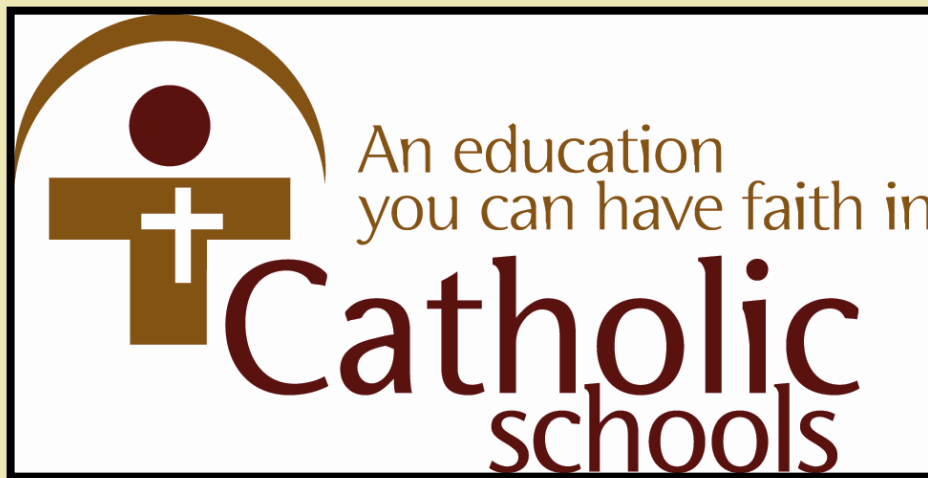


*Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Office for Schools*



**Curriculum Guide
Grade 3**

What is a Curriculum Guide?

Academic excellence is a hallmark of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. To assist schools in maintaining academic excellence, the archdiocese’s Office for Schools has developed curriculum guides for grades 4K-8th that identify what we want our students to know and be able to do at the end of each grade based on national, state, and local standards. With these guides as a template, each individual school develops a plan to clearly articulate what is taught, how it is taught, and how student achievement is assessed for each grade. This process of “fine tuning” results in a school specific standards-based curriculum that guides teaching and learning.

Characteristics of a 3rd Grader

- ✓ Shows a high level of energy and willingness to tackle almost anything
- ✓ Tends to be less cautious than younger children
- ✓ Begins to act more responsibly
- ✓ Begins to judge situations and considers what can happen to him/her
- ✓ Deepens understanding of forgiveness and healing
- ✓ Develops ability to feel empathy and compassion
- ✓ Displays enormous curiosity
- ✓ Shows increased self-confidence
- ✓ Develops close friendships
- ✓ Looks forward to school for social and academic reasons
- ✓ Wants to belong to a group
- ✓ Likes to read and write for pleasure and entertainment
- ✓ Needs supportive reinforcement from parents and other adults
- ✓ Experiences family rituals and activities
- ✓ Acquires computer skills and a developing understanding of technology
- ✓ Enjoys video games and other electronic entertainment

RELIGION

Creedal Church:

- Describes God the Father as Creator, God the Son as Savior, God the Holy Spirit as Helper and Advocate
- Describes Jesus' mission as proclaiming the Good News and bringing about the Kingdom of God
- Defines the words "creed" and "communion of saints"
- Identifies the pope and bishops as leaders of the Catholic Church
- Knows that we become members of the Church through Baptism
- Tells the stories of five saints and describes the qualities of saints
- Understands Mary as the Mother of Jesus, as our mother and the Church's model of faith and charity
- Names Jesus' twelve apostles
- Knows the difference between the Old and New Testament
- Understands in a simple way the Paschal Mystery and that Jesus died to save us from our sins
- Understands in a simple way that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead through the power of the Holy Spirit
- Knows the meaning of Ascension and that Jesus will come again to judge the living and the dead
- Recognizes that death will lead to union with God (heaven) or separation from God (hell)
- Knows that God created us to think, wonder and choose
- Knows that we are created in the image and likeness of God
- Understands that mothers and fathers share with God in creating new life

Liturgy/Sacraments:

- Names and describes the seven sacraments as signs of the Holy Spirit's work in us
- Explains the primary symbols of each of the seven sacraments
- Experiences Reconciliation as healing and forgiveness
- Recognizes essential importance of regular, active participation at Sunday Eucharist
- Knows the difference between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist
- Describes items found in a church worship space
- Explains the seasons of the Liturgical Year
- Exhibits a thorough understanding of the Easter Season
- Celebrates the Holy Days
- Experiences activities related to the Liturgical Seasons and Feasts
- Knows the significance of God as Abba, as addressed by Jesus
- Tells the stories of Jesus' birth, passion, death and resurrection
 - Tells the Emmaus Story (Luke 24:13-35)
 - Tells the story of Pentecost (Acts 1:1-4)

