

Avon School

English Language Arts (Reading and Writing) Curriculum

Grade 3

Curriculum Overview

"The third-grade reading units support the crucial transition children make from learning to read to reading to learn. The opening unit, *Building a Reading Life*, launches students' lives as upper elementary school readers. Children ramp up their reading skills by immersing themselves in within-reach fiction books while working on word solving, vocabulary development, envisionment, and prediction. The second unit, *Reading to Learn: Grasping Main Ideas and Text Structures*, addresses essential skills for reading expository nonfiction, such as ascertaining main ideas, recognizing text infrastructure, comparing texts, and thinking critically, as well as the skills for reading narrative nonfiction, such as determining importance by using knowledge of story structure. The third unit, *Character Studies*, lures children into fiction books, teaching them to closely observe characters, make predictions, and sharpen their skills in interpretation. The final unit, *Research Clubs: Elephants, Penguins, and Frogs, Oh My!*, shows students how to turn to texts as their teachers. Children work in clubs to gather, synthesize, and organize information about animals, and then use this information to seek solutions to real-world problems."

-Units of Study for Teaching Reading, Grade 3

"The third-grade writing units of study support students to write for longer spans of time and in larger quantities. The opening unit, *Crafting True Stories*, extends students' work with personal narrative while engaging them more fully in the complete writing process, with increasing emphasis on drafting and revising their work. In the second unit, *The Art of Information Writing*, youngsters write chapter books that synthesize a wide variety of information and learn to section their topics into subtopics. They are supported in this challenging work because they are writing about topics on which they have firsthand, personal knowledge. *Changing the World: Persuasive Speeches, Petitions, and Editorials* rallies third-graders to use their newfound abilities to gather and organize information to persuade people about causes the children believe matter. The final unit in third grade, *Once Upon a Time: Adapting and Writing Fairy Tales*, uses familiar fairy tales to explore techniques of fiction writing such as writing in scenes, employing an omniscient narrator to orient readers, using story structure to create tension, and crafting figurative language to convey mood."

-Units of Study in Opinion, Information, and Narrative Writing, Grade 3

Reference: Calkins, Lucy. *Units of Study for Teaching Reading Bundle, Grades K-5: A Grade-by-Grade Workshop Curriculum*. New York: Teachers College Reading and Writing Project, Columbia University, 2015.

Reference: Calkins, Lucy. *Units of Study in Opinion, Information, and Narrative Writing Elementary Series Bundle, Grades K-5: A Workshop Curriculum*. New York: Teachers College Reading and Writing Project, Columbia University, 2013.

Reference: New Jersey Department of Education. *New Jersey Student Learning Standards*, 2016.

Reference: New Jersey Department of Education Division of Teaching and Learning. *Curricular Framework*, 2016.

