In third grade, students will read and respond to classic and contemporary literature, informational texts, biographies, fables, folktales, myths, poetry, and drama. They will apply word analysis skills to unfamiliar words (e.g., identify common prefixes and suffixes, segment multisyllabic words, decode irregularly spelled words). Third grade reading skills are introduced and supported during literature discussions, partner reading, guided reading, content area reading (e.g., social studies and science), reading conferences, and independent reading time with teachers, caregivers, family members and community members. Within these structures, students participate in a wide variety of activities (e.g., compare/contrast details, use text features and search tools to locate information, learn new vocabulary words, use illustrations to support comprehension, understand point of view, etc.).
Georgia Standards of Excellence / English Language Arts
Third Grade: Writing

In third grade, students produce numerous pieces of writing that are clear and understandable to the reader. They will begin to write stories with dialogue and descriptions of characters’ actions, along with independent research papers that take place over time. Third grade writers also develop revising and editing skills (e.g., word choice, sentence structure, spelling, grammar and punctuation). Third grade writing skills are introduced and supported during mini lessons, writing conferences, independent writing, author circles and inquiry project time with caregivers, family members and community members. Within these structures, children participate in a wide variety of activities (e.g., write in a range of genres including narratives, memoirs, poems, reports, persuasive texts, digital texts, and journals; engage in peer editing, etc.)

**ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT WRITING GROWTH AT HOME:**
- Ask your child to respond to suggestions from others and revise an original piece of writing
- Ask your child to write about a topic, stating opinions and providing reasons
- Encourage your child to use the computer and keyboard for writing
- Share with your child the importance of planning, revising, and editing
- Help your child write notes from multiple sources to be used in short research reports
Georgia Standards of Excellence / English Language Arts
Third Grade: Speaking and Listening

*Follow agreed upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles
*Ask questions to check understanding
*Speak in complete sentences

*Create engaging audio recordings of stories and poems to support fluency
*Add visual displays to enhance certain facts or details
*Explain one’s ideas and understandings in light of the discussion

*Ask and answer questions about information heard from a speaker
*Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with details
*Summarize written text read aloud or information presented in diverse media or formats

*Come to discussions prepared
*Determine main ideas and supporting details of a read aloud or information presented in diverse media formats
*Speak clearly at an understandable pace

Time
Complexity

Increasing size of overlapping circles represents the cumulative nature of learning

ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT SPEAKING AND LISTENING AT HOME:
- Have your child share the main idea of a story or topic
- Ask your child to share an opinion on a topic of interest
- Engage your child in a conversation where s/he offers relevant information and listens to others
- Help your child prepare and give reports on different topics
- Invite your child to record his/her oral reading to enhance fluency
- Have your child use formal and informal language structures depending on the context
- Have your child ask questions about information heard from another person
- Invite your child to use interactive technology (e.g., Skype, telephone)

In third grade, students will engage in discussions, presentations, and conversations on a variety of topics. They summarize main ideas and explain their ideas in light of discussions. Third grade speaking and listening skills are introduced and supported during whole class and small group discussion, community circle, turn and talk, literature discussions with teachers, caregivers, family members and community members. Within these structures, students participate in a wide variety of activities (e.g., determine main idea and supporting details, make audio recordings, listen carefully to a speaker and ask questions, conduct interviews, give speeches, participate in debates, and assume different roles, such as participant, leader, observer, etc.).

*Selected standards for speaking and listening highlight the increase in complexity over time
In third grade, students will continue to learn and practice the rules for spoken and written language. They will begin to appreciate the nuances of language (e.g., literal, metaphorical, abstract) and how to choose words and phrases for effect. **Language** skills are introduced and supported during whole and small group discussions, turn and talk, literature discussions, read alouds, partner reading, mini lessons, reading and writing conferences, and project work time with teachers, caregivers, family members and community members. Within these structures, students participate in a wide variety of activities (e.g., read and write stories, reports, journals, poems, and persuasive texts, engage in research projects, learn new vocabulary words, engage in conversations, etc.)

**ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT LANGUAGE GROWTH AT HOME:**

- Encourage your child to use language to express ideas, opinions, wonderings
- Provide opportunities for your child to correctly use nouns, verbs, pronouns, conjunctions, prepositions and adjectives
- Invite your child to use new words in conversations and in writing
- Ask your child to use reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, etc) to check spellings and clarify meaning
- Help your child figure out new words by looking at the root, prefix, suffix and context of the sentence
- Introduce a wide variety of reading materials to your child