

# 3rd Grade American Online School

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM

### Mastering Language, Meaning, and Expression

Version May/2025

## 1. Introduction

### The Role of English Language Arts Education in 3rd Grade

The 3rd Grade English Language Arts curriculum supports students in building core language skills that bridge decoding to meaning-making and sentence-level writing to organized expression. Students analyze informational texts, expand vocabulary and grammar awareness, and become more confident writers and speakers. Emphasis is placed on purpose-driven reading, structured writing, and understanding the rules and rhythm of language.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ **Identify and use parts of speech to construct clear sentences.**
- ✓ **Apply rules of capitalization, punctuation, and sentence structure.**
- ✓ **Read and comprehend grade-level informational texts.**
- ✓ **Write with purpose, detail, and structure.**
- ✓ **Communicate ideas clearly in both spoken and written forms.**

## 2. Core Competence Areas

### ELA.1 Grammar Foundations: Parts of Speech

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Identify nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and pronouns in context.
- ✓ Use various parts of speech to construct meaningful and complete sentences.
- ✓ Apply grammar knowledge to strengthen their writing.

#### Competencies

##### ELA.1.A.1 – Recognizing and classifying parts of speech.

- Highlight and sort words from texts based on their grammatical function.
- Create “Part of Speech Posters” with student-generated examples.

##### ELA.1.A.2 – Writing complete and varied sentences.

- Combine nouns, verbs, and adjectives to form vivid descriptions.
- Use sentence expansion activities to add detail and clarity.

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### ELA.2 Mechanics and Usage

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Use capitalization and punctuation accurately.
- ✓ Apply spelling rules for common prefixes, suffixes, and patterns.
- ✓ Recognize and revise sentence fragments and run-ons.

#### Competencies

##### ELA.2.A.1 – Mastering sentence-level conventions.

- Punctuate statements, questions, commands, and exclamations.
- Edit writing for correct capitalization and ending punctuation.

## **ELA.2.A.2 – Applying spelling and usage strategies.**

- Use spelling patterns and rules to write multisyllabic words.
  - Practice with dictation, word sorts, and sentence construction.
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## **ELA.3 Reading Informational Texts**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Identify main ideas and supporting details in nonfiction texts.
- ✓ Use text features (headings, captions, diagrams) to locate key information.
- ✓ Compare texts on the same topic for perspective and depth.

### **Competencies**

#### **ELA.3.A.1 – Building comprehension through close reading.**

- Annotate and highlight while reading age-appropriate nonfiction.
- Answer text-based questions using evidence from the text.

#### **ELA.3.A.2 – Navigating nonfiction text structures.**

- Recognize cause-effect, compare-contrast, and chronological order.
  - Use graphic organizers to summarize and analyze ideas.
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## **ELA.4 Writing and Expression (Integrated Across Units)**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Write informational paragraphs using topic sentences and details.
- ✓ Use planning tools to organize writing ideas.
- ✓ Revise and edit for grammar, clarity, and purpose.

## Competencies

### ELA.4.A.1 – Planning and drafting for clarity and detail.

- Write journal entries, reports, and “how-to” pieces.
- Use sentence starters and transition words to connect ideas.

### ELA.4.A.2 – Revising and reflecting on writing.

- Peer review and self-edit using checklists.
  - Use teacher feedback to improve structure and style.
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## 3. Assessment and Evaluation

### Formative Assessments – Skill Practice and Observation

- ✓ Grammar notebooks and daily edits.
- ✓ Sentence writing warm-ups.
- ✓ Text feature scavenger hunts.

### Summative Assessments – Structured Tasks and Application

- ✓ Informational paragraph rubric.
- ✓ Spelling and grammar quizzes.
- ✓ Main idea and detail graphic organizers.

### Authentic Assessment – Voice and Publishing

- ✓ “Author’s Chair” oral readings.
  - ✓ “How To” class anthology.
  - ✓ Writing portfolios with drafts and reflections.
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## 4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

### Spiral Grammar and Explicit Instruction

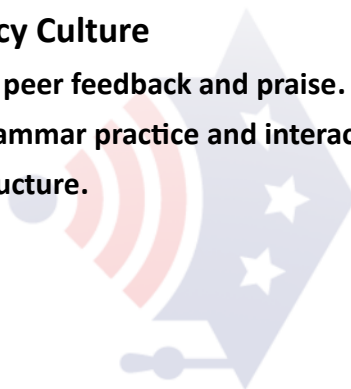
- ✓ Revisit parts of speech through games, journals, and songs.
- ✓ Anchor charts for rules and exception patterns.

### **Reading-Writing Connection**

- ✓ Link nonfiction reading to writing prompts.
- ✓ Use mentor texts to model grammar and structure.

### **Supportive and Active Literacy Culture**

- ✓ Celebrate student writing with peer feedback and praise.
- ✓ Create routines for morning grammar practice and interactive editing.
- ✓ Encourage creativity within structure.



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