

Welcome to Third Grade

Third grade students at HSE participate in a variety of classes each week. Aside from the regular academic classes, they benefit from 2 hours each of art, music, PE and computer classes each week. All course work at HSE is aligned with the TEKS objectives in order to ensure overall academic success. The students have three different teachers who teach the primary academic subjects. These teachers are able to spend time focusing on their designated instruction area. Following is an explanation of the academic subjects for third grade students.

Math

In 3rd grade, students are required to begin taking the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) in both subjects of math and reading. In 3rd grade math, students spend 7 hours per week studying math where they are introduced to and/or expand upon a variety of new material covering



topics such as multiplication, division, rounding, fractions, probability, problem solving, patterns, geometry, time, measurement, and collecting and recording data. Through many hands-on activities, manipulatives, daily warm-ups, continual assessment, and practice, the 3rd grade proves to be a challenging, yet incredibly valuable year in the foundation of math skills.

Reading/Language Arts

During the 12 hours per week spent in Reading/Language Arts, we use a variety of resources to teach our students the necessary skills to succeed in reading, language arts and writing. We use the state issued texts along with the Rigby Guided Reading program, novels and more. Through the use of the Rigby Guided Reading Program, we are able to meet the individual needs of the student's reading level/ability. Reading novels as a class allows for an opportunity for cross-curricular instruction. Regardless of what the students are reading, the students are taught and encouraged to find text-to-text, text-to-self and text-to-world connections.

SCIENCE

The 3rd class uses McGraw Hill textbook to gather information and knowledge about the different Sciences. The book has



a compilation of experiments and hands-on activities to reinforce a variety of lessons and topics. For more complex experiments and Science projects, the class uses the AIMS (Activities Integrating Mathematics & Science) curriculum. This year, the 3rd grade class will conduct a mini Science Fair which in a classroom setting to prepare them for the mandatory, school wide science fair for students in 4th grade and higher.

SOCIAL STUDIES

With the use of the textbook and other resources, students are challenged to explore the world around them. The students learn about the different communities, people and culture, citizenship and the government.



Students are kept abreast of current events through weekly reports. The students do research and hands-on projects and reports on topics assigned to them.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

Maintaining a strong sense of character is strongly encouraged and reinforced at HSE. The students participate in a weekly class where they discuss many topics vital to their lifelong success. The Reader's Theater books are a favorite resource in this class. The students dramatize stories, analyze situations, give solutions to problems and apply what they learn in everyday life.

