

## **Overview of Third Grade Curriculum**

**Language Arts, including English, Spelling, Handwriting and Reading: Bob Jones University Press:** During the third-grade year, students review all phonics rules, review and refine cursive writing formation, and continue to develop their creative writing skills. Writing projects will include, but not be limited to writing game instructions, writing a friendly letter, writing a persuasive essay, writing a make-believe story, writing a book report, creating a sound poem, developing a research report and writing a compare-contrast essay. Their spelling lists are built on a phonics base and include vocabulary development and sentence dictation. Memorization of poetry is included in the curriculum. Grammatical principles covered include writing in complete sentences, using correct punctuation and capitalization, writing friendly letters, recognition of simple nouns, subjects, verbs, and adjectives, word usage, forming plurals and common contractions, recognition of antonyms, homonyms, synonyms, and dictionary skills. Reading texts include classic literature, Bible stories, character-building stories, tales of fantasy, favorite fables, a historical novel, and a contemporary novel.

**Mathematics: Abeka Publications:** Math Curriculum is for students to understand math concepts to become lifelong problem solvers. It contains an integrated Christian content that cultivates a biblical worldview. Students develop problem-solving skills using manipulatives and methods that foster discussion and reflection.

- Addition and subtraction: addition and subtraction facts; place value; adding and subtracting two and three digits, and four and five digit numbers with and without regrouping; solving story problems; adding and subtracting fractions and decimals
- Multiplication: facts through ten; multiplying one-, two-, and three-digit numbers by one-digit number with and without regrouping
- Division: facts through ten; dividing one, two, three and four-digit numbers with and without remainders, finding averages
- Place value: reading and writing numerals through 1,000,000; identifying whole numbers; comparing and ordering whole numbers, identifying numbers in standard and expanded form; identifying Roman numerals
- Fractions and Decimals: reading, writing, and drawing fractions and mixed numbers; forming equivalent fractions, relating fractions to decimals
- Measurement: US customary and metric measurements to include, length, capacity, weight, temperature; finding area and perimeter
- Time and Calendars: analog and digital time to 1-minute intervals, elapsed time; read and write a calendar date in word and number form
- Money: identify the value of coins and bills; adding and subtracting coins and bills; making change, relating money to decimals
- Geometry: identify various types of lines and angles; congruent, plane, and symmetrical figures; identify slides, flips, and turns
- Probability and Statistics: identify, make and interpret graphs, and charts

**History and Geography: Bob Jones University Press:** The theme of third grade history and geography is **Our American Heritage**. In a biological format of this chronologically arranged introduction to American history, students are introduced to studies of Columbus, John Smith, Pocahontas, Miles Standish, Squanto, William Penn, Ben Franklin, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Daniel Boone, Noah Webster, John Greenleaf Whittier, Robert E. Lee, Abraham Lincoln, Clara Barton, U.S. Grant, Louisa May Alcott, Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, Laura Ingalls Wilder, and Billy Sunday. Studies in geography include

identifying continents and oceans of the world and an overview of the geography of the United States and the world.

**Science: Bob Jones University Pres:**

**Earth Science:** Earth: Minerals: crystals; properties; uses; precious metals: Rocks: formation of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks: Soil: formation; weathering; Space: Solar system: the inner planets; outer planets; asteroids and comets; meteors.

**Life Science; living things:** Birds: characteristics; tools for observation; identifying: Cells, tissues, and organs: living things; microscopes; cell structure; plant and animal tissue and organs: Plants: making and storing food; the green factories; helpful plants: Grouping animals: backbone and no backbone; warm-blooded and cold-blooded; plant-eating and animal eating:

**Human Body:** skin: layers; glands; fingerprints; dermis; care of skin, hair and nails

**Physical Science:** Work: forces; force x distance = work; power; people, horses engines, moving air, and moving water do work

**Energy:** Sound (ear): travels in waves; absorbed or reflected; through gas, liquid and solid; parts of the ear; hearing, pitch; loudness; quality

**Matter:** Mass and weight: defining: historic weights; ounces; grams; standard/ customary measure; metric system; springs balances

**Bible: Bob Jones University Press:** Although all of our curricula is taught from a Christian perspective, the systematic study of God's word is an essential element of the Christian school. Children learn how to study God's word and practically apply it to their daily lives.

**Also:**

**Art:** Students have an art class in addition to the art that is integrated into the daily program. Students learn about different techniques and about working with different media, as well as receiving an introduction to Art History. They are introduced to famous artists and see how Bible stories and concepts have been illustrated through the centuries with art.

**Chapel:** The entire elementary school joins together in the church chapel for a short service each Wednesday morning. This is a time of worship, prayer, and testimonies. Age appropriate bible studies are utilized in guiding elementary chapel services.

**Computer Introduction and Instruction:** Curriculum skillfully integrates classroom studies with computer skills. Students at all grade levels learn about keyboarding, desktop publishing, data base management, spreadsheets, multimedia presentations and all other components of the Virginia Standards of Learning in the area of technology.

**Library:** All elementary students have the opportunity to visit the school library each week for a literacy lesson. They are also able to borrow books on a weekly basis.

**Music:** In weekly music classes, students learn the fundamentals of rhythm and music theory.

**Physical Education:** Our physical education teacher helps the students develop large motor skills and knowledge of games with rules.