Grade 3 Curriculum

Religion

Goal

To present doctrine and knowledge of the Catholic Faith to the students so that they may grow in their understanding of Catholicism and in their relationship with God. They will learn to apply the lessons Jesus taught to their own lives.

Objectives

To learn about God from Jesus' word and example
To expand the faith vocabulary
To understand the parts of the Mass more fully
To learn from saints' lives how to grow closer to God
To develop a greater respect for all God has made
To participate in preparation of a school liturgy
To learn different forms of prayer
To apply the Ten Commandment daily life
To take part in community projects to Help others in need.

Whole Year Focus

Beliefs

God speaks to us
God's creation
Mary
Women of faith
Jesus, Son of God
The death and resurrection of Jesus
The Holy Spirit
Scripture- St. Paul

Worship

Celebrate God's healing love through Reconciliation
Scripture-the Pharisee and tax collector
Sacraments of Service
Scripture- Wedding at Cana
The Eucharist

Jesus Teaches Us How to Live

The 10 Commandments
Love and respect
God shares His life with us

Prayer

Jesus showed us how to pray
Types of prayer
Professing our faith
Scripture
Hail Mary
Writing a personal prayer

Liturgical Seasons

Ordinary time
Advent
Christmas
Lent
Holy Week
Easter
Holy Days
Saints

T.A.T. (Talking About Touching Program)

Personal: walking, fire, gun
Touching: safe, unsafe, uncomfortable; abuse
Assertiveness: bullying, harassment

Assessment of Goals and Objectives

Chapter tests
Oral tests of prayer

Illustrations
Classroom discussions
Seasonal projects

Resources

Faith First by RCL
Catholic Catechism
Children's Bible
Book selections on saints and liturgical seasons
Internet
www.faithfirst.com
www.catholicmom.com
www.uscbb.org
www.appleseeds.com
www.catholic.org

Language Arts

Goal

For the students to acquire the basic skills necessary for them to effectively communicate their ideas orally as well as in the written form. Their reading , writing, speaking, thinking and language skills will be integrated through literature and daily writing.

Objectives

To learn proper grammar, usage and mechanical rules
To learn and implement decoding skills
To become more proficient in listening and speaking skills
To understand word meaning
To develop comprehension and critical thinking skills
To be able to spell commonly used words in everyday writing
To integrate phonics skills with the spelling program
To become more proficient writers
To develop listening and speaking skills
To become an independent reader
To develop a love of reading

English grammar

Sentences

4 kinds
Subject, predicate

Nouns

Proper and common
Plurals
Possessives

Pronouns

Subject and object
Possessive pronouns
Use of "me and I"

Verbs

Action
Being
Helping
Regular and irregular verb forms
Present, past, and past participle form
Is, are, was, were

Adjectives

Describing
Comparing
Telling adjectives
Articles
Pointing out

Adverbs

Kinds
"Good and well"
"To, too, two"
"Their, there and they're"

Capitalization and punctuation

End punctuation
Capital letters
Abbreviations
Titles and initials

Commas
Direct quotations

Word meanings

Synonyms
Antonyms
Homonyms
Contractions
Compound words

Listening skills

Read-aloud stories
Dictation
Listening skills activities
Following directions

Dictionary skills

Alphabetical order
Guide words
Syllabication
Definitions, multiple word meanings
Parts of speech

Writing

Develop writing process – paragraph
Writing
Proofreading
Descriptive
Silly stories
Story starters
First person narratives
"Just-So" stories
Poetry
Friendly letters
Book reports
Interviews

Handwriting

To write legibly

Drama

Choral speaking
Annual class play
Poetry Party

Reading

Fluency in oral reading
Vocabulary
Main idea
Reading for detail
Sequencing
Drawing conclusions
Categories
Analogies
Cause and effect
Predicting outcomes
Making comparisons
Distinguishing between reality and fiction
Making inferences
Learning decoding skills
Summarizing
Using a glossary
Vocabulary; multiple word meanings
Skimming for general ideas
Distinguishing between fact and opinion

Spelling

Words and meanings
Syllabication
Alphabetical order
Parts of speech
Incorporating words into sentences and stories
Base words, prefixes, suffixes
Homonyms, contractions, plurals
Spelling rules

Assessment

Weekly and unit tests
Worksheets
Games and activities
Writing journal – "Feelings" book
Creative writing assignments
Informal classroom observations and student participation

Resources

SRA/McGraw-Hill:Open Court 2005
McCall –Crabbs

Charlotte's Web - E.B. White
Shiloh - Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
"Book-It" program – Pizza Hut reading
incentive program
Various worksheets
Developing an Effective Writing Program
for the Elementary Grades – Gary B. Chadwell, Collins Education Associates – 1999
www.enchantedlearning.com
www.refdesk.com
www.educationworld.com
Overhead projector and transparencies
Classroom visits to Thayer Public Library

Mathematics

Goal

For students to receive a complete and balanced mathematics program that will develop abstract thinking, computational and problem solving skills, and a solid foundation for high math, and to learn to apply these skills in their everyday lives.

