



OVERVIEW

Hello Third Grade Families-

This academic success guide has been created to give you an overview of the important concepts your child should be mastering by the end of the year during their time here at Asante Preparatory. It will also give you some ideas of things you can do at home to help support your child. In addition, the guide will give you an overview of the special area classes your child will participate in during their year.

At Asante, we track student progress by standard. We look for opportunities to deepen their learning in some areas and also accelerate them when appropriate. While it may seem a far time from now, our goal is all middle school students will leave Asante with at least one high school credit.

We know how important our partnership will be in helping your child be as successful as possible, so please don't ever hesitate to reach out with ideas or questions!

We hope this is the most amazing year for your child!

The Third Grade Team

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Third grade is a pivotal year for your child. Learning to read with fluency and confidence will serve as a foundation for the reading demands in later grades. By practicing with learning-to-read strategies, your child will be able to make sense of multisyllable words in texts. He or she will come to appreciate that words have meanings that are not literal (e.g., a piece of cake) and have relationships to other words (e.g., company and companion). Recognizing and understanding words will help your child read increasingly challenging stories and books and build knowledge about the world around him or her. By the end of the year, your child also will be writing clear sentences and paragraphs on a range of topics, drawing on an expanding vocabulary.

What Your Child Is Learning

- Reading closely to find main ideas and supporting details in a story
- Describing the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in stories (e.g., first, second, third; cause and effect)
- Comparing the most important points and key details presented in two books on the same topic
- Writing opinions or explanations that group related information and develop topics with facts and details
- Writing stories that establish a situation and include details and clear sequences of events that describe the actions, thoughts, and feelings of characters
- Independently conducting short research projects that build knowledge about various topics
- Asking and answering questions about information he or she hears from a speaker or while participating in classroom discussions, offering appropriate elaboration and detail that build on what others have said
- Reading stories and poems aloud fluently, without pausing to figure out what each word means
- Distinguishing the literal and nonliteral meanings of words, such as something's fishy and cold shoulder
- Spelling correctly and consulting dictionaries to clarify meanings of words

Rangers

MATHEMATICS

In 3rd grade, your child will learn important new ideas and gain important new skills. Some of the most important topics this year are multiplication, division, and fractions. Multiplication, division, and fractions are the building blocks for many life skills that students will learn in later grades, such as percentages. Students also need to master these topics to be ready for algebra and advanced math, so it is essential to get a good start with these topics in 3rd grade.

What Your Child Is Learning

- Multiplying and dividing up to 10×10 quickly and accurately, including knowing the times tables from memory
- Solving word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
- Beginning to multiply numbers with more than one digit (e.g., multiplying 9×80)
- Understanding fractions and relating them to the familiar system of whole numbers (e.g., recognizing that $\frac{3}{1}$ and 3 are the same number)
- Measuring and estimating weights and liquid volumes, and solving word problems involving these quantities
- Reasoning about shapes (e.g., all squares are rectangles but not all rectangles are squares)
- Finding areas of shapes, and relating area to multiplication (e.g., why is the number of square feet for a 9-foot by 7-foot room given by the product 9×7 ?)

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students will study Arizona with an integrated approach considering the following factors:

- The contributions of various cultural and ethnic groups including the 22 Indian Nations that reside in Arizona
- Economic, political, and geographic elements
- Structure of the state and local governments
- Roles and responsibilities as citizens of Arizona
- Examination of primary and secondary sources including written and oral histories, images, current events, and artifacts
- Disciplinary skills and processes including change and continuity over time, multiple perspectives, using and understanding sources, and cause and effect

SCIENCE

By the end of third grade, students will gain an understanding of how the Sun provides energy for life on Earth. Students apply their understanding of light and sound waves, how they travel, are detected, and transfer energy. Students learn that organisms have different structures and functions which increase their chances of survival. Student investigations focus on collecting and making sense of observational data and simple measurements using the science and engineering practices:

- ask questions and define problems,
- develop and use models
- plan and carry out investigations,
- analyze and interpret data
- use mathematics and computational thinking,
- construct explanations and design solutions
- engage in argument from evidence
- obtain, evaluate, and communicate information

Rangers

SPECIAL AREA CLASSES

At Asante Preparatory Academy, students in third grade have the opportunity to participate in special area classes in one week cycles. These courses will help them explore interests in the arts, robotics and STEM (Science Technology, Engineering and Math), and health and fitness. During the four weeks, each child will attend classes in:

- Physical Education
- Art
- General Music
- iExplore

WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

- Literacy Ideas
 - Make reading for fun a part of your child's daily routine. Set aside quiet time, with no phones, computers, or other distractions, when your child can read for pleasure chapter books. The library is a great place to go!
 - Encourage your child to find a picture from a newspaper or magazine, cut it out, paste it on paper, and write a story about it.
 - Start a family vocabulary box or jar. Have everyone write down new words they discover, add them to the box, and use the words in conversation.
- Mathematics Look for "word problems" in real life. Some 3rd grade examples might include:
 - Notice those everyday occasions when you find yourself using your times tables — such as to determine how many days there are in four weeks. Ask your child for the answer.
 - Cooking with your child to recognize fractions, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division are used in real life.

**THANK YOU
FOR SHARING
YOUR CHILD
WITH US!**



ASANTE
PREPARATORY ACADEMY

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