

What My Third Grader is Learning



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 	MATH 	SCIENCE  & SOCIAL STUDIES 
AUGUST - OCTOBER 	<p>Students will learn how to ask quality questions and find answers to support ideas with key details while studying monuments, historical and cultural landmarks, and neighborhoods in Washington, D.C.</p> 	<p>Students will learn the basic concepts of multiplication and division. They will use props to gain a deep understanding of the concepts and to help solve word problems.</p> 	<p>Students will learn about the different D.C. neighborhoods, including their historical landmarks, monuments, resources, and physical features, as well as how D.C. functions as both a state and local government.</p> 
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 	<p>Students will learn how to compare and contrast multiple texts on the same subject while studying democracy, learning about the three branches of U.S. government and debating various laws with supporting evidence.</p> 	<p>Students will learn how to use grid paper and small square tiles to model and determine area by counting the units within a shape.</p> 	<p>Students will learn about the organization and duties of D.C. government and discuss how citizens can play an active role.</p> 
DECEMBER - FEBRUARY 	<p>Students will learn about idioms, to analyze an author's word choice in poems, and write a story that includes well-developed characters while studying how an individual's motivations, feelings, and actions can alter the course of events.</p> 	<p>Students will learn about the numerator and denominator of fractions. They will use number lines to represent fractions, learn how to create and find equivalent fractions, and compare different fractions.</p> 	<p>Students will analyze the behavior of objects to predict their paths of motion.</p> <p>Students will learn about local economic structures, the importance of taxes, the role of money in society, and how resources produce goods and services.</p>  
FEBRUARY- APRIL 	<p>Students will learn to recognize the difference between author and reader's point of view, analyze texts to determine how ideas are connected, and employ key details to write an opinion piece while studying magnetism and electricity.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to tell time to the minute, measure time intervals, and solve word problems about time. They will solve word problems about the measurement of length.</p> 	<p>Students will examine how weather can affect the quality of human life.</p> 
APRIL - JUNE 	<p>Students will learn strategies for determining the meaning of unknown words and write a short research paper while studying various habitats such as jungles, rainforests, and the ocean floor.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to create and use picture and bar graphs to solve word problems, divide shapes into equal parts, and categorize shapes based on traits like sides and angles.</p> 	<p>Children will study and explain why only species that are able to adapt can survive when an ecosystem changes.</p> 

Activities to Practice with My Third Grader



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**AUGUST -
OCTOBER**



Write a letter to someone from out of town inviting them to D.C. Convince them to visit by writing about the fun things and historical sites they could experience on their visit.



Practice multiplication with small household items. To solve 3×5 , fill 3 cups with 5 small objects then count the items in the cups to discover that the answer is 15. Try with other numbers!



Visit the National Zoo! Record observations (like color, shape, and size) for five of your favorite animals. Keep your observations as objective as possible. For example, "The lion is tan and strong."



Keep a journal recording how much time you spend reading each day! List your favorite characters from each story and identify a place in the story where the character shows a quality that you admire.



Create a D.C. scavenger hunt of museums, monuments, and places significant to your family. Then make a plan to visit all of your destinations. Be sure to research each location before your visit!



**OCTOBER -
DECEMBER**



Use the small tiles on the ground in the metro to calculate the area of different shapes. Try to find the area of the rectangle between the escalator and the edge!



Speed up your typing skills with the fun games and activities at bit.ly/TyingFun. Can you win all of the games?



Discuss the role students play in schools and its governing structures. What role do teachers play? How about families?



What would it be like to be President for a day? What challenges might you face and what decisions might you make? Write a short story about a day in the life of the President.



Visit your local library to check-out three new books! Visit bit.ly/FindMyLibrary to find your local library branch. Make sure to add the new books you read to your reading journal!



**DECEMBER -
FEBRUARY**



Visit a park. Observe and predict patterns in the motion of objects, like the motion of a swing, rolling a ball back and forth, or going up and down on a see-saw.



Create a family budget tracker. After a week, review the tracker. What predictions can you make about the remainder of the month based on what you see from the first week?



Write a poem or song lyrics that tell about a time you made a bad choice and what you learned. Share your new creation (and lesson) with friends or family.



Visit the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History's Butterfly Pavilion, free of charge on Tuesdays. Visit www.mnh.si.edu for more information.



Chop a food (apples are great for this!) into different, equal parts. Identify what the fractional amount is for each food. For example, an apple cut into 3 slices would equal $\frac{1}{3}$.



**FEBRUARY -
APRIL**



Practice jumping rope in February, Heart Health Month! Track your pulse before and after to see how hard your heart is working. Visit bit.ly/DCPPulse to learn more.



Imagine living in two extreme climates such as Antarctica or a desert. Make a pros and cons list of each. Which would you rather live in for 2 weeks?



Visit the National Cherry Blossom Festival, March 20 - April 12. How did the cherry blossoms arrive in Washington D.C.? Visit bit.ly/2015Blossoms for more information.



When traveling to different places, record the time when leaving the house. Then record your arrival time and determine how long the trip took.



Can you find a magnet? Use it! Take a walk around the neighborhood. What does the magnet stick to? Why? Keep a journal of your discoveries.



**APRIL -
JUNE**



What if your class looked like the ocean floor? Write a short story and draw an illustration.



Visit the Kennilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens. Look for frogs on a pond tour, offered every weekend at 10 a.m. Visit nps.gov/keaq for more information.



Create a bar or picture graph to determine how many various kitchen items (like pots, pans, forks, spoons, or spices) are in your home. What items do you find the most of in your home?



What are your summer plans? Brainstorm five activities you can do together to keep learning over the summer.



Spend a day at the Smithsonian National Zoo and learn about the animals' survival skills in their particular environment. Visit bit.ly/DCZoo for more



Read together everyday for 20 minutes



English Language Arts



Enrichment Activity



Math



Science



Social Studies