

McDowell Elementary

Third Grade Curriculum

READING

- **Phonics/Decoding Skills/Decoding Longer Words**
 - final consonants, double consonants
 - short vowels
 - apply phonics/decoding strategy
 - consonant clusters
 - consonant digraphs
 - CVC, CVCe, other patterns
 - long vowels, vowel pairs
 - r-controlled vowels
 - possessives
 - contractions
 - compound words
 - syllabication pattern
 - affixes
 - stressed and unstressed syllables
- **Comprehension skills**
 - distinguish between fantasy/realism
 - compare and contrast
 - predict outcomes
 - understand sequence of events
 - recognize story structure
 - determine cause and effect
 - determine text organization
 - draw conclusions
 - categorize and classify
 - note important details
 - recognize main idea, topic and supporting details
 - follow directions, oral and written
 - make inferences
 - make judgments
 - solve problems/make decisions
 - make generalizations
 - understand genres
 - recognize author's viewpoint
 - recognize fact and opinion
 - visualize
- **Comprehension Strategies**
 - predict/infer
 - summarize
 - phonics/decoding
 - evaluate
 - question
 - monitor/clarify
- **Reading fluency**
 - read fluently at appropriate rate
- **Information/Study Skills**
 - use a dictionary/glossary
 - use the library
 - use graphic organizers
 - interview

- read/use charts, tables, graphs, schedules, time lines, diagrams, calendars
- follow directions
- locate/use parts of a book
- use print references
- take notes
- use newspapers/magazines
- skim/scan
- use electronic resources
- outline
- adjust reading rate
- select and evaluate sources
- **Test-Taking Skills**
 - answering multiple-choice items
 - completing fill-in-the-blank items
 - writing an answer to a question
 - writing a personal response
 - answering vocabulary items
 - writing a story

SPELLING/VOCABULARY

- **Spelling**
 - recognize sound and letter patterns
 - understand word structure
 - spell words frequently misspelled
- **Vocabulary**
 - recognize and read high-frequency words
 - vocabulary expansion
 - content-area words
 - alphabetical order to third/fourth letter
 - antonyms
 - synonyms
 - homophones
 - multiple-meaning words
 - compound words
 - dictionary, glossary, and thesaurus
 - word families
 - use context
 - make analogies
 - word histories/connotations
 - understand idioms
 - jargon, slang

WRITING AND LANGUAGE ARTS

- **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics**
 - punctuation
 - capitalization
 - complete sentences
 - types of sentences
 - subjects and predicates
 - nouns
 - plurals
 - possessives
 - verbs
 - present, past, and future tense
 - subject-verb agreement
 - irregular verbs

- adjectives
- comparisons
- pronouns
- adverbs
- **Writing Process**
 - independent writing
 - use the five-step writing process
- **Writing Skills**
 - read as a writer
 - use technology
 - writer's craft skills
- **Prewriting Skills**
 - choose a topic
 - organize and plan
 - use graphic organizers
 - discuss
 - consider audience and purpose
 - take notes
- **Drafting Skills**
 - write a good beginning, middle, and end
 - organize ideas in logical order
 - use details, facts, examples
 - state topic/purpose
 - find/evaluate information
 - use voice
- **Revision Skills**
 - tell more
 - elaborate/expand sentences with details
 - use exact words
 - self-assessment
 - conference
 - perform sentence combining
 - focus on purpose, audience, organization
 - delete
- **Proofreading Skills**
 - capitalize/punctuate
 - use complete sentences
 - 5 sentences in paragraph
 - spell accurately
 - use correct grammar and usage
- **Modes of Writing**
 - write in a journal
 - write a letter
 - write a story
 - write poetry
 - do descriptive writing
 - write instructions/directions
 - write in a variety of forms
 - write a personal narrative
 - write a research report
 - use persuasive writing
 - expository writing
- **Traits of Writing**
 - ideas
 - organization
 - word choice
 - conventions
 - presentation

- voice
- sentence fluency
- **Listening/Speaking/Viewing**
 - compare information
 - listen for comprehension
 - retell/summarize/report
 - listen for information
 - listen to/read aloud poetry
 - participate in group discussion/conversation
 - tell a story/retell a story
 - listen to a story
 - give and follow directions
 - view illustrations
 - view/evaluate media, information, and art
 - dramatize
 - visualize
 - use nonverbal cues
 - participate in reader's theater/choral reading
 - deliver a presentation/speech/report
 - resolve a conflict, problem
 - explain a process
 - hold a debate
 - plan a multimedia presentation
 - dictation

MATHEMATICS

- **Numbers and Operations-Numeration**
 - digits
 - reading and writing numbers
 - ordinal numbers
 - denominate numbers
 - place value
 - number line
 - expanded notation
- **Numbers and Operations – Operations**
 - addends and sum
 - adding whole numbers
 - regrouping
 - adding decimals
 - adding fractions and mixed numbers
 - mental addition strategies
 - difference, subtrahend, and minuend
 - subtracting whole numbers
 - regrouping (borrowing)
 - subtracting decimals
 - subtracting fractions and mixed numbers
 - mental subtraction strategies
 - multiplication as repeated addition
 - factors and product
 - multiplication table
 - regrouping
 - multiplication notations
 - multiplying whole numbers
 - mental multiplication strategies
 - dividend, divisor, and quotient
 - dividing with whole numbers
 - remainders

