



Content Area: English Language Arts

Grade Level: 3

Course Name: Grade 3 ELA

Course Description: Students in Grade 3 will engage in a structured literacy block that includes explicit phonics, reading and writing instruction. The Sadlier daily foundational skills lessons build on phonological and phonemic awareness work from grades K-2, and the program provides explicit support in word level reading, and fluency. The reading units are aligned with the Next Generation ELA standards and support students in building background knowledge, vocabulary, language structure, verbal reasoning, and literacy knowledge. Writing lessons include teacher guided activities in which students follow the steps of the writing process to compose multiple drafts of informational, narrative, and opinion pieces. Students will also write independently, and in response to reading. Students in some buildings will use the Core Knowledge Language Arts curriculum, rather than the units referenced below.

Units	Length of Time	Description
Get Set For Literacy	6-8 Week Unit	This unit includes a shared reading of six diverse texts that represent a wide array of voices, and experiences to introduce students to reading and writing routines and lessons related to the components of a structured literacy block. The Get Set Unit also provides expectations for participating in a respectful and welcoming classroom community, and includes examples of how to introduce routines associated with the literacy block components. Students will be introduced to skills and strategies that will spiral throughout various units during the year. This unit will serve as the foundation for that instruction.

Units Length of Time	Description
Following characters Into Meaning 6-8 Week Unit	This unit guides students through a shared reading of an absorbing chapter book, using scaffolded learning activities to help students identify with characters through observing the author’s characterization techniques. Students will track textual evidence to build comprehension skills and strategies for envisioning, predicting, synthesizing and inferring. Students will study the story arc and use evidence to develop their understanding of a novel’s central themes and characters.
Nonfiction Reading 6-8 Week Unit	This unit provides students with an introduction to the definition and features of nonfiction writing. Students will read and write about a variety of nonfiction texts, engaging in activities that develop their understanding of the distinction between factual statements and opinions. Teachers will provide explicit instruction in Tier III academic vocabulary, and students will engage in activities to develop skills for identifying the main idea, and distinguishing the main idea from supporting details. Students will apply strategies such as TELL and SWBS to determine main ideas and details in nonfiction texts.
Folklore 6-8 Week Unit	The learning activities and selected readings of this unit provide students with an introduction to the definition and characteristics of Folklore. Informational texts are used to show students how one can contribute to understanding the folk piece and students apply strategies from the previous units to review the elements of fiction as well as nonfiction text features. Teachers will guide students through several folk tales to build their understanding of common conventions related to setting, characters, style and themes, with an emphasis upon the genre’s presentation of morals or lessons learned by story characters. Students will also apply the characteristics of folk tales through their own written work.
Test Readiness 6-8 Week Unit	This unit provides students with opportunities for activating prior learning and applying reading and writing skills presented throughout the year. Students will review close reading strategies as teachers guide them through a range of shorter passages, and provide practice by using released NYS ELA passages, multiple choice and constructed response questions. Students will review the elements of fiction as well as nonfiction text features.

Units Length of Time	Description
Sadlier Phonics Program Year -Long Unit	This daily phonics work will be part of the larger structured literacy block each day. Students will continue to build understanding of decoding at the word level, using decodable readers to apply phonological knowledge. The Sadlier program builds on the systemic scope and sequence introduced in K- 2, and supports explicit teaching of letter sound relationships, providing students with opportunities to decode written words,and enabling them to develop accuracy and automaticity leading to reading comprehension.

NYS Standard	Links
Grade 3 ELA Standards	<a href="#">New York State Next Generation English Language Arts Learning Standards</a>