

WGA Team 3rd Grade FAQ

Based on data we've collected over the past years, we have compiled a list of frequently asked questions and answers to support you and your child this year. Keep checking back as this list will grow as new questions arise.

What does it mean to be a WGA 3rd grader?

- Third grade is a pivotal year because it is the transition between primary and intermediate education. It is the first year that students take the Arizona State Assessments for ELA, Writing and Math. As a team, we work to help students navigate this transition.
- Our grade level focuses on the WGA core values of kindness, bravery, and adaptability as we build community.
- We recognize that we have a percentage of students who are new to our model. We work to facilitate adjustment to this new environment for new students at the same time as we deepen the process for our returning students.
- Third grade believes that choice is an important way to help students become invested in their learning. We are committed to creating a balance between student choice and rigor.
- A healthy growth mindset is a tool that helps students persevere and succeed as the standards and learning objectives become more complex.
- A WGA 3rd grader is curious, creative, and artistic and we feel so lucky to spend time with them each and every day!

What are all the ways I can stay connected to my child's experience at WGA and in 3rd grade?

[We expect each family to sign up for the Infinite Campus Portal](#) to stay up-to-date on student progress on both classwork and homework. Parents can adjust their settings to receive notifications. You can also follow 3rd grade through Facebook and Instagram @wga3rd. Both social media platforms will contain the same exact posts. Please also email us anytime with concerns, questions, and anything fun you would like to share. Email anytime:

asad.megan@cusd80.com

darden.melanie@cusd80.com

doherty.sarah@cusd80.com

leigh.ashleigh@cusd80.com

stjohn.tera@cusd80.com

What is Google Classroom?

Google Classroom is just like the classroom - some things are turned in for a grade while others are just a learning experience. For information on your child's grades and assignment completion, please refer to Infinite Campus.

What should I do if my student has missing assignments on Infinite Campus?

Students are given adequate time to complete their assignments in class. We understand that our students are working on developing their time management skills. We provide support in class, but sometimes things don't get done. A missing assignment on Infinite Campus indicates that your child did not complete the assignment in the time allocated, which may mean that they need to bring it home to complete. If you see an assignment marked as missing in Infinite Campus, please have a conversation with your child first. If you have any further questions, please reach out to your child's teacher.

What I need to know about homework in 3rd Grade?

We have found over the years that many of our students are busy with after school extracurricular activities. Our students play sports, take language classes, music lessons and so on. To avoid added stress we typically won't add an assignment at the end of a day.

Since third grade is such a transitional year, we follow a homework procedure that allows that transition to happen naturally. In quarters 1 and 2, homework follows the second grade model of a monthly choice board. In quarters 3 and 4, homework follows the fourth grade model of unfinished work.

As a parent, if you feel that your child is in need of extra educational work time then we recommend that you look at the options on our 'At Home Resources' tab on our grade level website. Your child should not exceed 60 minutes of homework a night. It is so important that your child advocates for themselves so we know how to best help them.

Where can I find information about what my child is learning this year?

[Visit the Standards and Curriculum page on the District website.](#) Please refer to our curriculum slides for a more comprehensive explanation. As a general rule, students will learn math and language arts standards at the grade level above. Science and social studies will be at grade level. Teachers will use a variety of assessments to determine achievement and to design learning activities that meet student needs. When applicable, students might explore standards more than one grade level above.

What do I do if my child has extended absences?

If a child is absent due to sickness, vacation, or life, they will be given extra days to complete their work. We do not provide school work prior to family vacations. We believe that children who are sick should be resting and recuperating rather than working on school work. We will help to catch them up when they get back!

How can I celebrate my child's birthday at school?

WGA celebrates birthdays on the daily announcements. Your child is welcome to bring small, non-food items or goodie bags to share with classmates if they wish. They will be sent home at the end of the day.

Field Trips

To enhance our in-classroom learning, third grade has two field trips per year. Students will learn about our science and social studies standards at the Scottsdale Center for Urban Wildlife and the Heard Museum.