SCHENECTADY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS GRADE 3

Grade three students in the Schenectady City School District are screened three times per year for literacy to ensure that they are on track for proficiency.

Grade 3

LITERACY MEASURES

- STAR
- Interim Assessments

If screening results indicate that a student is at risk of not achieving proficiency, teachers will administer a diagnostic assessment to help determine specific areas in need of reinforcement.

Students in grade 3 take New York State Assessments in English language arts and mathematics.

New York State learning standards outline what a student should know and be able to do by the end of the grade level or band. There are also skills that a well-rounded students should possess. Listed below are examples of the **Schenectady City School District Academic Expectations for Third Grade Students.** These should be viewed holistically and are not meant to determine promotion or retention. A student may demonstrate or be on track for proficiency without having mastered every skill. Teachers intervene as appropriate to support skill development.

READING

- Decode words with more than two syllables
- Determine the meaning of unknown words and phrases, choosing from a range of strategies, such as the use of common prefixes (mis-, pre-, re-) & suffixes (-ful, -ible, -ous)
- Read and understand grade 3 literature (fiction) and informational (nonfiction) texts
- Read grade-level prose & poetry with accuracy, appropriate rate, expression
- Locate relevant & specific details in a text to support an answer or inference
- Determine a text's theme or central idea and how key details support these
- Understand text structures (compare/contrast, cause/effect, sequence)
- Retell stories, fables, folktales, myths; connect key details to central message
- Describe how characters contribute to the events in a story
- Distinguish personal point of view from that of the author or the characters
- Explain how illustrations or text features contribute to meaning (create
- mood, emphasize character or setting, etc.)

WRITING AND LANGUAGE

- Follow grade-appropriate conventions of English grammar, usage, and punctuation
- Use patterns, rules, and generalizations to spell
- Use linking (therefore, another) & temporal (before, after) words
- Create a response to a text, author, theme, or personal experience
- Write argument pieces with clear reasons and a concluding statement
- Write informative pieces with a topic, facts, and a concluding statement
- Write narratives using narrators, dialogue, and descriptions
- Conduct short research projects

VOCABULARY

- Use context & word parts (prefix, suffix, root) to determine word meaning
- Distinguish the literal and nonliteral meanings of words (take steps)
- Use academic (determine) and subject specific words (chrysalis)

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Follow established rules to engage effectively in a range of discussions
- Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker
- Recount key ideas and details from texts read aloud
- Speak in complete sentences as appropriate to situation

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS: GRADE 3

TIPS FOR PARENTS

Set aside daily time for reading. Ask students questions about the books they have chosen. Read the book to yourself to foster better conversations.

Encourage students to select books about science, history, art, music, and famous people. Building background knowledge is important for comprehension.

Expect students to write daily, using the strategies they learn in school. Writing about what they read improves comprehension.

Play word games like "I Spy" to encourage oral language and build vocabulary.

Keep a "word log" for new words your child discovers.

Practice basic math facts by posing problems to solve mentally. Expect a quick response.

Involve your student in tasks at home that require math like cooking, measuring, building, etc.

Allow students to make a mistake and problem-solve a better solution.

Ask your child to communicate and defend their thinking on various topics.

MATH

Grade Level Fluencies
- Multi-digit division; Multi-digit decimal operation

Geometry
- Solve real-world math problems involving area, surface area, and volume

Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problem

The Number System
- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions
- Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers to the system of rational numbers

Expressions and Equations
- Extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions
- Reason about and solve-one variable equations and inequalities
- Use variable to represent and analyze quantitative relationships

Statistics and Probability
- Develop understanding of how a set of data varies by how it is collected
- Display and summarize numerical data in plots in a number line

SCIENCE

- Understand and apply scientific concepts, principles, theories related to the physical setting, Earth and space science, and the living environment
- Recognize the historical development of ideas in science: ecosystems and biomes; plant and animal characteristics; forces and motion; electricity; magnetism and electromagnetism; weather; the atmosphere; the Earth, moon and sun
- Recognize that objects have properties that can be observed, describe, and/or measured (states of mater, density, temperature, conductor, etc.)
- Use scientific inquiry to show understanding of the scientific process and concepts by making observations and testing explanations; analyze using both conventional and invented methods to provide insights into phenomena

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Begin to understand the concepts of global citizenship
- Examine different communities and their cultures such as: social organizations, traditions, languages, arts, religions, forms of government, and economic systems
- Introduce the concept of prejudice, discrimination, and human rights, as well as social action
- Apply the use of globes, maps, photographs, and satellite images to gain geographic information on world communities
- Identify how people try to adapt to and modify their environment to meet their needs
- Investigate available resources for each selected world community and how these resources are used to meet basic needs and wants
- Explore actions that are being taken to protect the environment in selected world communities and in their own community
- Examine how cultures exchange and transfer ideas, beliefs, technologies, goods
- Examine the type of government found in each selected world community and compare and contrast it with the United States government, as well as other types of governments found in world communities

ART

- Use Elements and Principles of Art & Design to communication meanings and ideas
- Use various materials/tools, including digital technology, to promote creativity
- Analyze, reflect, discuss, and interpret artwork, and identify artist inferences
- Research and discuss a variety of artworks from diverse cultures throughout time

MUSIC

- Sing alone and with others using steps, skips, repeated notes
- Listen to music and write descriptions of musical elements
- Compose simple melodies, rhythms and multiple part songs
- Identify music styles including: American folk, Blues/Jazz, Rock 'n' Roll
- Identify the main components of musicals including: composer, lyricist, scenery, choreographer, characters, costumes

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Perform basic motor and manipulative skills
- Attain competency in a variety of physical activities
- Demonstrate safe, responsible, personal, and social behavior