

The Vanguard School

New Student Placement Test – Study Guide

Testing for Grade:

3

Reading/Literacy Expectations to Start Third Grade

- Demonstrate successful decoding of increasingly difficult words: blend/sound out unfamiliar words and then say them “the fast way”
- Demonstrate independent reading skills (self-guided reading of passages)
- Orally read with accuracy and fluency to 100 words per minute
- Demonstrate increasingly higher-level comprehension skills such as recalling details from text

		Test Administered in Jan – Mar of Second Grade	Test Administered in Apr – May of Second Grade	Test Administered After Completion of Second Grade
ASSESSED	Oral Fluency	Read two passages, completing 87 words in less than three minutes each (<i>see practice passage</i>)	Read two passages, completing 87 words in less than 2.5 minutes each (<i>see practice passage</i>)	Read two passages, completing 87 words in less than two minutes each (<i>see practice passage</i>)
	Early Literacy Indicators	Read nonsense words, completing 43 or more correct sounds and 8 whole words in one minute	Read nonsense words, completing 43 or more correct sounds and 8 whole words in one minute	Read nonsense words, completing 58 or more correct sounds and 13 whole words in one minute

Math Expectations to Start Third Grade

- Compare and order whole numbers
- Count by 3s, 4s, and 25s
- Add and subtract 3-digit numbers (with regrouping)
- Write and solve number sentences for multiplication and division fact problems
- Write a fraction to show part of a set
- Demonstrate mastery of clock time to the quarter hour and minute; Fahrenheit and Celsius scale temperature; elapsed time, and measuring length, weight, and size using common units

ASSESSED	Subtraction Facts	Complete 40 subtraction math facts in under ten minutes
	Geometry	Identify plane shapes (rhombus, pentagon, hexagon, trapezoid, parallelogram)
	Measurement	Understand basic units of measurement (money, time, length, weight) Tell time to the nearest half hour and quarter hour
	Computation	Correctly solve addition and subtraction problems up to 2 digits (with regrouping) Add using three addends
	Story Problems	Correctly solve story problems in addition and subtraction
	Graphs	Gather and use information from a number line (no negative numbers) Gather and use information from bar graphs and pictographs
	Number Systems	Recognize, order, and compare 2-digit and 3-digit numbers
	Fractions	Identify parts of a set (<i>What fraction of the squares are shaded?</i>)

Writing Expectations to Start Third Grade

- Plan and compose at least four complete sentences to a narrative, informative, or persuasive prompt.

“I can’t figure this one out,” Maria said, “and I have to finish my report today. I don’t think I’m a very good investigator.” She shook her head and looked back at her computer screen.

Bertha asked, “Can you tell me what you’re writing?”

“Sure,” Maria said. “Somebody told us that a large oil company is breaking the law. The person said that the company is taking water from a creek that runs next to the company’s land. The company is supposed to take water from deep

Just as Smiling Sam was ready to bury his helmet in Andrew’s chest, Andrew put his head down and charged. KA-SPLAT. A terrible sound, almost like a clap of thunder, echoed through the stands as the players hit head-on. Smiling Sam flew backwards into two of his own players. He knocked them about five yards back. He was knocked out. His helmet was cracked. And two of his teeth were loose.

Andrew ran forward. Two more Wildcats tried to tackle him. They bounced off. He ran down

The man became angry. “Did you say Columbus?” The man pointed to the ship at the dock. “That ship belongs to Columbus. Columbus is a crazy person.”

The man went into his shack. Tom and Eric followed. On the walls were many maps, but they did not look like any maps that Tom and Eric had ever seen.

The man touched a spot on the largest map. “We are here in Spain. Columbus plans to sail his ships off the end of the world. He says that