

**Religion**

The religion curriculum is based on the CPH “Voyages, Exploring God’s Word” curriculum. Lessons are designed to help children learn key concepts of faith such as Law and Gospel, confession, repentance, forgiveness, and grace. The children are led to see God’s love in sending Jesus to redeem them. The lessons are based on selected sequential Bible stories from Creation to Pentecost. Each lesson encourages children to live Christian lives empowered by the Holy Spirit.

The third grade Memory program includes bible verses, prayers, the Ten Commandments with meanings, the Apostle’s Creed and the books of the old and New Testament. All students attend Chapel service every Wednesday morning. Third grade leads the chapel service one time during the school year, and will participate in a Christmas Service and/or Spring Musical.

Third graders also have the opportunity to sing in Church services at Christ Lutheran Church and to join “Kids Choir.”

**Language Arts**

**Reading** - The children in third grade are introduced to many new reading skills. They learn to how summarize stories, give the main idea of a selection and give supporting details. They learn to analyze stories to determine the narrative elements of setting, character, and plot. They learn how to compare and contrast characters and events, determine facts and opinions, identify cause and effect, use decoding skills to divide words into syllables, suffixes and prefixes. They learn study skills including using ABC order, dictionaries, glossaries, indexes, table of contents

The students learn about the different genre of literature. Each story is identified according to the elements of fiction and nonfiction. Students are given the opportunity to read on their level.

They also participate in the Accelerated Reader program where students read library books, pass comprehension tests, and earn points for rewards.

**Language** - Our language curriculum is connected to our reading series. It focuses on grammar and writing skills. Grammar skills include sentence structure, nouns, pronouns, singular, plural, and possessive nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, punctuation, and capitalization. Instruction on these basic skills is designed to expand the student’s ability to write. Students will learn to write for specific purposes and in specific styles that include descriptions, personal narrative, paragraphing, how-to essays, persuasive writing, informational and expository writing. Student work is kept in a portfolio for assessment.

Students also have a journal for daily writing activities.

Students in third grade have a handwriting text and learn how to write from manuscript to cursive.

**Spelling** - The third grade spelling words are compiled from the reading story for the week. There will be a list of words to learn each week which follow a pattern or rule of spelling. The pattern or rule will then be noted as it appears in other words. Students will also be given the opportunity to learn and spell challenge words each week. A dictated pretest and post test will be given weekly.

**Math**

Third grade math curriculum begins with a review of the basic addition and subtraction facts. Students continue to work on these skills using higher numbers and regrouping. Higher thinking skills are used in multiple-step word problems. A large emphasis is placed on learning the multiplication and division facts. Students also learn standard units of measurement and fractions. The students begin to relate basic facts with algebraic equations.

**Science**

Third grade students investigate science questions and problems. Teachers facilitate “hands on” activities and encourage children to use critical thinking, problem solving and decision making skills as they develop scientific concepts. Students learn to see science as part of technology, personal experiences, and the world around them. Third grade curriculum includes: Plants & Animals, Rocks & Minerals in Arkansas, Space Exploration, Investigating Matter, and Exploring Energy & Forces.

**Social Studies**

Map skills are reviewed and reinforced. More advanced skills are developed. Students use these skills throughout the year as they study their world and its communities. The program builds and expands the concept of community. The students learn that citizens in communities have certain rights and privileges as well as responsibilities. They learn that citizens depend upon one another to live, work, and play in the communities. Students learn about the different types of communities and how the United States was settled, how it has grown, and how it is governed. Students also learn the basics of economics and how one industry’s success or suffering can affect other industries and jobs. We have special units on Arkansas History, Native Americans, Early American life, immigration, and famous inventors and their inventions.