- dividing with decimals
- mental division strategies
- division notations
- powers as repeated multiplication
- base and exponent
- powers of whole numbers
- relationship of place value to powers of 10
- square roots
- mastering basic facts
- order of operation
- **Numbers and Operations – *Fractions Concepts***
 - reading and writing fractions and mixed numbers
 - numerator and denominator
 - fractional part of a whole, group, set, or number
 - comparing and ordering fractions
 - equivalent fractions
 - reducing
 - improper fractions
 - least common denominator
 - converting fractions to decimals and percents
 - reading and writing decimals
 - comparing and ordering decimals
 - converting decimals to fractions and percents
 - reading and writing percents
 - identifying/finding percent of a whole, group, set or number
 - converting percents to fractions and decimals
 - percents greater than 100%
 - rates
- **Numbers and Operations – *Estimation***
 - rounding whole numbers, decimals, mixed numbers
 - estimating sums, differences, products, quotients
 - using estimation to verify reasonableness of calculations
 - fact families
 - even and odd
 - factors, multiples, and divisibility
 - counting numbers
 - whole numbers
 - decimal number system
 - negative numbers
 - Roman numerals
 - Base 5
- **Measurement**
 - length (inch, foot, yard, mile)
 - capacity (cup, pint, quart, gallon)
 - weight (ounce, pound, ton)
 - metric prefixes
 - length (meter)
 - capacity (liter)
 - mass (kilogram)
 - Fahrenheit scale
 - Celsius scale
 - Kelvin scale
 - second, minutes, and hours
 - days, months, and years
 - decades, centuries, and millennia
 - digital and analog time displays
 - writing time of day
 - writing dates

- square, cubic units
- degrees of arc
- standard abbreviations
- conversion in the U.S. Customary System
- conversion in the metric system
- conversion between systems
- length
- time
- capacity
- mass/weight
- angles
- rotation (clockwise and counterclockwise)
- benchmarks for measurements
- measurement of activities
- estimating measurement
- selecting appropriate units
- using metric scales to reinforce decimal concepts
- determining whether measures are reasonable
- ruler
- thermometer
- balance scale
- measuring cup
- stopwatch
- **Geometry**
 - points
 - segments
 - rays
 - lines
 - angles
 - parallel, perpendicular, and intersecting lines
 - acute, obtuse, right, and straight angles
 - describing and classifying polygons
 - drawing polygons
 - sides and vertices
 - perimeter of polygons
 - area of polygons
 - regular polygons
 - similarity and congruence
 - triangle perimeter and area
 - acute, obtuse, and right triangles
 - equilateral, isosceles, and scalene triangles
 - parallelograms
 - squares
 - rhombuses
 - rectangles
 - trapezoids
 - circle centers
 - radius and diameter
 - describing and classifying solids
 - faces, edges, and vertices of solids
 - drawing solids
 - volume of solids
 - nets (maps)
 - polygons perimeter
 - area of triangles, rectangles
 - estimating area
 - prisms
 - naming and graphing ordered pairs

- creating straight line drawings
- tessellations
- line symmetry
- circles construction
- rotation
- reflection
- translation
- **Algebra**
 - numeric patterns
 - geometric patterns
 - story-problem patterns
 - triangular numbers
 - coding and decoding
 - Pascal's triangle
 - arithmetic sequences
 - geometric sequences
 - pictorial sequences
 - fibonacci sequences
 - variables
 - symbols of inclusion
 - evaluating
 - solving equations for an unknown
 - solving multistep equations
 - writing an equation for a given word problem
 - balance scale as a model for solving equations
 - formulas
 - associative property of addition, multiplication
 - commutative property of addition, multiplication
 - identify property of addition, multiplication
 - distributive property
 - zero property of multiplication
 - number line graphing
 - coordinate plane
 - graphing points
- **Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability**
 - collect data: tallies, surveys, closed-option questions, open-option questions, populations, representative samples, bias
 - organize and analyzing data: tables, frequency tables, average, mean, median, mode, and range
 - choosing an appropriate graph
 - outliers
 - schedules
 - representing data: legend (key), bar graphs, line graphs, circle graphs, pictographs, coordinate planes
 - notations for expressing probability
 - simple probability
 - chance
 - outcomes
 - performing probability experiments
 - making predictions based on experiments
 - accuracy of predictions as affected by number of trials
 - experiment tables
- **Problem Solving**
 - breaking a problem into simpler parts
 - acting out a problem
 - using logical reasoning
 - drawing a diagram, picture
 - finding a pattern

