

3rd Grade Reading Standards for Parents and Teachers



What are the 3rd Grade Reading Standards?

The 3rd Grade Reading Standards are concise, written descriptions of what students are expected to know and be able to do by the end of 3rd grade. By the end of 3rd grade, students are expected to be able to read independently. This is the year that students begin to transition from *learning to read* to *reading to learn*. Students also need strong reading skills to learn other school subjects, such as science, history, writing, and even math.

All 3rd grade students take Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) English Language Arts test at the end of the school year. The reading portion of the assessment measures the following standards:

Key Ideas and Details:

- Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
- Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.
- Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

Craft and Structure:

- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.
- Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.
- Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas:

- Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).
- Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series).

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity:

- By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry, at the high end of the grades 2-3 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Source: <http://www.mdek12.org/ESE/links/college-and-career-readiness-standards>