

# WHAT TO EXPECT IN Third Grade

## HISTORY

The focus of third grade history is the ancient world, specifically ancient Egypt. At the core of the curriculum are 32 Veritas Press history flashcards titled, *Old Testament & Ancient Egypt*. The chronological history cards covers biblical history spanning from creation to Egypt falling to Rome. Students also read *The Great Pyramid*, *The Magic Treehouse Mummies and Pyramids*, and *Tut's Mummy Lost and Found*. In addition, students assemble an Ancient Egypt portfolio which details many aspects of life and culture.

## LITERATURE

The purpose for teaching literature in classical education is to cultivate wisdom and virtue within a student so he or she is better able to know and enjoy God and the world He has made. To that end, HCA seeks to choose genuine classics that lift students from the realm of mere pragmatism to the realm of ideals (virtue, truth, beauty) so that they develop the capacity to think God's thoughts after Him as they encounter them in the Scriptures. In third grade those titles include:

- *Homer Price* by Robert McCloskey
- *Farmer Boy* by Laura Ingalls
- *Wilder Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
- *The Moffats* by Eleanor Estes
- *Tirzah* by Lucille Travis

At the end of third grade, students are able to read, discuss, and evaluate passages similar to the following:

*The Moffats*, pg. 210

They stopped for a moment and thought. No. Nothing had been forgotten. Nothing left behind. They went out to the van. Joe and Rufus were already sitting on the back, right under the little stove and Madame. Janey climbed up beside them and Mama climbed up beside the driver. Sylvie ran around from the backyard. In her hand were sprigs of green things she would transplant in the new yard. She climbed up and sat on the ironing board. Now they were ready to go.

The driver said "Giddyap" to the team.

Suddenly Mama said, "Who-a! Where is Catherine-the-cat?"

## ENGLISH COMPOSITION

Third grade students continue their study of cursive through the *New American Cursive Workbook 3*. Additionally, they improve their grammar with the *Well-Ordered Language 1A/1B*, a textbook that leads students through verbally analyzing sentences, jingles to aid the memory of grammar terms, and diagramming sentences. Students also begin the Institute for Excellence in Writing program with the text, *All Things Fun and Fascinating*, as they learn how to become exceptional writers.

## MEMORY WORK

Our students build a wide knowledge of Scripture through recitations, chants, and jingles! Third grade students use *The Child's Story Bible* to read the Old and New Testament and discuss the truth it contains. Some specific passages include:

- Genesis 1
- Exodus 20
- Isaiah 9:1-7
- Psalm 63
- Psalm 8
- Sixth through Tenth Amendments of the U.S.
- Constitution / Apostles' Creed
- Ancient Egypt history song
- *Westminster Shorter Catechism* questions



# GEOGRAPHY

In third grade, students learn about geography corresponding to the places they study in their history texts.

- Egyptian geography
  - Middle East countries
  - Middle East seas/rivers/mountains
  - Middle East cities/empires
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# LATIN

In their second year of Latin, students transition to the *Latina Christiana 1* text, and supplement with *Famous Men of Rome*. They are instructed in systematic grammar and vocabulary which prepares students to begin *First Form Latin* in fourth grade. Goals in third grade include:

## Topics include:

- Pronounce, spell and translate 200 Latin words
  - Learn 30 Latin sayings, prayers, and songs
  - 1st and 2nd conjugation verbs
  - 1st and 2nd declension nouns and adjectives
  - Understand the concept of English words that are derived from Latin
  - Look at some of the virtues that made Rome great
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# SCIENCE

Students will go through *Exploring Creation: Flying Creatures of the 5th Day* by Apologia, including activities and projects to make lessons come to life. Topics include:

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- Nature of Zoology
- Classifying animals
- Nature of flight and birds
- Bats
- Prehistoric flying reptiles
- Insect characteristics and life cycles

# MATH

## Saxon 5/4

“Saxon teaches students using a spiral-format that consistently reviews older concepts, adding more and more information to concepts they have previously encountered.”

- Saxon Teacher's Edition

## Topics include:

- Compare the values represented by digits in whole numbers using place value
  - Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
  - Identify factors and multiples of a number
  - Solve single- and multi- step word problems involving multi-digit multiplication
  - Convert a mixed number to a fraction and vice versa
  - Convert a decimal to a fraction and vice versa
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# ENRICHMENT / SPECIALS

- Daily convocation
- Weekly art, music, physical education, and chorale classes
- Students bring their studies to life by creating salt dough and cookie dough maps, a year-long History portfolio, and they get to experience Egypt and the Ancients at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

