

# **THIRD GRADE BENCHMARKS**

Third grade students are learning about the factors influencing their world. Their awareness of their unique gifts and talents grow as they participate in class and school activities. As responsible citizens and self-aware individuals, third graders are increasingly independent academically and socially. As Catholic learners third graders expand their knowledge of their role in their faith community.

## **RELIGION**

### **CREED**

Students will:

- demonstrate an understanding that Jesus, God's Son, is both human and divine
- identify the Apostles Creed as summary of their Catholic faith
- learn the four marks of the Church
- name the pope, bishop, and pastor and describe their role in the Church

### **SCRIPTURE**

Students will:

- demonstrate that the Bible is divided into two main sections: the Old Testament and New Testament
- describe the Old Testament as the story of God's faithful relationship with His chosen people, the Jews
- describe the Gospels as the story of Jesus and His disciples who show them how to love God and others
- know and simply describe a parable

### **PRAYER/WORSHIP**

Students will:

- learn about the seven sacraments
- know the difference between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist
- name and simply describe the major seasons of the Liturgical Year
- give examples of how to actively participate in the celebration of the Eucharist
- learn about the Rosary

### **CHRISTIAN LIVING**

Students will:

- describe the mission of Jesus as bringing about the Kingdom of God
- describe the qualities of a saint
- identify and become familiar with ways to serve the faith community (e.g. altar servers)
- recognize that each individual has a vocation to serve God and the Church in a special way

# MATH

## **Operations and Algebraic Thinking**

Students will:

- represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division
- understand properties of multiplication and the relationship between multiplication and division
- multiply and divide within 100
- solve problems involving the four operations and identify and explain patterns in arithmetic

## **Number and Operations in Base Ten**

Students will:

- use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic

## **Number and Operations – Fractions**

Students will:

- develop understanding of fractions as numbers

## **Measurement and Data**

Students will:

- solve problems involving measurement and estimation of intervals of time, liquid volumes, and masses of objects
- represent and interpret data
- understand the concept of area and relate area to multiplication and to addition
- recognize perimeter as an attribute of plane figures and distinguish between linear and area measures

## **Measurement and Data**

Students will:

- reason with shapes and their attributes

# LANGUAGE ARTS

## READING

### **Word Analysis, Spelling, Fluency, and Systemic Vocabulary Development**

Students will:

- know and use complex word families when reading to decode unfamiliar words
- decode regular multi-syllabic words
- read aloud narrative and expository text fluently and accurately and with appropriate pacing, intonation, and expression
- use knowledge of antonym, synonyms, homophones and homographs to determine the meaning of words
- use sentence and word context to find the meaning of unknown words
- use a dictionary to learn the meaning and other features of unknown words
- use knowledge of prefixes and suffixes to determine meaning of words

### **Comprehension, Literary Response and Analysis**

Students will:

- use appropriate grade level literary terms
- use titles, table of contents, chapter headings, glossaries, and indexes to locate information in a text
- recall major points in the text and make and modify predictions about forthcoming information
- distinguish the main idea and supporting details in expository text
- make and explain inferences, recognize cause and effect, and compare and contrast
- distinguish important and unimportant information
- draw conclusions or generalizations and support with evidence from text
- distinguish fact and opinion
- extract appropriate and significant information from the text, including problems and solutions
- follow simple multiple-step written instructions
- distinguish forms of literature and comprehend basic plots of classic fairy tales, myths, folktales, legends, and fables from around the world
- determine what characters are like by what they say or do and by how the author or illustrator portrays them
- determine the underlying theme or author's message in fiction and nonfiction text
- determine the author's purpose, recognize the similarities of sounds in words and rhythmic patterns in a selection
- identify the speaker or narrator in a selection

## GRAMMAR

Students will:

- use grade level sentence complexity and variety (combined sentences and compound sentences)
- recognize and use the correct punctuation for various sentence types
- identify nouns (common, proper, subject, object, singular, plural, irregular plural, and singular possessive)
- distinguish between noun and pronoun
- know abbreviations of proper nouns(months, days, titles, streets, and states)
- write combined sentences with subjects, objects, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs
- utilized action, helping linking, and irregular verbs, and verb tenses
- recognize contractions
- properly use adjective that tell what kind, how many, and compare
- properly use adverbs that tell how, when, and where
- correctly write book titles
- use synonyms and antonyms
- identify homophones and homographs

## **WRITING**

Students will:

- demonstrate legibility in cursive writing
- organize facts utilizing an outline format, relating examples and details to maintain a consistent focus
- utilize an outline to write a six to eight sentence paragraph that includes a topic sentence four example/details sentences, and a summary sentence
- write complete sentences following the conventions of correct grammar, capitalization and punctuation
- use grade level vocabulary and spelling in writing
- proofread and revise a letter