- identifying key words
- working backward
- making a chart, graph, or list
- guessing and checking (trial and error)
- finding missing information
- extending patterns
- using an algorithm
- **Communication**
 - group work
 - written communication
 - oral communication
 - justifying solutions
- **Mathematical Reasoning**
 - algebraic reasoning
 - spatial reasoning
 - justifying solutions
 - formulating conjectures
 - classifying and sorting
 - using money to represent place value
 - writing money amounts properly
 - estimating price totals
 - change back in money transactions
 - tax
 - interpreting remainders in word problems
 - using integers to describe real-world situations
 - symmetry in nature, art, and architecture
 - representing everyday situations with graphs
 - history of mathematics

SOCIAL STUDIES

- **History**
 - links to the past and how we know – traditions and their origins
 - empathy
 - time and chronology – read and use timelines
 - cause and effect – migrations and settlements, conservation issues
 - continuity and change – bust of a boom town, how basic needs met long ago and today
 - interrelatedness – of geography, economics with history
 - women, minorities – diversity of people
- **Geography**
 - location – relative location
 - place – characteristics
 - human-environment interaction – environmental changes, community interactions
 - movement – historical movements of people
 - regions – characteristics
- **Economics**
 - basic concepts – how needs met over time
 - exchange systems – American Indian exchange systems
 - basic economic questions – production and distribution
 - interdependence – to and from community
 - technology – production and transportation
- **Culture**
 - cultural understanding – how transmitted
 - cultural complexity – American Indians
 - multicultural society – American Indians
 - similarities and differences – American Indians

- literature and the arts – of other times and places
- myths and legends – of American Indians, cowboys, settlers
- **Ethics and Belief Systems**
 - influence of religion – among American Indians, Pilgrims
 - basic belief systems – American Indians
 - resolution of ethical issues
- **Social and Political Systems**
 - belonging to a group – responsibilities of individual to group
 - law – rules among other societies
 - opposing ideals – American Indians and settlers
 - social structure – in other societies and times
 - comparative political systems – recognize not all political systems alike
 - global interdependence – international trade
- **National Identity**
 - pluralism
 - democracy
 - American ideals and symbols – learn national symbols, Pledge of Allegiance, patriotic songs, flag
 - reaffirmation of American ideals – conservation of resources
- **Constitutional Heritage**
 - balance of power – fair treatment of all
 - origin of Constitution
 - reinterpretation of ideals
- **Citizenship**
 - individual and state – conservation of natural resources
 - democratic behavior – develop awareness of need for rules
 - selection of leaders – President’s Day
 - human rights – develop respect for others
 - settlement of disputes
- **Study Skills**
 - collecting information – use library, reference materials, interview for information
 - organizing information – summarize a paragraph
 - presenting information – tell events and ideas in sequence, write simple paragraphs
- **Visual Learning**
 - observation – neighborhood, community features
 - timelines – read and make simple timelines, graphic organizers, graphs, diagrams
 - interpretation – gather information and respond to photos, Illustrations, fine art
 - symbols – national symbols, flag
 - visual self-expression
- **Map and Globe Skills**
 - symbols – read a physical map, use map key, rose
 - location – latitudes, longitude
 - direction – follow routes on map
 - scale and distance – use map scale, time/distance
 - construction and use – construct 3-D maps of community, neighborhood
- **Critical Thinking**
 - define and clarify – identify problems of central issue
 - evaluate and judge – evidence supporting main idea
 - solve and conclude – cause and effect, make “if...then” statement
- **Social Participation**
 - interpersonal – others points of view, express one’s own ideas
 - group work – identify goal

SCIENCE

- **How Plants Grow**
 - What do plants need?
 - What do seeds do?
 - How do plants make food?
- **Types of Animals**
 - What is an animal?
 - What are mammals and birds?
 - What are amphibians, fish, and reptiles?
 - What is extinction?
- **Where Living Things Are Found**
 - What are ecosystems?
 - What are forest ecosystems?
 - What is a desert ecosystem?
 - What are water ecosystems?
- **Earth, the Water Planet**
 - What is earth like?
 - How do the moon and earth interact?
 - What causes earth's seasons?
- **The Solar System and Beyond**
 - What is the solar system?
 - What is beyond the solar system?
 - How do people study the solar system?
- **Properties of Matter**
 - What are physical properties of matter?
 - What are solids, liquids, and gases?
 - How can matter be measured?
- **Changes in Matter**
 - What are physical changes?
 - What are chemical changes?
- **Energy**
 - How is energy stored?
 - How does energy move?
 - How can energy be changed?
- **Light**
 - How does light behave?
 - How are light and color related?
- **Living Things Depend on One Another**
 - How do animals get food?
 - What are food chains?
 - What are food webs?
- **Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils**
 - What are minerals and rocks?
 - How do rocks form?
 - What are fossils?

HANDWRITING

-neatness

OTHER

- Book Reports – oral and written, 5 paragraphs –topic sentence,
3 paragraph body/5 sentences to paragraph, closing sentence
- Research Reports
 - notes, cover, introduction, body of report, conclusion, bibliography
 - biography, autobiography,
- Oral Skills
 - Presentations