Objectives
To develop a critical mind in order to solve problems
To use the skills of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with accuracy
To learn multiple problem solving strategies
To use manipulatives to better comprehend math concepts
To apply math concepts to daily living

Whole Year Focus

Addition and subtraction factors
Large addition and subtraction
Rounding for estimation.
Fact families.
Calculating money

Place Values
Large numerals to millions
Comparing numbers
Ordinal numbers
Skip counting
Rounding to nearest hundred or dollar
Compare and order numbers
Roman numerals 1-20

Time and Money
Tell time to minutes.
Elapsed time
Read digital and analog clocks
Calendar
The decimal point in relationship to parts of a dollar

Data, Graphs and Probability
Data in a tally chart
Line, bar and picture graphs
Beginning algebra
Draw conclusions from data
Probability

Measurement
Customary: yard, foot and inch (to1/4")
Miles, feet, and yards
Capacity: pounds, ounces , pints, quarts, and gallons
Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit & Celsius
Estimated measurement
Metric units: meter, kilometer, milliliter liter, gram, kilogram

Geometry
Space and plane figures, polygons, circles. segments, lines and points
Angles in relation to a right angle.

Perimeter
Symmetry
Congruent figures
Parallel and intersecting lines
Ordered pairs on a grid
Slides, turns and flips
Area and volume

Multiplication Concepts and Facts
Multiplication and its relationship to addition
Products using up to 9 as a factor
Critical thinking to find number patterns
Multiply up to4 digit numbers by 1 digit number
Estimate products

Fraction and Decimals
Parts of a whole
Fractional parts
Equivalent fractions
Mixed numbers
Addition and subtraction of fractions with like denominators
Use division to find a fractional part of a set
Add and subtract decimals

Division concepts and Facts
Division when sharing equally
Relationship between division and multiplication
Divide by 0-9
Quotients with remainders

Problem Solving
Problems using different strategies:
Choosing the operation
Logical thinking
Guess and check
Exact or estimate
Making a table
Multi-step word problems
Backward word problems
Problems with more than one answer
Using data from a chart
Determining reasonable answers
Interpreting remainders in division
Extra data given
Using a restaurant menu
Missing information
Finding a pattern

Assessment and goals
Chapter wrap-up provides activities emphasizing math language and thinking skills for the chapter and a project that integrates those skills with other math strands.
The Practice/test reviews and evaluates the skills and concepts presented in each chapter.
The Enrichment lessons provide students with activities to apply their learned knowledge, using high thinking skills.
The Cumulative Review maintains previously taught skills and concepts.

Resources and Materials
Progress in Mathematics, Sadlier – Oxford 2000 – Text and Workbook
Teacher made games
Commercial games
Manipulatives
Enrichment activities
Overhead tranparencies
www.sadlier-oxford.com
www.coolmath.com

Science

Goal:
For students to be able to think critically through observation, comparison, experiments, communication and

exploration. Much of the focus is on "hands-on" activities.

Objectives:
To encourage critical thinking using science content
To develop science process skills and promote brainstorming, cooperative learning, and other problem solving techniques, skills and exercises.
To appreciate science through a "hands-on" approach
To build a solid foundation of basic concepts
To foster an attitude of curiosity
To gain an understanding of healthful eating habits
To encourage student particiipatio and cooperation through cooperative learning experiences

Physical Science

Magnetism and Electricity
Magnets and their poles
Static electricity
Electric current
Ways of making electricity
Using electricity safely
Conserving electricity
Computers and other inventions

Earth Science

Rocks and Fossils
Properties and kinds of rocks
Weathering
Soil and its layers
Erosion
Fossils and dinosaurs

Life science

Food and nutrition
Food pyramid
Evaluating various foods
Determining a healthful breakfast, snack, lunch and dinner
Being aware of fats in food

Assessment of Goals and Objectives

Teacher observation and student participation
Creation of "artificial healthful food"
Working in pairs or groups to make their own observations and discoveries
Activity sheets used to reinforce curriculum.
Unit quizzes and tests to access students' comprehension
Projects

Resources:
Holt Science Book - 1986
Posters and charts
Experiments
Rock displays
Videos
Cereal boxes
Pictures
Books
Ant Farm
www.MyPyramid.gov
www.5aday.com
www.newenglanddairycouncil.org
www.stonyfield.com/menuforchange/go good2go
www.kidnetic.com
www.earthday.wilderness.org
www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/earthday

Social Studies

Goal
For students to familiarize themselves with the world around them by learning

maps skills, understanding our country and appreciating cultural diversity

Objectives:
To understand locations and symbols used on maps and globes
To share multi-cultural experiences and customs
To have an awareness of our national holidays
To identify and read various kinds of maps
To develop values through our daily life
To develop an understanding of Massachusetts, the state in which they live

Map Skills
Understanding symbols and a map key
Learning direction using a compass rose
Introducing political maps by identifying continents, countries, state capitals and other cities
Introducing physical maps by identifying oceans, rivers, and lakes, and understanding elevation
Exploring rainfall and product maps
Using a globe to identify poles, equator, and hemispheres

Current events
Technology
Citizenship—Patriotism and values

Study of Massachusetts
History of Massachusetts
Economy of Massachusetts
Government of Massachusetts

Multi-cultural appreciation-Chinese New Year

Holidays- Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, martin Luther King, Presidents Day, Saint Patrick's Day, and Memorial Day

Assessment

"Weekly Reader"
Videos
Maps and various skill books
Current events
Tables and graphs
Massachusetts, Scott Foresman, 2005
www.sfsocialstudies.com
www.mass.gov
www.massgeo.org