

**MEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT**

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**GRADE 3**  
**ESSENTIAL LEARNINGS**

This guide provides an overview of what a **third grade** student should know and be able to do in English/Language Arts by the completion of the school year.

The Medford Public Schools is committed to providing all students with the academic and problem-solving skills essential for personal development, responsible citizenship and life-long learning. The districtwide curriculum goals for all grades preK-12 are as follows:

- To develop high standards and expectations for all students
- To incorporate a balanced core of critical, essential learning that reflects national standards and the state curriculum frameworks for each discipline
- To develop competency in communication, thinking, problem solving research and other critical skills
- To connect learning to relevant situations and experiences outside the school setting
- To measure student learning through multiple types of assessments including the MCAS
- To integrate the curriculum, wherever possible, across subjects and grade levels
- To effectively integrate technology into the curriculum
- To recognize and respect the different needs, interests and talents of all students

*In addition to reading and writing daily, students will be able to...*

- Use a variety of strategies to decode and comprehend text
- Use picture clues to comprehend text
- Apply phonics skills to read/understand words/text.
- Apply appropriate usage/grammar: sentence structure
- Apply appropriate capitalization - first word in sentence, names of people
- Apply appropriate punctuation: end punctuation
- Apply appropriate spelling: consonant sounds/blends
- Acquire and apply new vocabulary
- Practice writing/literacy elements daily: initial/end consonants, consonant blends, vowels
- Apply knowledge of revision skills
- Demonstrate ability to use oral language
- Show literacy appreciation
- Demonstrate critical reading: interpretation and evaluation
- Develop handwriting skills: letter formation, spacing
- Demonstrate technology skills: simple keyboarding skills, directions