

# Welcome to Third Grade 2016-2017!

In preparation for the upcoming school year, we have prepared a list of skills your child should continue to work on and practice prior to entering third grade.

## Expectations in Language Arts for Incoming Third Graders

Students entering third grade at Marrero Academy **will be expected to:**

### **Read fluently.**

Decoding is the ability to use patterns to figure out words and decipher their separate sounds. **Fluency is the ability to read quickly and accurately**, a skill that many third graders must hone to tackle more demanding and exciting novels, nonfiction books, poems, magazines, websites, and more. Third graders need to be able to identify and know the meaning of most **common prefixes** (e.g. *dis-* in *disagree*; *re-* in *rebuild*; *un-* in *unfriendly*) and **simple suffixes** (e.g. *-able* in *agreeable* or *-less* in *homeless*).

### **Read and comprehend by citing evidence.**

“**Read like a detective**,” is how David Coleman, a principal architect of the Common Core, explains the role of evidence in reading. Hunting for evidence means your child must find — and literally point to — **answers to questions in text and pictures**. To answer a question, students must literally scan a passage or flip through the pages of a book or novel and find the words — or the picture — to point out the answer.

### **When reading Non-Fiction, your child should be able to:**

- Ask and answer questions about the **five W's — who, what, when, where, and why** — to show both understanding and an ability to find answers in a book's text or illustrations. Answers must be written in complete sentences;
- Identify and retell the **main topic**, and then name **key details** and explain how those details support the main idea;
- Explain how **specific images** — like a **diagram** of the parts of a flower — **contribute information to what they're reading**;

### **When reading Non-Fiction, your child should be able to:**

- Ask and answer questions about **character traits, setting, and plot** – to show both understanding and an ability to find answers in a book's text and illustrations. Answers must be in a complete sentences;
- Retell and explain the **important events** of a story;
- Explain how **illustrations** help them to understand the events;

### **In Grammar, your child should be able to:**

- Identify and define **nouns, action verbs, and adjectives**.
- Write in complete sentences using correct **capitalization and ending punctuation**.
- Write simple paragraphs consisting of topic sentences, supporting details and a sense of closure.

**All of these skills are crucial** for a student's success in third grade because students will be required to write short answers and/or paragraphs on each reading test (and other subject area tests). Points will be deducted if the above skills are not evident (ex. simple paragraphs, complete sentences, correct capitalization, punctuation, citing evidence, etc.)

## Mathematics Expectations for Incoming Third Graders

Students entering third grade at Marrero Academy will be expected to:

- Solve **multi-step word problems** using addition and subtraction.
- Compare two **three digit numbers** using **greater than (>), less than (<), and equal to (=) symbols** and understand these concepts using a number line.
- Fluently add and subtract within 20. (Fluently means quickly and accurately knowing/memorizing facts **without counting on their fingers, using tally marks or applying any other strategy**).
- Fluently solve multiplication facts for 0 through 12. (Fluently means quickly and accurately knowing/memorizing facts **without counting on their fingers, using tally marks or applying any other strategy**).
- Use place value understanding to **add and subtract three digit numbers**.
- Measure and estimate length in **inches, feet, centimeters, and meters**.
- Tell and write time **to the nearest minute** on both a digital and analog clock.
- Understand the relationship between multiplication and division. Example:  $2 \times 7 = 14$  and  $14 \div 7 = 2$ .

These skills are crucial for a student's success in third grade. These skills are **foundational skills** that **should be mastered prior to entering third grade** because they are extended in the third grade curriculum. If a student has mastered these skills before entering third grade, they will have a much easier time mastering other third grade skills.

In addition, a part of each student's **math participation grade** will be based on timed **weekly fluency and/or skill drills in the expectations listed above** (addition, subtraction, multiplication, comparing numbers, time, measurement, etc. throughout the year. Fluency in division will be assessed later in the year.