



# Needham Public Schools

## GRADE 3 CURRICULUM SUMMARY

August 2020

### Mathematics

- Multiply and divide within 100; represent and solve problems
- Understand properties of multiplication and the relationship between multiplication and division
- Solve problems involving the four operations, and identify and explain patterns in arithmetic
- Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic
- Develop understanding of fractions as numbers
- Solve problems involving measurement and estimation of intervals of time, liquid volumes, and masses of objects
- Represent and interpret data
- Geometric measurement: understand concepts of area and relate area to multiplication and addition; recognize perimeter as an attribute of plane figures; distinguish between linear and area measures
- Reason with shapes and their attributes

### Reading

- Participate in book discussion with partners, small groups, and whole class
- Read independently for longer periods of time
- Read and discuss a variety of genres
- Identify synonyms, antonyms and multi-meaning words
- Use context clues to define multi-meaning words and new vocabulary
- Increase knowledge of word structure and vocabulary
- Use comprehension strategies to deepen understanding
- Recognize story elements (characters, setting, plot) in fiction
- Distinguish between summary and retelling
- Begin to support answers with evidence from text
- Read to acquire information

### Writing

- Use stages of the writing process including drafting, revising, editing, and publishing
- Use graphic organizers to plan writing
- Use a variety of genres for different writing purposes
- Begin to consider audience and purpose for writing
- Use mentor text to learn crafting techniques
- Write with voice
- Begin to develop research skills to support non-fiction writing
- Write in response to a prompt
- Spell grade level high frequency words
- Use conventions of punctuation
- Begin to use paragraphs
- Vary sentence structure

### Science

The 2020-2021 school year includes changes to science programming and curriculum in order to meet the needs of the district's hybrid and remote learning plans. Units that will be facilitated support the [Science and Engineering Framework](#). Grade 3 students explore the big ideas of life and physical science through an inquiry-based, hands on approach, with the following units:

- Survivor: Isopods, Adaptations and Fossils (Life Science)
- Circuits & Pathways (Electricity) (Physical Science)

### Social Studies

Students learn about geography and engage in inquirybased social studies as they study the following units:

- Needham/Boston, 1711 to present
- Regions of the U. S.
- Continents
- Map Skills

### Spanish Language & Culture

- Understand and produce memorized vocabulary and formulaic expressions from grades one and two with increased confidence and comprehensibility
- Understand and produce memorized vocabulary and formulaic expressions related to: vegetables, physical characteristics, activities and sports, pets, home, and the United States
- Communicate aspects of what students like to do
- Engage in short conversational exchanges on familiar topics
- Demonstrate awareness, curiosity and appreciation for different cultures

### Art

- Demonstrate an understanding of the Elements and Principles of Art and Design. Be able to apply these principles in artistic work in a developmentally appropriate way.
- Connect with art in other settings
- Solve artistic problems and think critically and creatively
- Use materials safely
- Explore proportion and perspective
- Mix and arrange different groups of colors

### Music

- Individually read moderately complicated rhythms and melodies in standard notation in treble clef.
- Play the recorder using correct fingering
- Recognize and perform basic melodic and rhythmic patterns
- Listen to and learn about selected major composers and compositions
- Sing music from diverse cultures
- Listen and recognize duple and triple meter
- Recognize the relationship between beat and rhythm
- Recognize and use dynamic changes for expressive purposes
- Beginning Strings may be elected in grade 3

### Physical Education

- Experience the joy of movement with self and others
- Practice and apply movement concepts and skills that will lead to enjoyable participation in activities/games/sports
- Exhibit personal responsibility while working cooperatively with others
- Demonstrate the ability to combine balance and weight transfers with movement concepts
- Use proper form while throwing overhand to a stationary target
- Demonstrate the ability to catch a ball thrown from a partner while standing in a stationary position
- Use proper underhand form to strike an object over a net
- Use proper grip and form to strike a stationary ball consistently using a long-handled implement

### Library & Digital Learning

- Use word processing skills: font, color, style, text alignment
- Locate information using tables of contents and indexes
- Understand the Dewey Decimal System and be able to locate books
- Copy and paste graphics from the web
- Consider the purpose and audience for a presentation
- Use multimedia tools to present new understandings
- Continue to learn about the emotional impact of cyberbullying
- Understand basics of Digital Citizenship
- Use cloud-based systems to save and access work and collaborate online

### Social & Emotional Learning

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. SEL is more than just a program or lesson. It is about how teaching and learning happens, as well as what you teach and where you learn. There are a variety of approaches used to teach SEL including:

- Free-standing lessons designed to enhance students' social and emotional competence explicitly.
- Teaching practices such as cooperative learning and project-based learning, which promote SEL.
- Integration of SEL and academic curriculum such as language arts, math, social studies, or health.
- Organizational strategies that promote SEL as a schoolwide initiative that creates a climate and culture conducive to learning.

At the elementary level, the Responsive Classroom Approach is used to promote well-designed practices intended to create safe, joyful, and engaging classroom and school communities. The emphasis is on helping students develop their academic, social, and emotional skills in a learning environment that is developmentally responsive to their strengths and needs.

Students develop their SEL skills across five competencies:

- Self Awareness
- Self Management
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills
- Responsible Decision Making

### Grade 3 Racial Literacy

#### Stories of Activism: How One Voice Can Change a Community

Students investigate themes of fairness, courage, friendship, and empowerment by reading the stories of “everyday” heroes and famous figures who responded to discrimination and racism. When learning about inequality, students will also explore the counter concept of building and bridging diverse communities.