

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic feel.

Welcome To Third Grade!

(What Will My Student Learn This Year?)

What Will My Child Learn in 3rd Grade Math?

- ▶ Third grade mathematics is exciting!
- ▶ There are some new concepts for students, and we will develop a deeper understanding of some concepts learned in second grade.
- ▶ This year, your student will:
 - ▶ develop fluency with basic facts in all four operations and solve word problems with those skills in real-world context.
 - ▶ learn what fractions are, show them on various models, and compare them.
 - ▶ learn how to measure length, weight, capacity, and elapsed time with customary units and solve problems relating to those units of measurement.
 - ▶ examine and describe geometric shapes by attribute and discuss the roles of those shapes in everyday life.

What Will Math Class Look Like?

- ▶ 3rd grade math is more than just memorizing facts and practicing problem sets.
- ▶ Understanding and Discussing mathematical ideas is a key component of 3rd grade mathematics.
- ▶ Students show understanding not simply by listening to their teacher explain, but by explaining math effectively themselves.

The Importance of Making Mistakes

- ▶ Mistakes play an important role in mathematical discourse and are opportunities for learning.
- ▶ Only by recognizing that mistakes are a tool can students feel safe to share their thinking, even if it is flawed.
- ▶ Fear of making mistakes can take the fun out of math.



“Take chances, make mistakes, and get messy!”

Growth Mindset in Mathematics

- ▶ What is the goal of a math lesson? *To get the right answer? To memorize a fact? To get as many problems done as possible?* Often, the answer alone does not show understanding without further explanation.
- ▶ True understanding comes from an open approach to mathematics where the many paths to the solution are where understanding takes place, not just in the answer itself.
- ▶ If a student has a good foundation for a concept or skill, but she has not been able to find the solution, she has not failed the task. She has not attained mastery *yet*. The connections that student has made so far are still part of her path to greater understanding.

What about the End Of Grade Test?

- ▶ Third grade is a very important year for student accountability. This is the first year in which students take the End Of Grade tests (EOGs).
- ▶ The goal of the EOGs in each subject is to assess how well the student has mastered the concepts taught in that subject over the course of the year. Students will learn these concepts from regular classroom instruction and discussion, not from narrowly focused test preparation.
- ▶ Refer to [this article](#) from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to learn more about the purpose of the EOGs and how preparing students to be mathematical thinkers will benefit them.