

Third Grade Newsletter

April/May Issue

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Reading Workshop



Research Clubs is a nonfiction reading unit, students will read and learn facts about specific animals in book clubs. The focused researched skills:

- **Main Idea and Supporting Details**
- **Summarizing**

Students will be able to name the big topic and details that support the idea

- **Cross Text(s) Synthesis**

Students will read two or more texts about the same subtopic

- **Comparing and Contrasting**

Students will identify similarities and differences about the information of a subtopic.

- **Analyzing Perspective**

Students will read to learn recognizing the point of view of the author who is presenting the information.

Students will use the facts learned from the reading to create a writing piece.

Writing Workshop

The next writing unit the 3rd graders will be diving into is called “Information Writing-Reading, Research and Writing in the Content Areas”. The third graders will be asked to build on their knowledge of the Information Writing Unit from earlier in the year. Each student will create a nonfiction book about animals that they have researched in reading. To begin creating the nonfiction book the students will learn to use observational writing, annotated timelines, embellished notes, and writing to grow ideas as methods for recording their knowledge of their topic. Then the students will learn to plan a table of contents and subtopics. The students will work on grouping related information, using linking words between ideas and bits of information. Next, the students will use mentor texts and the informational writing checklist to revise and raise the level of their writing. After the students complete editing and revision work they will prepare a published informational book about animals.

Math Assessment Information

Day 1: Test is untimed.

- 25 multiple choice questions

Day 2: Test is untimed.

- 8 multiple choice questions
- 6 short response questions
- 1 extended response question

Approximate Number of Test Points

70%-80%

- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Number and Operations-Fractions
- Measurement and Data

10%-20%

- Measurement and Data
- Geometry

Math



For the month of April, our mathematicians will be focusing on Measurement and Data. They will learn to recognize perimeter and area as attributes of plane figures and find ways to measure both attributes. Students will investigate the relationship between perimeter and area through hands-on activities. They will also solve real world problems involving area, perimeter and unknown side lengths. We will also be preparing our students for the Math State Test. They will be practicing and answering various of multiple choice, short and extended response questions.

Science



Recently 3rd grade has been learning about heat, light, sound, electrical, mechanical, and chemical energies. In April, the 3rd grade will learn about simple machines, such as wheel and axles, levers, inclined planes, wedges, screws, and pulleys. For our final unit of the school year we will explore, discover, and have some fun with a hands-on building unit!

Social Studies

Our third graders continue their journey into the fascinating nation of The People's Republic of China, the most populated one in the world. Students are able to locate China, and the continent it is located in, Asia, on a world map and on a globe. You can ask your child to point to China on a map or a globe at home.

Two essential questions in Social Studies are: How are countries alike? How are they different? Students compare countries in order to understand how they are alike and different. For example, in the United States many languages are spoken and the same is true in China. It is important for students to know there are similarities between nations and between their peoples.

An aspect from their everyday lives will assist them in understanding the interdependence between China and the United States. Have they noticed how many objects at home were made in China? Why do they think this is so? You can discuss these questions with your children!

After we complete our unit on China, we will take off for Peru in South America. Like China, Peru is a country with a great, ancient civilization.

Important Dates

Spring Recess: March 30, 2018 – April 6, 2018 (No School)
Memorial Day: May 28, 2018

NYS MATH: New York State Math Assessment
Day 1: May 1, 2018
Day 2: May 2, 2018