



Pythagoras Children's Academy

3rd Grade Curriculum Guide

Math

Textbook: Everyday Mathematics by McGraw Hill

Everyday Mathematics is a comprehensive Pre-K through Grade 6 mathematics program engineered for the Common Core State Standards. Developed by The University of Chicago, School Mathematics Project, Everyday Mathematics helps your students achieve true mastery of the CCSS by continually reinforcing math concepts through concrete real-world applications and reinforces math concepts across carefully constructed learning progressions. It is a different way of thinking; much different than we learned growing up. It teaches students how to think more logically and taps into higher level thinking skills. It helps students understand place value and how and what the math concepts mean. Students use Math journals for practice work and play Math games to reinforce Math skills in a fun and engaging way. EM is aligned with Common Core Standards and teaches various algorithms and math concepts.

Concepts include:

- Adding and Subtracting Whole Numbers: Number Stories (Word Problems); Input/Output Boxes; Partial-Sums & Subtraction Algorithms
- Linear Measures and Area: Measurement; Perimeter, Area, Diameter, and Circumference
- Multiplication and Division: Multiples of equal groups; Multiplication Arrays; Equal shares and groups; Multiplication & Division Fact Families; Exploring Arrays; Patterns, number models, parentheses, etc.
- Place Value in Whole Numbers and Decimals: Place value through ten-thousands; Reading, writing, and ordering numbers; Place value to millions; Estimates and Polygons; Decimals
- Geometry: Identifying, drawing, and measuring angles; Symmetry, line segments, rays, and lines
- Fractions: Naming parts; Equivalent fractions; Comparing fractions; Fractions in number stories (Word problems)

ELA (English, Language Arts)/Reading/Writing

Program: Schoolwide Fundamentals

Schoolwide Fundamentals Units of Study are designed to meet the instructional needs of literacy educators, with a particular focus on usability and effectiveness. Built using the workshop model, Schoolwide's units teach students to be critical thinkers, readers, and writers by using proven, research-based best practices for reading and writing instruction.

Units of study include:

- Launching Unit which prepares the students for the year's lessons and format
- Nonfiction
- Fiction
- Poetry
- Content Literacy, which include: U.S. Government—Fundamental Concepts; Plants and Animals Adapt to Survive; Forces and Interactions: Force, Motion, and Magnetism

Spelling:

Resources: Houghton Mifflin lists, as well as words found in read-alouds and from students' leveled readers by Fountas and Pinnell which are typically a grade or two level higher than their current grade.

Throughout the week, students do supplemental lessons as well as use graphic organizers to assist them with comprehension of spelling and vocabulary words. Students use their individual Dell Chromebooks to look up definitions, identify parts of speech, synonyms, antonyms, and integrate those words in a sentence.

- Vocabulary Spelling City: used at school and at home to complete various effective and engaging vocabulary and spelling activities to help them retain spelling words and definitions.
- "Words Their Way" word sorts and lists to pull words from as well from read-aloud book and/or social studies/science vocabulary terms.

Reading:

Resources: Leveled readers by Irene Fountas and Gay Su Pinnell

Many reading strategies are used in conjunction with these books: Summarizing, retelling, context clues, character analysis, genres, inferencing, etc. 3

3rd graders also do Reading Theaters where stories and characters are brought to life.

Science

Program: Science Interactive Notebooks

Rather than a textbook approach to science vocabulary, Science Interactive Notebooks utilizes hands-on activities to engage students in science and expose them to the joy of scientific inquiry at an early age. Lessons are aligned with Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards and designed to supplement existing curriculum.

Topics of study include:

- Solar System
- Constellations
- Landforms
- Rocks
- and more

Social Studies

3rd grade uses themes, which are brought to life through interactive whiteboards, Chromebooks, and Projects. Students also use interactive notebooks to help with comprehension and make learning more hands-on and fun.

Topics of study include:

- Presidents
- 50 States
- Cultures
- and more

Technology

Concepts and resources:

- Dell Chromebook: Every 3rd grader is assigned one for use in daily lessons and activities
- Typing.com: Keyboarding skill development
- Interactive Whiteboard: used to enhance learning
- IXL: a web-based K-12 math program integrated with problems based on Common Core State Standards, used to improve math skills both inside and outside the classroom. Problems have a wide variety of question types, from word problems to interactive graphing.