

Third Grade 2020-2021 Curriculum and Grading Policy



PARENT RESOURCES

Arizona College and Career Ready Standards:

<https://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=12764>

DVUSD Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Department:

[https://www.dvusd.org/Domain/1545 DVUSD](https://www.dvusd.org/Domain/1545%20DVUSD)

Third Grade Curriculum Framework for Parents: <https://www.dvusd.org/Page/14325>

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM: HMH INTO READING

Parent Resource: <https://www.dvusd.org/Page/28315>

Deer Valley teachers use the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Into Reading program to guide kindergarten to fifth grade students. HMH Into Reading is differentiated by design to offer a balanced approach to literacy instruction, support teachers in developing a culture of learning and growth, and help all learners believe in the power of "I can." Into Reading provides a comprehensive library of trade books that serve as a connection to reading and writing instruction. The program is built upon culturally relevant and ethnically diverse text sets that build cross disciplinary knowledge and serve as a springboard for writing and discussion. Into Reading provides scaffolding to ensure students receive the initial support and practice that sets them on the best path to independence.

SPELLING CURRICULUM: INTO READING WORD SORTS

Deer Valley has transitioned from traditional spelling instruction to a word study approach. Using Into Reading word work activities, students develop knowledge of English spelling and learn how to examine words through active exploration using a hands-on manipulative approach.

During word study, students discover generalizations about spelling, instead of just memorizing spelling rules.

WRITING CURRICULUM: INTO READING WRITER'S WORKSHOP

The Into Reading writing program is a developmental program that teaches students weekly grammar lessons, the five-step writing process (Prewrite, Draft, Revise, Edit, and Publish), and the additional use of Thinking Maps to create structured, meaningful pieces of writing. Thinking Maps allow students to visualize and organize their thinking based on the fundamental thought process needed to complete the writing process. The writing genres that will be taught are narrative, informational text, poetry, and opinion.

MATH CURRICULUM: EUREKA MATH

Parent Resource: <https://www.dvusd.org/Page/39515>

Eureka Math is a rigorous program aligned to the ACCRS standards that upholds the balance between procedural fluency and conceptual understanding.

Topics:

Operations and Algebraic Thinking
Number and Operations in Base Ten
Measurement and Data
Geometry
Money
Fractions
Word Problems
Area/Perimeter

Upon return to school, Math newsletters/parent tips will be shared/sent home for each module. Math tests, quizzes, and math fluency (math facts) will take place every few weeks depending on the length of each unit. Math tests may consist of a pre-test, mid-test, and final test at the end of each unit. Until then you can access the newsletters for each module at the Parent Resource website link above.

SCIENCE

Parent Resource: <https://www.dvusd.org/Page/28328>

A combination of materials has been curated to support the curriculum for our third grade learners including: Mystery Science, Picture Perfect and some Open Education Resources. The following units will be covered: light and sound, forces and motion, four habitats, and life cycles. In addition, we will explore areas of the inquiry process, life science, physical science, and Earth science.

- Use the scientific inquiry process.
- Identify and compare the basic structures, life cycles and habitats of plants and animals.
- Classify objects and materials by their observable properties.
- Demonstrate the various ways that objects can move.
- Identify the basic properties of Earth materials, natural resources and conservation methods.
- Identify objects in the sky and weather patterns.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Parent Resource: <https://www.dvusd.org/Domain/5393>

Students will be learning about the following units of study:

- Describe past events, people, and places using maps, timelines and primary resource materials.
- Recognize the settlement and development of early civilizations • Identify world, national and Arizona symbols, monuments, customs and holidays.
- Identify examples of rights, responsibilities, and citizenship in stories past and present.
- Recognize basic economic principles.

ASSESSMENTS

DIBELS 8th Edition (Grades K-3)

All kindergarten through third grade DVUSD students are assessed using the DIBELS 8th Edition screener in August, December and May.

The Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) 8th Edition are a set of procedures and measures for assessing the acquisition of early literacy skills from K-8. They are designed to be short (one minute) fluency measures used to regularly monitor the development of early literacy and early reading skills.

DIBELS 8th Edition consists of six measures to function as indicators of phonemic awareness, alphabetic principle, accuracy and fluency with connected 5 text, and reading comprehension. DIBELS 8th Edition was designed for use in identifying children experiencing difficulty in acquisition of basic early literacy skills in order to provide support early and prevent the occurrence of later reading difficulties. For more information, click <https://dibels.uoregon.edu/docs/dibelsparentguide.pdf>.

DVUSD Mathematics and Reading Assessments: Math Inventory (MI)-

Math Inventory is a computer-adaptive, research-based assessment that measures students' readiness for instruction and tracks progress from Kindergarten through Algebra II and college and career readiness. **Math Inventory** is a 20- to 35-minute adaptive assessment that students take independently on a computer measured by a Quantile Level. Students will be taking this assessment throughout the year. At the beginning their score will be lower as it should increase as the year progresses.

THIRD GRADE TEST RETAKE POLICY

Parents may request in writing for their child to retake a test in which he or she has received a score of 69% or below. Our retake policy does NOT apply to quizzes and any district required testing. Tests only. Parents must request and notify the teacher no later than two weeks from the testing date. Test retakes will be done in class.

POWER SCHOOL ONLINE GRADING PROGRAM

Do you want instant access to your child's grades and current academic progress? Power School is an essential grading resource for parents and students.

Creating a Parent Account

1. Contact the office for your child's Power School "Access ID and Password" login information to create your account. Learn about creating a parent account here:

<https://www.dvUSD.org/Page/72762>

2. Visit the Power School login page to create your account here: <https://ps.dvUSD.org/public/>

GRADING AND REPORT CARDS



Parent Grading Resource:

<https://www.dvUSD.org/Domain/10003>

DVUSD K-6 grades use a 1-4 grade scale for reporting coursework and standards. Students who have not turned in work or learning evidence, will have the coursework denoted with an "M" missing or "I" incomplete.

With the 1-4 scale, **"3" is the target. Please note that a 4 does not equate with an A, a 3 with a B**, etc... as we have seen with traditional grading. This is absolutely an important distinction considering that a 3 is the goal.

K-6 Grading Scale

4 = Independently applies skills and concepts with greater depth and complexity.

3 = Demonstrates grade level proficiency independently.

2 = Demonstrates grade level proficiency with support.

1 = Demonstrates below grade level proficiency with support.

Report Cards

Report cards will be distributed quarterly after each grading period:

1st Quarter October 9th

2nd Quarter December 18th

3rd Quarter March 12th

4th Quarter May 20th

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences will be held in October and February

AzM2

Students will benefit from exposure to the online testing environment provided below. In addition, experience with multiple questions based on the Arizona Mathematics Standards will help put students at ease while taking the AzM2 test this spring (if testing is administered).

- [AzM2 Online Practice Test](#)