

Memorizing Multiplication Facts!

Most children can count by two and five, so they can multiply by two and five. Practice these facts first.

You can further reduce the number of facts children need to know by showing them “turnarounds”. 3×5 is the same as 5×3 .

Remind that any multiplication problem with a 0 in the problem has an answer of 0.

Any number multiplied by 1 results in the answer being that number.

Multiplication by 10 is the same as by 1, with a 0 added to the number. $5 \times 1 = 5$, $5 \times 10 = 50$

Teach squares (3×3 , 4×4 , 5×5) by teaching them in a rhythmic fashion. For example, repeat when jumping rope, bouncing a ball, singing, etc.

Nines are easy if you know the following trick. Have your children put both hands down flat on a table and number their fingers from 1 to 10, starting with the left pinky. Whenever a number is multiplied by 9, they can use their fingers as a calculator. EX: 9×3 —Tuck finger three under and count the number of fingers to the left of that finger. Write the number down (2). Then, count the number of fingers to the right of that finger, and write that number down (7). The answer is 27.

There are now only NINE facts left to learn!

3×4 3×6 3×8

4×6 4×7 4×8

6×7 6×8 7×8

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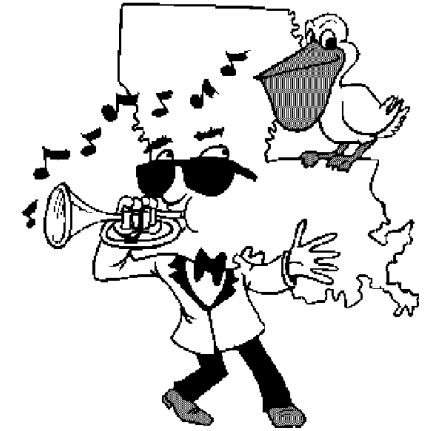
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Third Grade



Third grade is a transition year for students. The concepts of multiplication and division are introduced and students begin to attain mastery of the basic facts. The third grade year is also the first year of formal state assessment, with students taking the iLEAP test. Louisiana is a major focus of social living in third grade. Have you heard??

Third is the word!

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Skills

One of the major focuses in third grade is the transition from learning to read into reading to learn. Comprehension skills and strategies are refined and practiced, as well as the higher level thinking skills of analyzing and responding to literature. Third graders learn to begin to write longer, more detailed, and complex sentences and paragraphs. The third grade year is also the beginning of cursive writing instruction.

Multiplication and division are introduced and practiced in third grade, and subtraction with regrouping is a focus skill.

Third graders take part in “Assess to Know” tests at the end of each curriculum unit in ELA and Math that show areas needing remediation, and compare their performance with other students in the school and district.

Since the third grade year is the first year of state testing for students, test taking strategies are introduced and practiced in class daily.

Fieldtrips

Since Louisiana history and culture are a major focus in Social Living for third grade, each year the third graders go to Longfellow Museum in St. Martin parish to learn more about, as well as compare and contrast early settlers in Louisiana.

An annual trip to the LSU Agricultural Center gives us the opportunity to discuss and examine Louisiana agriculture and resources.

Finally, we take trips to the Lafayette Science Museum to visit different exhibits that pertain to our science curriculum.



Arts

In third grade, students are given the opportunity to choose four art forms in which to learn more. Each nine weeks, students will change to a different art elective of their choosing. Parents help to guide this process by attending a special event at the end of the second grade year called “Arts Under the Stars”. Parents and students are invited to come and get an overview of each of the different art forms that can be chosen in third grade. Third grade teachers incorporate art into academic lessons in the classroom weekly, and art teachers incorporate academic skills into their art lessons where appropriate. During the third grade year students, with guidance from the art staff, begin to make the decision of which art form in which to “specialize” for the rest of their stay at J.W. James.