experience authentic literature in the form of poetry, folktales, nonfiction, fiction, biographies, fantasies and plays. Reading fluency will develop and improve as students are presented with the following skills:

- Using phonetic and structural analysis
- Using word identification strategies
- Developing vocabulary
- Understanding character, setting and plot
- Drawing conclusions
- Make predictions
- Sequencing events of a story
- Summarizing
- Distinguishing fact from fantasy
- Using graphic organizers
- Self-appraising and self-correcting while reading

Writing:

Third grade students use writing to convey meaning.

Students will:

- Write multiple sequential sentences on a given topic
- Apply spelling knowledge
- Apply grammar and mechanics
 - Parts of speech
 - Simple tenses
 - Writing formats
 - Punctuation
- Use the writing process including pre-writing, writing, revising, editing and final draft
- Write in multiple forms
 - Guided writing
 - Friendly letters
 - Descriptive paragraphs
 - Narrative stories
 - Book Reviews

STEAM Lab

The Robotics and Programming section of STEAM will focus on technology activities including the Sphero robotics program. These activities will be more teacher-led and focused on using critical thinking and problem-solving skills to program and code the robots to solve problems and accomplish goals.

The Makerspace section of STEAM will focus on hands-on activities in which students will work independently and collaboratively with their peers to devise solutions to problems and utilize a wide variety of tools to accomplish goals. The Makerspace is more student-led and explorative, while still maintaining structure with students working towards a common goal.