

Darlington Community School's Parents' Guide to Third Grade

Traits Exhibited by Many Seven- to Ten-Year Olds

All children develop differently but you may notice the following traits as your child attends Second, Third, or Fourth Grades.

- Persist longer at tasks and works until they complete a project.
- Can talk meaningfully about tomorrow and yesterday
- Are aware of others and are willing to share
- Desire acceptance from their peers
- Have defined preferences, such as choice of toys, clothes and television programs.
- Typically sleep about 10 hours daily.
- Need close friendship with a playmate
- Enjoy making things and is inventive. Concocting new things is a favorite activity.
- Tattling is a pronounced characteristic.
- Desire better skills performance and are interested in group games and activities
- Want everyone to obey stated rules and regulations
- Strongly identify with own gender and age group

This year your child will learn to:

Art

- Use materials purposefully and safely
- Understand color, texture, shape, balance, and line as elements of art
- Express self through art media
- Reflect on works of art in the world today and in history

Language Arts/Reading

- Use language to convey appropriate message
- Listen when others are speaking
- Contribute ideas to discussions
- Follow verbal directions
- Use story mapping to analyze text
- Read books for information and enjoyment
- Read with fluency and self-correct decoding errors using phonics and context
- Use picture clues, letter-sound relationships (phonics), high frequency words, context, and prior knowledge to read and understand texts
- Make predictions about a variety of texts
- Write stories, personal thoughts or react to reading
- Orally summarize fiction and non-fiction after reading
- Recognize and read 226 high frequency/sight words
- Recognize that words may have different contextual meanings
- Understand and use plurals, possessives and contractions
- Write complete sentences
- Identify naming and action parts of a sentence
- Spell high frequency words correctly
- Research topics of interest
- Use writing process to plan and create written work
- Increase written and spoken vocabulary
- Use appropriate beginning and ending punctuation

Mathematics

- Use problem-solving strategies
- Understand and communicate mathematical ideas (plus, minus, equals, less than, greater than, multiply, divide)
- Skip count by 2,3,4,5,10
- Add and subtract fractions with like denominators
- Determine perimeter and area
- Understand and use basic units and processes of measurement (rulers, thermometers, scales, clocks, volume measures, etc)
- Estimate measurements
- Predict mathematical outcomes
- Do subtraction problems requiring "borrowing"
- Do addition problems using "carrying"
- Understand and use graphs
- Work with money and decimals (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters)

- Recognize two- and three-dimensional figures
- Be able to manipulate geometric shapes
- Understand basic geometric principles
- Use coordinates to locate places on a map
- Understand and use fractions ($1/2$, $1/3$, $1/4$, $1/8$)
- Use language to explain problems and solutions
- Solve for unknowns

Music

- Sing with expression
- Sing a variety of melodies
- Sing using syllables (do, mi, fa, sol)
- Hear and duplicate rhythms
- Play melodies and rounds on classroom instruments (recorders)
- Hear and identify musical forms
- Recognize basic music symbols and draw them
- Create melodies in treble clef with proper note values
- Listen respectfully to others' performances
- Perform dances from other cultures
- Identify instrument families

Physical Education

- Use a variety of basic motor movements in kickball, soccer, basketball, and floor hockey
- Learn rules of kickball, soccer, basketball, and floor hockey
- Demonstrate eye-hand coordination
- Understand and display sportsmanship
- Use feedback to improve performance
- Understand the relationship between physical activity and good health
- Understand the social contributions of physical activity (respect, cooperation, teamwork)
- Engage in activities that increase respiration and heart rate
- Engage in activities that develop flexibility, muscular strength and endurance
- Demonstrate physical conditioning through standardized testing
- Demonstrate jump rope skills
- Be able to do endurance running
- Be able to juggle
- Apply safety procedures

Science

- Classify objects and substances using the senses
- Use simple science equipment
- Plan and conduct simple science experiments and communicate results
- Understand how technology is used in daily life and in people's careers
- Learn about rocks and soils
- Identify energy
- Learn how sound is made and its uses
- Learn about scientific sources and their uses

Social Studies

- Understand that people are alike and different in many ways
- Read and construct a timeline
- Label maps of continents and mid-western states
- Use latitude and longitude to find places on maps and globes
- Identify directions on a map
- Learn about democratic principles and historical documents
- Learn about famous Americans in history
- Understand the US is a multi-cultural society
- Understand that we depend upon workers who produce goods or services
- Learn about basic economic principles using Darlington government and commerce
- Learn the history of Darlington
- Learn how the community of Darlington is organized
- Know ways that people solve common problems by cooperating and working in groups
- Understand that there are other countries in the world
- Use maps and globes to locate settings of stories or discussions

Information and Technology

- Use computers to practice math and reading skills
- Use software to organize thoughts for written work
- Understand basic computer functions and terms
- Produce a word processing document (story)
- Search using the internet, encyclopedias, and other reference materials

- Search using the internet, encyclopedia and other reference materials
- Understand that information is organized in the library in a logical manner
- Choose appropriate library materials
- Care properly for library materials and equipment
- Learn to assess one's own progress and quality of work
- Work with a group to complete a project

Self-Directed Learning

- Follow school and classroom rules
- Use self-control
- Show respect for others
- Work to solve own problems
- Work cooperatively with others
- Work independently to a greater degree as the school year progresses
- Use time productively
- Make plans and organize before working
- Work quietly when directed
- Complete work in a timely manner
- Evaluate own work

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