



Chesney Elementary School

Third Grade Curriculum Letter
Fourth Nine Weeks
2010-2011



Important Testing Dates:
March 21-April 1 Georgia Writing Evaluation Window
*April 25-29 CRCT

*Passing Reading Test Required for Promotion

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe this is the last nine weeks of the school year – this year has flown by! We are preparing for the CRCT, which we know your students will excel on! We will be sending home a Spring Break packet to help students prepare, so please look for that and make sure your student completes it.

Sincerely,
Third Grade Teachers

Reading- The goal for all readers is to read grade level appropriate material with fluency and comprehension. Students will be reading from a variety of genres throughout the school year. Instruction in the fourth quarter will emphasize on reviewing 3rd grade AKS and the following new AKS:

- Using knowledge of Greek and Latin roots to read new words and determine their meaning (*uni-*, *tri-*, and *vis*)

AKS 45

Writing: Throughout the school year students will be using the writing process which includes pre-writing, revising, editing, and publishing. Writing instruction the fourth quarter will emphasize the following goal, as well as reviewing skills from the year:

- Understanding and using formal and informal language exchanges (slang, colloquialisms, idioms) appropriately

AKS 57

Reference Skills: All students check out books from the media center and use computers on a regular basis. As part of reading, they will be taking tests on books they have read using Book Adventure. As part of writing, they will use dictionaries and gather reference material from a variety of reference materials. We will review the AKS from the entire school year.

Mathematics: Students will use a variety of materials and methods to reinforce math thinking. Process skills will be interwoven into all lessons. Skills taught the fourth quarter will be:

- Representing area
- Modeling area by tiling
- Determining area
- Explaining and applying formulas for perimeter/area
- Using mental math and estimation to add, subtract, multiply, and divide
- Modeling multiplication facts
- Developing the distributive property
- Modeling and explaining the effect on a product by multiplying by 10s
- Solving problems
- Dividing 2- and 3-digit numbers by a 1-digit divisor

AKS 23, 25-28, 33, 53, 54, 55, 62

Science: The characteristics of science are taught throughout the school year. It is important for students to understand the scientific method, and have the opportunity to observe and participate in science experiments. Skills taught the fourth quarter will be:

- Investigating magnets and their effect on common objects and other magnets
- Investigating to find common objects that are attracted to magnets
- Investigating how magnets attract and repel each other
- Demonstrating that size and shape of a magnet do not determine strength
- Distinguishing between magnetic and nonmagnetic metals
- Constructing a temporary magnet and describing the process

AKS 11

Social Studies: Students will review map and globe skills through the year and apply information processing skills in all lessons. Skills taught the fourth quarter will be:

- Discussing the four types of productive resources
- Explaining that government provides certain types of goods and services in a market economy and pays them through taxes
- Giving examples of interdependence and trade and explaining how voluntary exchange benefits both parties
- Discussing the life of Cesar Chavez and his efforts to expand people's rights and freedoms in a democracy, the cultural and geographic systems associated with Cesar Chavez, and how he displayed positive character traits

AKS 26 - 29, 54-56

These are the major AKS taught and tested the fourth nine weeks. Many other AKS are continuously spiraled through using review, preview, and maintenance techniques. A complete list of the third grade AKS can be found on the county website: www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us and in the booklet given at registration.

Suggestions for helping your child at home:

- Read to your child
- Listen to your child read aloud to you
- Ask your child questions about the books they read (characters, setting, problem, solution)
- Practice basic math facts with flashcards
- Count out change at the grocery store
- Review papers in the Friday Folder
- Visit Sparky's sites on your computer with your child if you have internet access or at the public library (computer games, Book Adventure tests, Renzulli)
- Write a letter to a friend or relative (by hand or on a computer)
- Write and illustrate stories and poems (by hand or on a computer)
- Take practice CRCT tests on the OAS website (<https://www.georgiaoas.org/servlet/a21>)
- Review over material from the school year
- Ask your child's teacher for suggestions in specific subject areas