



3C Syllabus

2016-2017



Welcome to third grade! Please note the following information in the syllabus to understand what your son or daughter will learn and experience this year in third grade. We will work together to make the year a success! Email is our preferred method of communication. Feel free to email either of us at: michelle.burkle@cojowa.edu.co and Daniela.ramirez@cojowa.edu.co

Our classroom website is also an excellent resource: <http://cojowa3c.weebly.com/>

ACADEMICS

Language Arts

At COJOWA, students learn to read, write and spell within a structure known as balanced literacy. Students spend time each day reading and writing independently in order to become proficient readers and writers! All language arts instruction is built around Common Core standards.

Reading

Lucy Calkins' Reading Units of Study will be our guide for teaching reading. Students will read a variety of genres and work to read more books more independently throughout the school year. In third grade, we guide students to transition into more chapter books as well as reading to learn instead to learning to read!

Writing

Lucy Calkins' Writing Units of Study will be our guide for teaching writing. Students will practice writing narrative, informational, and persuasive texts. They will move through the writing process as the pre-write, draft, edit, publish and eventually celebrate and share their pieces of writing.

Spelling and Grammar

Through a program called Daily Language Instruction (DLI), students will daily practice grammar and spelling. Every Friday, students will have a short grammar assessment and spelling test on the week's spelling words. There will be some spelling instruction in class, but spelling is also practiced at home weekly.

Math

Students will continue to work with the Everyday Math program to build on math skills from second grade. Third grade math skills will include more advanced addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, measurement, place value up to millions, an introduction to decimals, geometry, fractions, and probability. Students are expected to demonstrate fluency with addition and subtraction. They will start to focus on multiplication fluency after first trimester.

Science

Science instruction is developed using the Next Generation Science Standards. We will explore a variety of science topics including weather and climate, life in the world's ecosystems, and forces and physical interactions. Our year in science will culminate with our annual science fair in June!

Social Studies

Students will be studying a variety of topics including our community, civics, the economy, and history. We will use the Social Studies Alive! program to guide our learning.

Second Step

We use a school-wide curriculum called Second Step to teach and discuss the positive social skills of empathy, anger management, impulse control, and problem solving. Second Step serves as a complement to our daily work with REACHES.



Assessments

We use a variety of informal and formal assessments each week and throughout each trimester to ensure each student is mastering 3rd grade learning objectives.

Students will also be taking the NWEA and a DRA, which are both formal assessments that help focus instruction in the areas of language arts and math.

Grades

Students will receive grades in line with the COJOWA grading scale.

A (90-100) Student consistently and independently meets learning objectives.

B (80-89) Student meets the learning objectives.

C (70-79) Student meets minimal learning objectives.

F (0-69) Student does not meet learning objectives.

Grades will consist of a combination of formative assessments, summative assessments, projects, and classroom assignments.

Trimester Dates 2016-2017:

Trimester 1:
August 9- November 18

Trimester 2:
November 21- March 10

Trimester 3:
March 13- June 14

Homework

Students record their homework in their agenda at the beginning of each day. Homework will largely consist of spelling practice, reading responses, math Homelinks, and practice on online platforms, such as IXL and Reflex Math.

In addition to homework, students should build positive reading habits by reading 20 minutes reading every night. Reading may be done in English or Spanish. The reading log will be an important tool for students as they strengthen reading habits. The reading log should be used both at school and at home.

All homework grades will be reflected in their "Study Habits" grade on Phidias. If a student is unable to complete the homework because of time or content, please email or write a note to let me know.

Grading

Students will become accustomed to seeing letter grades (A-F), percentages, as well as numbers (1-4). Not all work done in class will be graded, but students will have daily opportunities to reflect on the quality of their work.

Students will take home graded work in their home folders. Looking at their completed work as well as Phidias will help to maintain a well-rounded perspective on students' performance.

CLASSWIDE BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

A COJOWA Eagle REACHES to be their very best. Third graders are expected to show *Responsibility, Empathy, Assertion, Cooperation, Honesty, Excellence, and Self-Control* in and out of the classroom.

If they are unable to do this, they will receive warnings with the class. If the behavior persists, the student may receive logical consequences. If negative behavior is persistent or severe, Mr. Glab may get involved to help students reflect.

Positive behavior will be recognized verbally and also using REACHES tickets and REACHES bracelets.

Class Dojo will also be used daily in class to give students feedback about their behavior (positive and negative).

Your child will receive a grade in behavior each trimester that you can access through Phidias. The behavior grade will be based on the COJOWA REACHES rubric.