Unit Title	Timeframe	New Jersey Student Learning Standards
Unit 1: Building a Reading Life	September - November / 8 Weeks	<u>W.AW.3.1</u> . <u>W.IW.3.2</u> . <u>W.NW.3.3</u> . <u>W.3.4</u> <u>L.RF.3.3</u> <u>LRF.3.4</u> <u>RL.CR.3.1</u> . <u>RL.CI.3.2</u> . <u>RL.IT.3.3</u> . <u>RL.TS.3.4</u> . <u>RL.PP.3.5</u> . <u>RL.MF.3.6</u> . <u>RL.3.10</u> <u>RL.CR.3.1</u> . <u>A.RI.CI.3.2</u> . <u>RI.PP.3.5</u> . <u>RI.3.10</u> <u>SL.3.1</u> <u>SL.3.2</u> <u>SL.3.4</u> <u>SL.3.6</u> <u>L.3.1</u> <u>L.3.2</u> <u>L.KL.3.1</u> <u>L.VL.3.2</u> <u>L.VI.3.3</u> <u>L.3.6</u> <u>L.WF.3.2</u> . <u>L.WF.3.3</u>
Unit 1: Crafting True Stories (Narratives)	September - November / 8 Weeks	<u>W.NW.3.3</u> . <u>W.3.4</u> <u>W.WP.3.4</u> . <u>W.SE.3.6</u> . <u>W.RW.3.7</u> . <u>SL.3.1</u> <u>SL.3.3</u> <u>SL.3.4</u> <u>SL.3.6</u> <u>L.3.1</u> <u>L.3.2</u> <u>L.KL.3.1</u> <u>L.VI.3.3</u> <u>L.3.6</u> <u>RL.CR.3.1</u> <u>RL.CI.3.2</u> <u>RL.IT.3.3</u> . <u>RL.3.4</u> <u>RL.TS.3.4</u> . <u>RL.MF.3.6</u> . <u>RFS.3.4</u> <u>L.WF.3.2</u> . <u>L.WF.3.3</u>
Unit 2: Reading to Learn: Grasping Main Ideas and Text Structures	November- January / 8 Weeks	<u>RL.CR.3.1</u> . <u>RI.CI.3.2</u> . <u>RI.IT.3.3</u> . <u>RI.3.4</u> . <u>RI.TS.3.4</u> . <u>RI.PP.3.5</u> . <u>RI.MF.3.6</u> . <u>RI.AA.3.7</u> . <u>RI.3.10</u> . <u>L.RF.3.3</u> . <u>L.RF.3.4</u> . <u>SL.3.1</u> <u>SL.3.2</u> <u>SL.3.4</u> <u>SL.3.6</u> <u>L.3.1</u> <u>L.3.2</u> <u>L.KL.3.1</u> <u>L.VL.3.2</u> <u>L.VI.3.3</u> <u>L.3.6</u> <u>L.WF.3.2</u> . <u>L.WF.3.3</u> <u>RL.CR.3.1</u> . <u>RL.CI.3.2</u> . <u>RL.IT.3.3</u> . <u>RL.TS.3.4</u> . <u>W.IW.3.2</u> . <u>W.NW.3.3</u> . <u>W.WR.3.5</u> . <u>W.SE.3.6</u> . <u>W.RW.3.7</u> .
Unit 2: The Art of Informational Writing	November - January / 8 Weeks	<u>W.IW.3.2</u> . <u>W.3.4</u> . <u>W.WP.3.4</u> . <u>W.SE.3.6</u> . <u>W.RW.3.7</u> . <u>RI.CI.3.2</u> . <u>RI.IT.3.3</u> . <u>RI.3.4</u> . <u>RI.TS.3.4</u> . <u>RI.AA.3.7</u> . <u>L.3.1</u> <u>L.3.2</u> . <u>L.KL.3.1</u> <u>L.3.6</u> . <u>SL.3.1</u> . <u>SL.3.3</u> . <u>SL.3.4</u> . <u>SL.3.6</u> <u>L.WF.3.2</u> . <u>L.WF.3.3</u> <u>RI.MF.3.6</u> .
Unit 3: Character Studies	February - March / 8 Weeks	<u>RL.CR.3.1</u> . <u>RL.CI.3.2</u> . <u>RL.3.4</u> . <u>RL.TS.3.4</u> . <u>RL.PP.3.5</u> . <u>RL.MF.3.6</u> . <u>RL.3.8</u> . <u>RL.CT.3.8</u> . <u>RL.3.10</u> . <u>L.RF.3.3</u> . <u>L.RF.3.4</u> . <u>W.NW.3.3</u> . <u>SL.3.1</u> . <u>SL.3.2</u> . <u>SL.3.3</u> . <u>SL.3.4</u> . <u>SL.3.5</u> . <u>SL.3.6</u> . <u>L.WF.3.2</u> . <u>L.WF.3.3</u>
Unit 3: Persuasive Speeches, Petitions & Editorials	February - March / 8 Weeks	<u>RL.IT.3.3</u> . <u>RL.3.4</u> . <u>RI.AA.3.7</u> . <u>RL.3.10</u> <u>L.RF.3.4</u> <u>W.AW.3.1</u> . <u>W.3.4</u> <u>W.WP.3.4</u> . <u>W.3.6</u> <u>W.WR.3.5</u> . <u>W.SE.3.6</u> . <u>W.RW.3.7</u> . <u>SL.3.1</u> <u>SL.3.2</u> <u>SL.3.4</u> <u>SL.3.6</u> <u>L.3.1</u> <u>L.3.2</u> <u>L.KL.3.1</u> <u>L.3.6</u> <u>L.WF.3.2</u> . <u>L.WF.3.3</u>
Unit 4: Research Clubs- Elephants, Penguins, and Frogs, Oh My!	April - June / 8 Weeks	<u>W.IW.3.2</u> . <u>L.3.1</u> <u>L.3.2</u> <u>L.KL.3.1</u> <u>L.3.6</u> <u>W.3.5</u> <u>W.3.4</u> <u>W.WR.3.5</u> . <u>WW.SE.3.6</u> . <u>W.RW.3.7</u> . <u>L.RF.3.3</u> <u>L.RF.3.4</u> . <u>RL.CR.3.1</u> . <u>RI.CI.3.2</u> . <u>RI.IT.3.3</u> . <u>RI.3.4</u> . <u>RI.TS.3.4</u> . <u>RI.PP.3.5</u> . <u>RI.MF.3.6</u> . <u>RI.AA.3.7</u> . <u>RI.CT.3.8</u> . <u>RI.3.10</u> . <u>SL.3.1</u> <u>SL.3.4</u> . <u>L.WF.3.2</u> . <u>L.WF.3.3</u>
Unit 4: Once Upon a Time- Adapting and Writing Fairy Tales	April - June / 8 Weeks	<u>RL.CR.3.1</u> <u>RL.CI.3.2</u> <u>RL.IT.3.3</u> . <u>RL.3.4</u> <u>RL.TS.3.4</u> . <u>RL.PP.3.5</u> . <u>RL.MF.3.6</u> . <u>RL.3.10</u> <u>RF.3.4</u> <u>W.NW.3.3</u> . <u>W.3.4</u> <u>W.WP.3.4</u> . <u>W.3.6</u> <u>W.WR.3.5</u> . <u>W.SE.3.6</u> . <u>W.RW.3.7</u> . <u>SL.3.1</u> <u>SL.3.2</u> <u>SL.3.4</u> <u>SL.3.6</u> <u>L.3.1</u> <u>L.3.2</u> <u>L.KL.3.1</u> <u>L.VL.3.2</u> <u>L.VI.3.3</u> <u>L.3.6</u> <u>L.WF.3.2</u> . <u>L.WF.3.3</u>