

P.S. 103 Math in Action Parent Guide

# Grade 3 - Unit 1 Setting Expectations



We are excited to be using a math curriculum that reflects research-based teaching practices and the New York State Next Generation Mathematics Learning Standards (NGMLS). Education is always evolving to prepare our students for a future that will likely be quite different from today. As such, we strive to build a strong foundation in problem solving, conceptual understanding, and procedural fluency. Topics will be taught so that they build on previous understanding and prepare students for future math learning.

# In Grade 3, we will focus on four critical content areas:

- 1. Developing understanding of multiplication and division, as well as strategies for multiplication and division within 100.
  - 1. Understanding properties of multiplication and the relationship between multiplication and division.
  - 2. Using place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic.
- 2. Developing understanding of fractions, especially unit fractions (fractions with numerator 1).
  - 1. Developing an understanding of fractions as numbers.
- 3. Developing understanding of the structure of rectangular arrays and of area.
  - 1. Geometric measurement: Understanding concepts of area and relating area to multiplication.
  - 2. Geometric measurement: Recognizing perimeter as an attribute of plane figures and distinguishing between linear and area measures.
- 4. Describing and analyzing two-dimensional shapes.
  - 1. Reasoning with shapes and their attributes.



## First 15 Days of Math Instruction:

- Establish norms for a positive learning environment
- Analyze 2–D shapes by their attributes
- Review place value of numbers up to 1,000
- Introduce number routines and expectations for transitions

### Math Assessments:

- iReady Diagnostic Baseline 1<sup>st</sup> week of October
- iReady Middle of the Year Diagnostic
   1<sup>st</sup> week of February
- iReady End of the Year Diagnostic 1<sup>st</sup> week of June
- End of Unit Assessments end of each unit
- Quizzes and Exit Tickets used throughout the year
- NYS Math Exam April 22<sup>nd</sup> 23<sup>rd\*</sup>



### **Math Websites for Families:**

https://www.k5learning.com/
https://learnzillion.com/p/
https://www.khanacademy.org/signup?isparent=1

https://illuminations.nctm.org/Default.aspx

#### Note:



P.S. 103 Math in Action Parent Guide

### **Math Norms**

As a school, we have taken on building a positive attitude towards mathematics learning. We have adapted our own set of 'Math Norms' based on the research of Jo Boaler\*.



Here are the norms your child will be expected to follow in math class this year:

- 1) Everyone can learn math to the highest level
- 2) Mistakes are valuable
- 3) Questions are really important
- 4) Math is about creativity and making sense
- 5) Math is connections and communicating
- 6) Math class is learning and performing
- 7) Depth is more important than speed



# What to Expect in Math Class:

#### **Number Routines:**

Number Routines are teacher–facilitated, student–centered techniques for building math thinking and the use of precise math vocabulary. They encourage students to value the thinking of others, so that they can build a better understanding of, and expand on, their own thinking. Number routines support students in developing their mental math skills, in gaining greater fluency in finding patterns, and in using those patterns to make connections and deepen understanding of concepts.

# Problem of the Day:

Meaningful problem solving takes time and requires consistent practice. Our 'Problem of the Day' has been structured to give students time to 'comprehend' the context of the story in triads before they try to 'do' anything with the numbers. Students are given the opportunity to learn from each other, as well as from the teacher. They ask questions, defend their choices and engage in discussions about the various strategies they chose to help them go deeper into and ultimately solve the problem. Each day's problem leads into the teacher's intended objective for the day.

### Partner/Group Work:

Students will work a lot with partners and groups throughout the year. Students will be developing skills in effectively communicating their mathematical thinking to others and building on the thinking of others. They will also have opportunities to defend their ideas and critique the reasoning of others.



### Centers/Games:

As students learn to cooperatively work with their peers, they engage in student–led centers and games that allow them to reinforce skills previously learned. Mathematics takes time to internalize and really understand, so we have dedicated time for centers to provide students fun and intellectually engaging work that corresponds to the concepts they need to practice.

#### Math Journals/Notebooks:

Students will write notes, record multiple representations, and use precise mathematical vocabulary when explaining their mathematical learning of new concepts. Notes are used for small group and independent review and study.

