

Third Grade Program - Goals and Objectives

In the third grade, our religion studies focus on understanding the key concepts of faith, such as Law, Gospel, confession, repentance, forgiveness and grace. Selected, sequential Bible stories are read that span Biblical history. In social studies, students learn about communities, focusing on our own community, Danbury, and how our community compares to those around the world. Students explore government on the local, county, state and national levels. Students discuss the use of natural resources, farming, mining and port communities. In math, students review basic addition and subtraction facts, and progress to addition and subtraction of four-digit numbers. Multiplication and division by one-digit numbers and progress into double digits is learned. Students also explore geometry, fractions and measurement. The science curriculum focuses on life cycles of plants and animals, the sun, moon and stars, energy, the Earth's water and the role of living things. Students continue to develop cursive writing skills and improve legibility. Students learn about parts of grammar, and an emphasis is placed on correctly written English sentences and paragraphs. The reading curriculum is based on the Balanced Literacy approach, which includes the skills students need in

order to be successful readers. Reading focuses on choosing books that are appropriate for each student's reading level, learning literary elements, fiction and non-fiction texts, poetry and author studies. Students are encouraged to read independently for enjoyment. In spelling/vocabulary, students learn new vocabulary words and their spellings and meanings, root words, use of context clues and focus on correctly spelling words in written work. In writing, students focus on the proper stages of the writing process, editing their work and publishing their writing pieces. Various styles of writing are taught.