

Grade 3 English Language Arts Course of Study

Highland Local Schools

Overview

At Highland Local Schools, third grade English Language Arts instruction is guided by the [Ohio's Learning Standards](#) and designed to build strong readers, writers, and thinkers. Core instruction is driven by high-quality anchor texts selected through the *Open-Up Resources Bookworms* curriculum, ensuring rich, diverse literature that supports deep comprehension and meaningful engagement. These anchor texts are used intentionally to build students' background knowledge and develop academic vocabulary in context, helping learners make connections across content areas. Vocabulary instruction is explicit and woven into daily lessons, reinforcing word understanding and usage. Foundational literacy skills are further supported through morphology instruction using the Institute for Multi-Sensory Education (IMSE) Orton-Gillingham approach, with a focus on prefixes, suffixes, base words, and word patterns. This structured approach strengthens decoding, spelling, and vocabulary growth. Through these combined strategies, students become fluent, confident readers and effective communicators prepared for success across all disciplines.

Unit	Anchor Text
Life's Lessons	Roxie and the Hooligans by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
	Fudge-a-Mania by Judy Blume
Reaching Our Goals	And Then What Happened Paul Revere?
	Almost to Freedom by Nelson
	Lead us to Freedom Harriett Tubman
	Henry's Freedom Box
	Freedom River
Fight for What's Right	A Picture Book of Frederick Douglass by David Adler
	Susan B Anthony: Champion of Women's Rights by Helen Albee Monsell
Geology	Dirt by Steve Tomecek
	Minerals, Rocks, and Soil by Barbara Davis
	Energy Island
	The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind

	Earth and Me Series
Powerful Connections	Max Lucado Books <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You Are Special - If I Only Had a Green Nose - Best of All
	Because of Winn Dixie
Economics	Pancakes, Pancakes by Eric Carlise
	Aurthor's Pet Business
	The Can Man
	Lemonade War
Journey of Self-Discovery	Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane
Journey to the Past	Contest Between the Sun and Wind
	Seven Blind Mice
	Marina and the Beautiful Cockroach
	Bubuska Baba Yaga
	Elves and the Shoemaker
	Feathers in the Wind (Storyworks)
	Dragonfly Tale
	Legend of the Lady Slippers by Andrea Arroyo
	Shiloh
Personal Narrative: Patricia Polacco	Some Birthday
	Thunder Cake
	The Bee Tree
	The Keeping Quilt
	An A from Miss Keller
	Thank You Mr. Falker
	My Rotten Red-headed Older Brother

	Rotten Richie and the Ultimate Dare
	Mrs. Mack
Tall Tales	John Henry by Julius Lester
	Mike Fink by Steven Kellogg
	Pecos Bill by Steven Kellogg
	Johnny Appleseed by Steven Kellogg
	Paul Bunyon by Steven Kellogg
	Swamp Angel by Ann Isaacs
	American Tall Tales by Mary Pope Osboren
Opinion	I Wanna Iguana by Karen Kaufman
	Dear Mrs. LaRue by Mark Teague
Biography	Rosa by Nikki Giovanni
Actions and Consequences	One Hen by Katie Smith Milway
	Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain by Verna Aardema
	Pinduli by Janell Cannon

District and State Reading Assessments

In Grade 3, students engage in several assessments to support their reading development and meet state requirements. Throughout the year, they take the NWEA MAP Growth Reading assessment to monitor progress in key literacy skills aligned with Ohio's Learning Standards. This data helps teachers tailor instruction and provide targeted support. In addition, third grade students participate in the Ohio State Reading Assessment in both the fall and spring, as part of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. This state-mandated assessment measures reading proficiency and helps determine promotion to fourth grade. These tools work together to ensure students receive the support they need to become confident, successful readers.

Curriculum Materials, Instructional Methods and Resources

Ohio's English Language Arts Standards- Grade 3
 Institute for Multi-Sensory Education- Orton Gillingham and Morphology
 Anchor Texts - guided by Open Up Resources:Bookworms
 Scholastic Storyworks
 IXL Learning