Moral Life:

- Names the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy
- Knows that the Eucharist brings forgiveness and calls us to service
- Tells the difference between temptation, accident and sin
- Describes how sin hurts the whole community
- Shows evidence of living as a virtuous disciple
- Describes what it means to be a peacemaker
- Shows evidence of acting as a peacemaker
- Gives examples of how to work for justice and peace
- Practices stewardship in parish, community and world
- Recognizes that the Gospel is the revelation of Christ's mercy
- Knows that when we confess our sins, God forgives us
- Describes receiving grace which helps restore what sin has damaged in us
- Learns how to respond to conflicts in a peaceful way
- Displays skills of conflict resolution
- Identifies ways to prevent prejudice and discrimination
- Articulates basic human rights and responsibilities
- Knows and lives the Two Great Commandments
- Articulates a simple meaning of each of the Ten Commandments and gives examples of how to follow them
 - Retells the story of Jesus Welcoming the Children (Mark 10:13-16)

- Can give an example of a parable from Scripture
- Retells the parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24)
- Can give an example of a miracle story from Scripture
- Retells the story of the Loaves and Fishes (John 6:1-14)
- Knows that God calls us to care for all creation
- Identifies people who can help in making good decisions
- Understands the value of friendships between brothers and sisters
- Knows that he/she can talk to someone when not feeling safe
- Identifies “private and special” body parts and touches which can make a person feel uncomfortable

Christian Prayer:

- Celebrates rituals and devotions
- Prays daily and knows that prayer is vital to Christian life
- Prays prayers of praise, thankfulness, contrition, petition
- Prays blessing prayers
- Prays the Psalms
- Prays the Lord’s Prayer, Hail Mary, The Apostles’ Creed, Act of Contrition, and the Rosary
- Memorizes the Hail Mary
- Knows that we pray with the help of the Holy Spirit
- Experiences that God’s creation can help us to pray
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LANGUAGE ARTS

Communicates orally:

- Identify and discuss criteria for effective oral presentations, including such factors as eye contact, projection, tone, volume, rate, and articulation
- Read aloud effectively from previously-read material
- Communicate instructions sequentially, using notes and/or a brief outline in a demonstrative and/or informative report
- Present fictional stories that recount events to small group
- Perform dramatic readings and presentations
- Distinguish between fact and opinion while speaking
- Volunteer information, ask and answer questions directly relevant to discussion
- Apply appropriate eye contact and non-verbal cueing while listening and discussing
- Ask and answer relevant questions to keep a discussion going
- Ask clarifying questions of peers/adults to gain further understanding of unfamiliar words and ideas
- Summarize key points of a discussion

Listens to and comprehends oral language:

- Identify and retell sequence of directions
- Identify key points of a story or discussion
- Listen to and retell key events in proper sequence from stories
- Predict outcomes while following sequence in plot and character development
- Listen to stories and answer factual questions relating to content
- Distinguish between fact and opinion while speaking
- Ask and answer factual and interpretive questions relating to prior knowledge
- Identify various styles and purposes of oral and written language
- Describe variations of American English that appear in various contexts
- Identify proper spellings and definitions using appropriate resources
- Identify prefixes, suffixes and root words
- Identify common figures of speech in various contexts

Communicates using information media and technology:

- Create a word-processed composition with graphics
- Retrieve a previously saved electronic file
- Identify oral/written techniques (phrasing, slogans, jingles) used in various forms of media for advertising
- Recognize elements of a news article

- Recognize elements of advertising messages and graphics
- Understand different techniques in radio and television media
- Prepare and perform school announcements
- Name and provide examples of messages for a specific target audiences
- Present a media work with effective sequencing, adding, and deleting information to achieve desired effects

Writes for various purpose:

- Communicate clear and meaningful thoughts through complete written sentences
- Compose pieces of technical writing with the appropriate structure, content and style (i.e. letter writing, sequential instructions, messages, thank you, etc.)
- Compose personal narratives including a simple sequence of events (beginning, middle and end)
- Apply written structures appropriate to genre in pieces of creative writing (poetry, fiction, plays, etc.)
- Apply writing strategies appropriate to a variety of situations
- Write using a variety of writing modalities
- Write for various audiences and purposes
- Identify prior knowledge, develop a plan, and formulate initial questions
- Identify, locate, and explore an appropriate source of information appropriate to inquiry
- Recognize, record, organize, and acknowledge information pertinent to a project
- Present results of inquiry orally and in writing with the use of appropriate visual aid

Plans, drafts, revises, edits and publishes:

- Identify the elements of the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, publishing)
- Produce a well developed effective response in an appropriate voice

