



BURLINGTON
AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Parent Curriculum Guide

Grade 3

Non-Discrimination Statement

The Burlington Area School District, in accordance with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and other Federal and State regulations, hereby declares that it is committed to the principle of equal education and employment opportunity and, accordingly, does not discriminate as to sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability. Any inquiries or complaints alleging non-compliance with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 or other Federal and State civil rights or nondiscrimination regulations shall be referred to the Title IX Coordinator of the Burlington Area School District.



BURLINGTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

"A community of learners committed to continuous improvement through a culture of dialogue and reflection"

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Burlington, WI 53105

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

This booklet contains a brief list of the skills and topics your student will be studying this school year. Parents have asked for information about what is taught at each grade level and teachers want to improve communication with parents about what is happening in their classroom.

Keep this guide as a resource throughout the year. Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to volunteer some of your expertise about a specific topic that is taught during the year. Talk to your child about the units of study to reinforce the concepts.

If you have any questions about the curriculum or about your child's learning please contact your child's teacher.

Sincerely,

Connie Zinnen

Connie Zinnen
Assistant Superintendent
Instructional Services

GRADE 3

READING

Attitudes and Habits

Engages in and shares self-initiated readings and writings in a variety of ways
Reads a variety of genres: fiction, nonfiction, folktales, biographies
Reads outside of the school day the number of minutes set by classroom teacher

Vocabulary and Phonics

Develops and uses new vocabulary for reading, speaking and writing
Uses language context, base and compound words, prefixes and suffixes to determine meaning
Uses glossary/dictionary and context to find meanings of unknown words
Uses word relationships, such as synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms
Uses resources to help with spelling and decoding (i.e. Quickword™ handbook, word walls, dictionaries, try it slips, priority word list, etc.)

Comprehension

Marks up the text (using highlighters or Post-it® notes) to aid understanding
Understands what is read
Predicts and makes appropriate adjustments during reading
Summarizes fiction text using characters, setting, problem, major events, solutions, and endings
Reads non-fiction text and identifies the topic, main ideas, and relevant supporting details through guided practice
Thinks and reads to distinguish between fact and opinion, fact and fiction, and to determine writer's point of view
Uses appropriate rate of reading
Skims to get overview
Scans for specific information
Rereads to aid understanding
Adjusts rate to match level of text difficulty
Makes text-to-text comparisons, compares fiction to nonfiction (makes connection text to text, text to self, text to world)
Rereads and self corrects to aid understanding
Participates in sustained silent reading time

Study Skills

Asks questions of self during reading
Uses journaling and "think marks" to prepare for discussion about text
Uses encyclopedias (electronic and text)
Uses parts of a book (table of contents, index, copyright, etc.)
Uses maps, diagrams, charts, tables, timelines and illustrations
Uses note taking to answer questions about a research topic through guided practice
Writes reports using factual information
Uses strategies to activate prior knowledge
Uses strategies to gain meaning from expository (nonfiction) text
Uses library resources to locate information
Studies material outside of school to prepare for tests
Uses an assignment notebook to keep organized and up to date

LANGUAGE ARTS

Listening

Enjoys stories and poems
Obtains information
Follows directions

Evaluates information

Speaking

Responds to stories heard or read

Participates in group discussions

Retells and discusses text

Participates in dramatizations, choral readings, reader's theater

Communicates information in organized manner- sequenced detail

Speaks in front of group

WRITING

Mechanics of Writing

Identifies spelling words and uses spelling patterns

Spells priority words (1-90) correctly in written work

Writes complete sentences

Writes paragraphs related to a topic that are organized, uses a variety of sentence structures, and appropriately uses indentation

Uses capitalization appropriately for sentences, for proper nouns, sentences and titles

Uses punctuation appropriately including periods, commas, apostrophes and quotation marks

Uses proofreading to correct errors

Written Forms

Uses a variety of written forms such as the following:

- ✓ journal entries
- ✓ reports
- ✓ stories
- ✓ poems/rhymes
- ✓ letters /notes
- ✓ directions
- ✓ summaries
- ✓ posters
- ✓ personal narrative

Writing Process Stages

Planning

Identifies audience and purpose

Brainstorms ideas

Determines format

Rough Draft

Develops ideas

Uses format to get their ideas on paper in a fluent manner

Revising

Interacts with a fellow student to revise how the writing sounds

Rereads

Changes awkward or choppy sentences

Avoids incomplete sentences

Checks whether purpose has been met

Checks for spelling, capitalization, punctuation and grammar

Changes repeated or plain words

Works to improve organization of piece

Works to make piece lively, smooth, and developed

Editing

Interacts with a fellow student to edit

Checks if the writing is ready for others to read

Checks C.U.P.S. (Capitalization, Usage, Punctuation, Spelling)