# SCIENCE

Students will:

- understand how plant structures serve different functions in growth, survival, and reproduction
- identify examples of diverse life forms in different environments
- understand how living things cause beneficial or detrimental changes in the environment
- know that Earth is one of several planets that orbit the Sun and that the moon orbits Earth
- differentiate evidence from opinion and know that scientists do not rely on conclusions unless they are back by confirmed observations
- understand that matter has three forms: solid, liquid, and gas
- understand matter changes physical form when heat is applied or removed
- use numerical data in describing objects, events, and measurements
- know all matter is made of small particles called atoms
- identify the different sections of the Periodic Table: atomic number, element symbol, element name, metals, metalloids, and nonmetals
- collect data in an investigation and analyze those data to develop a logical conclusion

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Students will:

- identify geographical features in their local region (e.g., mountains, valleys, hills, coastal areas, lakes and rivers)
- discuss how landforms can influence people's lives and the local economy
- trace the ways in which people have used the resources of the local region and modified the physical environment (e.g. dam construction)
- understand the different types of communities (e.g., rural, suburb, and urban)
- learn the difference between renewable and nonrenewable resources
- discuss what it means to be a good steward of the earth
- learn about the nation's first communities, their way of life and traditions
- identify the changes caused by European settlements
- understand the purpose for bringing the first Africans to Jamestown
- describe the events that led to the Boston Tea Party
- discuss how the country grew as people moved West
- describe the Lewis and Clark expedition
- understand why immigrants came to America and the hardships they faced
- utilize map skills, including creating a map, legend and compass rose
- learn to use a compass in an outdoor setting
- learn to graph data on a bar graph and create their own surveys to graph
- learn the use of timelines
- understand hemispheres

# ART

## **ARTISTIC PERCEPTION**

Students will:

- perceive and describe rhythm and movement in works of art and in the environment
- describe how artists use tints and shades in painting and describe how foreground, middle ground, and background are used to create the illusion of space
- identify and describe elements of art in works of art, emphasizing line, color, shape/form, texture, space, and value

## **CREATIVE EXPRESSION**

Students will:

- paint or draw a landscape, seascape, or cityscape that shows the illusion of space
- create a work of art based on the observation of objects and scenes in daily life, emphasizing value changes

## **HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT**

Students will:

- compare and describe various works of art that have a similar theme and were created at different time periods

## **AESTHETIC VALUING**

Students will:

- compare and contrast selected works of art and describe them, using appropriate vocabulary of art
- identify successful and less successful compositional and expressive qualities of their own works of art and describe what might be done to improve them
- select an artist's work and, using appropriate vocabulary of art, explain its successful compositional and communicative qualities

## **CONNECTION, RELATIONSHIPS, AND APPLICATIONS**

Students will:

- describe how artists (e.g., architects, book illustrators, muralists, industrial designers) have affected people's lives

# MUSIC

Students will:

- read and write simple melodic and rhythm patterns
- listen to, analyze and describe music in terms of form
- develop ability to hear short musical examples and accurately match them to written symbols
- play songs on the recorder with increasing accuracy, a varied repertoire of music, alone and with others
- play songs on the recorder from memory, and songs from diverse cultures
- play songs of increasing complexity on the recorder
- name and talk about differences in tempo and dynamics in contrasting musical selections

# **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

## **MOVEMENT SKILLS AND PATTERNS**

Students will:

- chase, flee, and move away from others in a constantly changing environment
- jump continuously a forward-turning rope and a backward-turning rope
- catch, while traveling, an object thrown by a stationary partner
- roll a ball for accuracy toward a target
- throw a ball, using the overhand movement pattern with increasing accuracy
- throw and catch an object with a partner
- strike a ball continuously upward, using racket
- hand-dribble a ball continuously while moving around obstacles
- perform a folk dance

## **PHYSICAL FITNESS AND HEALTH**

Students will:

- demonstrate warm-up exercises
- participate in continuous moderate to vigorous physical activities that require sustained movement of the large-muscle groups to increase breathing and heart rate
- hold for an increasing period of time basic stretches for hips, shoulders, hamstrings, quadriceps, triceps, biceps, back, and neck

## **SOCIAL DEVELOPEMENT**

Students will:

- use appropriate cues for movement and positive words of encouragement while coaching others in physical activities
- demonstrate respect for individual differences in physical abilities
- work in pairs or small groups to achieve an agreed-upon goal

## **COMPUTER**

Students will:

- learn more in-depth features of the word processing program
- save to their own folder
- get an introduction to the workings and possibilities of garage band software
- learn to use templates and customize them to meet the needs of their project
- write journal entries
- continue building their typing skills and words per minute speed
- learn to export their work