Applies grammar and spelling skills:

- Understand and use nouns, verbs, and adjectives in sentences
- Apply subject-verb agreement principles in written work
- Capitalize sentence beginnings, proper nouns, days, months, cities, states and places
- Punctuate declarative, exclamatory, imperative and interrogative sentences, contractions, and lists
- Spell frequently used words correctly
- Distinguish statements, questions, exclamations, and commands using punctuation

READING

Uses decoding strategies effectively:

- Analyze word structure and apply decoding concepts: suffixes y, ous, ly, ful, ness, less, tion, and ment; prefixes re, un, dis; synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, contractions with "have"

Uses effective reading strategies to comprehend material:

- Demonstrate understanding of rereading and using context clues to recognize unfamiliar words
- Infer the meaning of unfamiliar words in phrases
- Demonstrate use of appropriate comprehension strategies to find meaning
- Read with fluency, accuracy, and expression
- Predict using maps and diagrams
- Predict and infer using headings, subtitles and captions
- Identify purpose for reading by previewing and asking questions
- Summarize and interpret main events sequentially
- Identify and summarize main idea and key points from literature and informational texts

Reads, interprets, and critically analyzes literature:

- Recognize and recall elements of story structure in order to reflect on meaning
- Identify story structure in various literary forms and relate reading to prior knowledge and experience
- Develop familiarity among a variety of genres/forms appropriate to age and reading level
- Connect different genres/forms to each other and to real-life experiences
- Connect elements of Catholic faith to real-life experiences
- Identify and explain difference between fiction and nonfiction
- Summarize key details of informational text

Reads to acquire information:

- Determine purpose for text
- Relate reading to prior knowledge and experiences
- Demonstrate understanding of human life experiences through: reading, reflection, and discussion of literary and non-literary texts
- Demonstrate an understanding of Catholic teachings when reflecting upon life's experiences and literary texts
- Select appropriate materials to read for discovery, appreciation, and enjoyment independently

MATH

Number Operations and Relationships:

- Identify place value to thousands
- Create and use a number line
- Compare whole numbers using appropriate symbols (greater than, less than, or equal) to 1000
- Compute addition and subtraction with money (decimals to hundredths place)
- Understand and compare fractional parts including equivalent fractions through models and manipulatives ($1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/5, 1/6$)
- Identify equivalent fractions in picture form
- Compute up to three-digit addition and subtraction with regrouping
- Use strategies to solve multiplication and division facts to 12
- Demonstrate the relationship between multiplication and addition
- Estimate sums to tens and hundreds and differences to ten
- Round two- and three-digit numbers to tens and hundreds
- Use mental math to find sums and differences of multiples of 10 and 100

Measurement:

- Estimate using appropriate unit of measure
- Measure length to nearest yard, half-inch, meter, centimeter
- Find perimeter using measurement and addition
- Use digital and analog clocks to read, write, and translate time to one minute intervals and notations of AM and PM
- Count, compare, make change, and solve problems using a collection of coins (up to one dollar) and one-dollar bills
- Compare temperatures using C and F scales

Probability and Statistics:

- Read circle, bar, and line graphs
- Create a simple graph to represent data
- Collect data using observations, surveys, and experiments
- Experiment to determine possible outcomes
- Determine fair and unfair games based on probability

Geometry:

- Identify trapezoids
- Identify plane and space figures and their relationships to each other
- Create symmetrical figures
- Understand and create congruent figures
- Identify concept of angles (right, greater than, less than)
- Identify parallel and intersecting lines
- Match simple shapes through use of slides

Algebraic Relationships:

- Identify and create patterns
- Use patterns to solve problems
- Determine what mathematical symbols are used to represent expressions and equations (greater than, less than, =, X, division)
- Solve multiple-step word problems (+, -)
- Locate and name coordinates of a point on a graph in first quadrant

SOCIAL STUDIES

ECONOMIC

Production/Consumption/Distribution:

- Distinguish between goods and services
- Identify factors such as climate, technology and job skills and their impact on production
- Identify the means of distribution of goods in a community

Exchange:

- Justify and explain the role of money, banking, and savings in everyday life

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Citizenship:

- Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens
- Understand patriotic identity

Laws:

- Explore citizen's role in creating local laws

Government:

- Identify the origins of a democratic system of government
- Describe the basic function of, and parts of our government

HISTORY

Time:

- Understand cause, effect, and sequence of events
- Compare own community's past and present with other communities
- Discuss various types of historical evidence (See Appendix)

People:

- Identify important people and their roles in history
- Explore the significance of immigrants to a community
- Explore the significance of American Indians in the development of communities

Events:

- Understand how conflicts affect communities
- Compare and contrast current events in local community and other communities