Publishing Activities

Projects are shared in a final form
Publishes regularly

USE OF 6 TRAITS OF WRITING

Ideas

Connects ideas and pictures (main idea/one topic only/using prewriting)
Gets the message across (main idea)
Chooses interesting details
Focuses on staying on the topic

Organization

Builds up details/beginning, middle, end
Writes a strong lead
Stays on topic
Wraps Up – writing a strong ending

Word Choice

Avoids repetition - adjectives
Uses a variety of verbs and adjectives
Reads as a source for new words/using context clues/similes

Voice

Compares author's voice
Uses words to describe author's voice
Expresses your own voice
Improves your voice

Sentence Fluency

Creates fluency by combining choppy sentences
Uses a variety of sentence starters

Conventions

Understands punctuation/differentiates between statements and questions
Uses editor's marks
Finds missing capitals
Spots careless errors/spots sight word errors

Presentation

Presents completed work to the class or teacher

MATHEMATICS

Mathematical Processes

Communicates mathematical thinking, both orally and in writing, by using numbers, words and pictures
Solves story problems

Number Operations and Relationships

Understands place value to ten thousand
Solves addition problems
Solves subtraction problems
Solves division problems
Reads, writes, and compares fractions

Geometry

Identifies, describes, and compares two and three dimensional figures
Understands geometry vocabulary

Measurement

Counts, compares and makes change to \$10.00

Investigates measurements of area and perimeter
Tells time to the minute
Identifies appropriate units of measurement for length, elapsed time and capacity

Statistics and Probability

Collects and displays data in graphs and tables

Algebraic Relationships

Chooses correct operation (+, -, =, >, <, x, ÷) to write an equation

SOCIAL STUDIES

Citizenship

Develops responsibility for activities at home and school
Develops an awareness of decision making skills and be able to makes appropriate choices
Recognizes why we elect community leaders and how public leaders are elected

Geography

Locates and identifies the continents and oceans of the world
Uses directions to find places relative to a specific location on a map or globe
Interprets legends and basic map symbols
Locates the equator, prime meridian, and hemispheres on a map or globe
Is introduced to the concept of latitude and longitude

Communities

Learns the concept of goods and services
Learns how communities help people to meet their basic needs and wants
Studies different kinds of communities and the types of problems those communities face
Recognizes the ways that location, climate, weather, and resources help to determine the type of community that will exist

Cultural Heritage

Develops a strong sense of pride in their local community and an appreciation for communities unlike their own

Current Events

Studies significant current events in the community, state, nation, and world

Native Americans

Studies the four major Native American groups and their migration across the United States
Becomes aware of the interdependence of these four groups and their environment

SCIENCE

Earth Science

Changes on Earth
Identifies Earth's layering from crust to core
Describes how surface is slowly and quickly shaped and reshaped by way of weathering, erosion and deposition
Describes volcanoes and earthquakes
Identifies renewable and nonrenewable natural resources
Identifies methods of conservation of resources
Solar System
Identifies what daily and seasonal cycles tells us about our Earth, Moon and Sun
Explains rotation and revolution of the Earth

Explores day and night, seasons, moon phases, and eclipses
Identifies stars and seasonal constellations
Describes the Earth's place in the universe and solar system
Identifies different characteristics of planets in our solar system

Life Science

Plants and Animals
Compares and classifies plants
Identifies plant structural adaptations
Explains how new plants resemble those extinct types from long ago
Identifies types of ecosystems worldwide and describes the structure and function of ecosystems
Explains energy transfer in ecosystems

Physical Science

Matter
Identifies states of matter
Identifies the qualitative and quantitative properties of matter
Identifies physical and chemical changes and their differences
Explains heat absorption or radiation during changes
Explores kinds of physical changes, including dry and solute/solvent mixtures

Forces and Motion

Identifies ways in which the motion of an object can be described, changed and measured
Identifies forces of friction and gravity

Energy

Identifies kinds of energy
Explores energy conversion from one kind to another and from potential to kinetic

Sound

Explains how sound travels
Identifies attributes of sound and light waves
Understands production of sound waves, electromagnetic spectrum, reflection, refraction, absorption, and optical tools

MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

- ✓ Identifies and defines basic computer technology
- ✓ Demonstrates proper care and correct use of media equipment
- ✓ Saves and backs up files on a computer hard drive, storage medium, or file server
- ✓ Identifies common types of computer software
- ✓ Demonstrates how to open and run a software program
- ✓ Creates, saves, retrieves, and deletes electronic files
- ✓ Incorporates graphics and pictures in a document
- ✓ Understands basic word processing terminology
- ✓ Produces a document using a word processing program (Microsoft Word)
- ✓ Edits a word processing document to produce a finished product