

# Rising 3rd Graders - Summer Learning!

As you prepare your child to enter 3rd grade, we've put together a list of skills that are important to practice over the summer months to ensure a smooth transition. We have provided suggestions that make learning fun and active along with resources that can help you with other ideas.

## SKILLS TO PRACTICE

- Review basic grammar/parts of speech - nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs
  - Mad Libs - a phrasal template word game where one player prompts the others for a list of words to substitute for blanks in a story before reading aloud. Can be found online or purchased in stores.
  - Parts of Speech Scavenger Hunt - As you read together, challenge your child to pick out different parts of speech. You can make the game more interesting by asking for adjectives that are colors, verbs that end with -ing, etc.
- Fluency
  - Ask your child to read a small excerpt aloud to you. Be sure they're using appropriate pacing (pausing at commas and end of sentences), using appropriate inflection (excited tone when they see an exclamation point), and reading smoothly. Read through the same excerpt of text several times to improve accuracy, quickness, and expression.
- Comprehension & Main Idea
  - While reading with your child, ask a variety of questions about the text and discuss the story. (See suggested list)
  - After reading, discuss the main idea of the text.
- Context Clues & Inference
  - While reading, use the text to help determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.
  - Ask students to make inferences from photographs found in magazines.
- Writing - compose a complete sentence (capital letter, punctuation) and a cohesive paragraph
  - Give your child simple writing prompts such as describing their favorite summer activity, explaining the steps to complete a task, writing a note to a friend - remind your child to use their best handwriting (spend time practicing both print and cursive).
  - Pay careful attention to easily confused words (to/too, your/you're, their/there/they're).

## Helpful Websites, Apps, & Resources

**Smarty Ants** - access through Clever.com. Your child's username and password is their 7 digit ID number. If using a phone or tablet, be sure you've downloaded both the Clever and SmartyAnts apps.

**MyOn Virtual Library** - Thousands of books for your child tailored to their reading level. Access through Clever.com.

**ReadyRosie.com** - a research-based and standards-aligned comprehensive family engagement resource that builds on parents' knowledge. Designed for parents and caregivers to have easy access to a library of modeled, expert videos.

**Suggested Reading** - Encourage your child to read all summer for at least twenty minutes per day. Engaging in a variety of books will help students increase their vocabulary. The following is a great list to get you started!

- Wayside School by Louis Sachar
- The Chocolate Touch by Patrick Catling
- Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl
- Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney
- Captain Underpants by Dav Pilkey
- Dogman by Dav Pilkey
- I Am... various books (nonfiction) by Brad Meltzer
- Cam Jansen series by David Adler
- Who Would Win (various) by Jerry Pallotta
- Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa by Erica Silverman
- Ivy and Bean series by Annie Barrows

**Comprehension Questions** - Ask children to point to specific evidence from the story when answering questions.

- Who is this story about? Describe him/her. Do they have a problem in this story? How is the problem solved?
- When and where does the story take place?
- What is the story about? Retell the story.
- Could this story really happen? Explain why/why not.
- Would you like to be a character in this story? Why or why not?
- Would you recommend this story to a friend? Why or why not?

**Social Studies:** Social Studies is more than learning about the past. It is about building knowledge of the world and understanding how interconnected our world is. Its history, citizenship, and maps, along with expressing ideas, critical thinking, and becoming a productive citizen.

**Topics for Exploration include:** \*Map Reading - Locate major physical features (bodies of water, mountains, deserts) on different kinds of maps \*Locate the 7 Continents and 4 Oceans on maps and globes \*Name and Locate (on a map) the 50 states of the United States

This is a very short list from the numerous topics students will explore next year. To see the complete list of standards (topics), visit: [TN Academic Standards for Social Studies](#)