BEHAVIORIAL SCIENCE

Individual:

- Describe how individuals contribute to the community

Institutions:

- Explain the contributions family, school, church, and government have on a community

Society:

- Explain connection between local community, national, and world events
- Explain impact of world events on local community

GEOGRAPHY

Location:

- Locate continents and oceans on a map
- Describe geographic landforms
- Locate and identify state and physical features in a community
- Identify the exact location of geographic features

Map Skills:

- Identify intermediate directions
- Use a map grid

Regions:

- Compare and contrast communities

- Explain the impact of movement of people

Human Environment Interaction:

- Explain the use and conservation of natural resources

Place:

- Identify the cultures of a region

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS

Life and Dignity of the Human Person:

- Begins to develop skills for conflict resolution
- Identifies ways to prevent prejudice/discrimination at school and play
- Recognizes and respects the qualities of a dignified life

The Call to Family, Community, and Participation:

- Recognizes and discusses the value of the human family
- Identifies Jesus as a member of a community in addition to being part of a family
- Applies the teachings of Jesus to Community
- Is involved in service projects and identifies these with Christian community

The Rights and Responsibilities of the Human Person:

- Applies basic Christian attitudes and skills in solving arguments and conflicts
- Articulates basic human rights and responsibilities
- Prays the Prayer of St. Francis in order to be sustained in fighting injustice

Option for the Poor and the Vulnerable:

- Understands Jesus' teachings about serving others
- Practices behaviors that help others
- Uses special individual talents to assist those in need of help
- Can tell stories about what poor children and children who are not poor have in common

Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers:

- Shows respect for the value of all classmates work
- Can discuss the many different types of work roles and professions with respect
- Gives examples of how different kinds of work call forth different talents
- Demonstrates how all types of work contribute to the good of the whole

SCIENCE

EARTH SCIENCE

Space:

- Know that the Earth is part of a solar system consisting of a sun, several planets and their moons, asteroids, comets, and meteors
- Explain that gravity holds people and objects to the Earth's surface and is a force throughout the solar system
- Know that night and day are caused by the Earth's rotation on its axis
- Infer that the tilt of the Earth's axis in relation to the Sun causes the seasons
- Analyze that the planets rotate on their axis and revolve around the Sun
- Infer that spatial bodies are large and separated by vast distances

Earth's Structure/Composition:

- Discover that soil has properties
- Demonstrate that different soils hold different amounts of water
- Identify soil as one of the Earth's layers
- Observe fossil samples and understand how they are formed
- Describe that water is used in many ways
- Identify the major differences between fresh and ocean waters

Weather:

- Identify rain, snow, hail and sleet as forms of precipitation

- Understand that the Sun is the source of energy that drives the water cycle
- Know that air is a substance that surrounds us, takes up space, and moves around as wind
- Know that the Sun provides the light and heat necessary to maintain the temperature of the Earth
- Identify stratus, cumulus, and cirrus as the three main categories of clouds
- Understand the formation of a cloud and fog

Changes in the Earth:

- Explain that soil is made up of particles of stone and dead plant and animal material

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Matter:

- Identify how objects of the world have similarities and differences
- Discover that substances are soluble or insoluble in water

Forces/Motion and Energy:

- Infer that electrical appliances make life easier
- Identify the six simple machines
- Observe that simple machines can reduce the force needed to perform work
- Evaluate that simple machines can be combined in different ways to create complex machines

Electricity/Magnetism:

- Infer that electrical energy can be dangerous

LIFE SCIENCE

Animals:

- Classifications
 - Know different ways living things can be grouped
 - Identify that animals are vertebrates and invertebrates
- Cycles
 - Explain that an endangered organism is a kind of animal that is in danger of becoming extinct

Plants:

- Characteristics
 - Explain the importance of sunlight, water, air, and nutrients to the growth and survival of plants
 - Describe the function of roots, stems, leaves, and flowers
 - Identify the parts of a flower
 - Explain that vegetables are the root, stem, leaf, seed, or fruit of a plant

Life Cycles:

- Know that plants and animals progress through life cycles of birth, growth and development, reproduction, and death
- Compare/contrast life cycles for different organisms
- Explain that fruits develop from the flower of a plant

Environment:

- Habitats
 - Explain that animals can survive only in environments in which their needs can be met
 - Infer that an animal's habitat is the environment in which it lives
 - Explain that animals obtain the things they need from their habitats
- Adaptations
 - Observe how animals adapt to their habitats
 - Identify an extinct organism that no longer lives on Earth
 - Explain that certain plants and animals are either threatened, endangered, or extinct
 - Know that fossils can be compared to one another and to living organisms to observe their similarities and differences
- Interaction of Living Things
 - Know that changes in the environment can have an impact on different organisms