



Curriculum Outline Grade 3

145 North Waiola Avenue
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SOCIAL STUDIES

Students develop an awareness of the world around them and how people affect their environment. The text used for instruction is *My World Social Studies, We Are Connected*.

Emphasis is on:

- living in communities
- looking back to the past
- building a government

SCIENCE

Students use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They learn through observing, predicting, questioning and explaining. The textbook series used for science instruction is The *HMH Science Dimensions* series.

Emphasis is on:

- engineering
- life science
 - ecosystems
 - animal adaptations
 - life cycles
 - fossils
- physical science
 - force and motion
- earth science
 - weather patterns
- STEM projects

MATHEMATICS

The University of Chicago *Everyday Mathematics-Common Core Edition* builds on understanding mathematics with a focus on problem solving in everyday situations and mathematical contexts.

Emphasis is on:

- problem-solving
- frequent practice of basic skills
- numbers and operations in base ten and fractions
- operations and algebraic thinking
- measurement and data
- geometry

RELIGION

Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in Religion class, but in all learning. Students will learn about the Catholic faith through stories, activities, scripture, prayer, discussion and reflection. The textbook series used for religion instruction is *Finding God*.

Emphasis is on:

- God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit
- The Sacraments
- planning and assisting in liturgy and prayer
- service to others
- lives of Saints
- church as community

Service Theme: Poverty and Homelessness

After participating in activities to learn about poverty and homelessness, the third graders visit children at the Marillac House in Chicago on Service Day.

LANGUAGE ARTS/READING

The Language Arts Program includes reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of literature. The components of the program emphasize the development of skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The textbook series used for instruction is *Journeys Common Core: Catholic School Edition*.

READING/LITERATURE

- cause and effect
- main idea and details
- author's purpose
- sequence of events
- story structure
- grammar skills
- weekly spelling test
- literature circles
 - exploration of different genres in a student led group
- novel studies
 - whole group book studies which includes vocabulary and comprehension lessons

WRITING

Students will work through a seven-step writing process to develop and publish several pieces. Writing pieces include:

- personal narrative
- research report
- opinion
- persuasive
- fictional narrative
- poetry

The development of each piece sets in motion the goal of producing reflective, creative, critical, and articulate communicators. Students work through the seven steps in the writing process to build their independence in writing.

ZANER-BLOSER HANDWRITING

Students continue to work on their cursive skills in first and second trimester. Beginning in third trimester students can expect to complete work in cursive regularly.

ART

Students will have the opportunity to express themselves in various art forms.

Emphasis is on:

- communication through art using a variety of media and tools
- appreciation of various art works
- creation of works of visual art using problem solving, observing, designing, sketching and constructing

MUSIC

Students will have the opportunity to participate in music activities and to develop an appreciation for music.

Emphasis is on:

- singing in groups with performance opportunities (Spring Sing!)
- involvement in music ministry
- exploring basic concepts/elements of music
- composer study: Handel

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students will learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle.

Emphasis is on:

- physical fitness
- development of muscle strength, cardio-respiratory endurance and flexibility
- rules, safety and strategies of sports games
- sportsmanship and participation in group and individual activities
- individual responsibility and cooperative skills as a member of a team

SPANISH

Students will explore basic concepts of Spanish by listening, reading, writing, and speaking.

Emphasis is on:

- responding to and asking simple questions with prompts
- using common forms of courtesy, greetings, and leave-takings
- identifying family and friends
- responding to contextualized information from stories or songs
- describing the date, season, and weather
- using masculine & feminine words
- exploring the universality of our Catholic faith

TECHNOLOGY

Students in grades 1-3 have access to school-owned iPads in their classrooms with a ratio of 2:1. Technology skills are taught through content areas with a focus on good digital citizenship. Use of the devices complements student learning standards and objectives. They will use the application Seesaw to create a digital portfolio to showcase their learning. Students in grades 1-3 are also introduced to coding. They will work with Blockly, a visual drag-and-drop, block based coding app to program robots by Wonder Workshop.