Essential Standards

Quick Guide – Third Grade

This document outlines the essential standards for Third Grade English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies, which are foundational for future grades in each discipline.

Essential standards are explicitly taught, assessed more than once, and targeted for intervention if students have not yet reached proficiency. Assessments can be both formative and summative. Interventions are implemented within the classroom to support students who are not yet proficient.

All Idaho Content Standards are detailed in the Essential Standards Extended Guide.

ELA Essential Standards

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3.FR.PH.3a: Decode words when known affixes are added to a known word (e.g., visit/revisit, appear/disappear, lead/mislead, care/careful).
3.FR.PH.3c: Decode multisyllable words.
3.FR.PH.3d: Read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words (e.g., come, friend, today).
3.RC.TE.3: Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of grade-level texts, referring explicitly to textual evidence as the basis for the answers.
3.RC.RF.4: Read grade-level text with accuracy, automaticity, appropriate rate, and expression in successive readings to support comprehension.
3.RC.L.5a: Describe key details from stories (including folktales, fables, and tall tales) from diverse cultures and explain how they support the central lesson, moral, or theme.
3.RC.NF.6a: Describe key details from texts and explain how they support the central idea.
3.RC.NF.6d: Describe major structural differences between the organization of different informational texts (e.g., description, sequence, comparison, problem-solution, cause-effect).
3.VD.WB.1b: Determine the meaning of new words formed when known affixes are added to a known word (e.g., expensive/ inexpensive, lock/unlock, help/helpless, care/ careless).
3.VD.WB.1c: Use a known root word as a clue to the meaning of an unknown word with the same root (e.g., transport, portable).
3.W.RW.2: Write arguments that introduce the topic, express an opinion supported with facts, details, and reasons, and provide a concluding statement.
3.W.RW.3: Write informational texts that introduce the topic, develop the focus with facts and details, and provide a concluding statement.
3.W.RW.4: Write personal or fictional stories that recount an event or experience, include details to develop the characters or event(s), and provide a sense of closure.

ELA Essential Standards
3.ODC.OC.4: Report orally on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.
3.GC.GU.1d: Form and use regular and irregular plural nouns (e.g., fish, teeth).
3.GC.GU.1g: Produce, expand, and rearrange simple and compound sentences.
3.GC.M.2b: Commas and quotation marks in dialogue.
3.GC.M.3a: Use conventional spelling for high-frequency and other studied words and for adding suffixes to base words.

Math Essential Standards

Math Essential Standards
3.OA.A.3 Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems involving equal groups, arrays, and measurements by using visual and symbolic representations, with a symbol for an unknown number.
3.OA.D.8 Solve two-step word problems involving whole numbers using the four operations.
3.NBT.A.2 Fluently add and subtract whole numbers within 1,000 using understanding of place value and properties of operations.
3.NF.A.2a. Represent a unit fraction $\frac{1}{b}$ on a number line diagram by defining the interval from 0 to 1 as the whole and partitioning it into b equal parts. Recognize that each part has size $\frac{1}{b}$ and that the fraction $\frac{1}{b}$ is located $\frac{1}{b}$ of a whole unit from 0 on the number line.
3.NF.A.3 Explain equivalence of fractions and compare fractions by reasoning about their size, in limited cases.
3.MD.B.3 Draw a scaled picture graph and scaled bar graph to represent a data set with several categories. Solve one- and two-step “how many more” and “how many less” problems using information presented in scaled bar graphs.
3.MD.C.6. Measure areas by counting unit squares (square cm, square m, square in, square ft, and nonstandard units).
3.MD.C.7b Multiply side lengths to find areas of rectangles with whole-number side lengths in the context of solving real-world and mathematical problems and represent whole-number products as rectangular areas in mathematical reasoning.
3.MD.D.8 Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving perimeters of polygons, including finding the perimeter given the side lengths, finding an unknown side length, and exhibiting rectangles with the same perimeter and different areas or with the same area and different perimeters.

Science Essential Standards

Essential Standards
Physical Science

Essential Standards
3-PS-1.1 Plan and conduct an investigation to provide evidence of the effects of balanced and unbalanced forces on the motion of an object.
3-PS-1.2 Make observations and/or measurements of an object's motion to provide evidence that a pattern can be used to predict future motion.
3-PS-1.3 Ask questions to determine cause and effect relationships of static electricity or magnetic interactions between two objects not in contact with each other.
Life Science
3-LS-1.1 Develop models to demonstrate that living things, although they have unique and diverse life cycles, all have birth, growth, reproduction, and death in common.
3-LS-3.1 Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from parents and that variation of these traits exist in a group of similar organisms.
3-LS-3.2 Use evidence to support the explanation that traits can be influenced by the environment.
3-LS-3.3 Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.
Earth and Space Science
3-ESS-1.1 Represent data in tables and graphical displays to describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season.
3-ESS-1.2 Obtain and combine information to describe climates in different regions of the world.
3-ESS-2.1 Make a claim about the merit of a design solution that reduces the impacts of a weather-related hazard.

Social Studies Essential Standards

Social Studies Essential Standards
3.SS.1.1 Investigate your community's history and determine the chronological importance of local events.
3.SS.1.2 Analyze distinctive foods, clothing styles, and traditions of various cultural groups within the community, including but not limited to the five federally recognized tribes of Idaho.
3.SS.1.4 Describe how migration and immigration are continuous processes and how they are influenced by voluntary and involuntary movement of people.
3.SS.2.1 Develop an understanding of map reading by analyzing maps and globes using standard terms, including country, North Pole, Equator, Prime Meridian, hemisphere, region, latitude, South Pole, longitude, and time zones.
3.SS.3.3 Explain how land, natural resources, labor, trade, and/or technology affect economic activities in the local community.
3.SS.4.4 Explain how local government officials are chosen, e.g., election, or appointment.
3.SS.4.5 Describe services commonly and primarily provided by governments for the community.
3.SS.4.6 Identify local government officials.

Social Studies Essential Standards
3.SS.4.7 Identify ways children and adults can participate in their community and/or local governments.
3.SS.4.8 Explain that people in the United States share a national identity through patriotic symbols and holidays.
3.SS.5.2 Examine the contributions of various cultures from other parts of the world to the development of the community and how they make that community unique.

For Questions Contact

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