

The Year 3 Learner

Approach

In English lessons, children are taught speaking, listening, reading and writing skills through studying a variety of styles of writing (genres). Teachers follow the Teaching Sequence for Writing, which means that children will firstly be taught to read and understand the text, then practise the skills of the style of writing (including grammar) and apply into their own writing.

The Primary National Curriculum statements will be taught through the modules below.

Y3 English Coverage

The year 3 English curriculum consists of the following genre of writing.

Fiction: Traditional Tales, Fables, Plays and Adventure Stories

Poetry: Including rhymes, limericks, free verse and syllable poems e.g. Haikus

Non-Fiction: Instructions, Recounts, Persuasive Writing and Explanations.

Key poets/authors your children will encounter are:

Ann Fine,
Dick King-Smith
Jill Murphy
Allen Ahlberg
Michael Rosen

Michael Morpurgo
Enid Blyton
Roald Dahl
Ted Hughes
Sally Gardner

Recommended reading list

Woof!
The Winter Hedgehog
The Railway Cat
Keeping Henry
The Magic Finger
Fantastic Mr Fox
Animals of Farthing Wood
The Diary of the Killer Cat
Beaver Towers
The Hodgeheg
Dragon Boy
Alexander McCall Smith
The Dancing Bear
The Butterfly Lion
The Worst Witch
The Enchanted Horse
The Own Tree
The Hundred Mile an Hour Dog

Allen Ahlberg
Ann and Reg Cartwright
Phyllis Arkle
Nina Bawden
Roald Dahl
Roald Dahl
Colin Dann
Ann Fine
Nigel Hinton
Dick King Smith
Dick King-Smith
The Perfect Hamburger
Michael Morpurgo
Michael Morpurgo
Jill Murphy
Magdalen Nabb
Jenny Nimmo
Jeremy Strong

Curriculum Content

Speaking and Listening

Children will be taught to discuss their learning and to develop speaking skills. They will become more familiar with and confident in, using language in a variety of situations, for a range of audiences and purposes. They will, for example

- Develop their understanding of a subject through discussions, learning to give their opinions and listened to other view points
- Speak clearly and in different ways for drama, formal presentations and debate.

Reading

This part of the curriculum is broken down into 'word reading' and 'comprehension'.

At this stage, word reading skills (including phonics) will continue to be taught, but the main focus will be helping children to understand what they are reading (comprehension). In comprehension children will be taught key skills to enable them to read, understand and enjoy a wide range of books. They will, for example:

- Listen frequently to stories, poems, non-fiction and other writing.
- Ask and answer a range of questions about a text
- Discuss ideas that are not obviously described in a text eg 'Explain why the character behaved in this way.'
- Describe characters, summarise plots and predict what might happen next
- Explore themes and conventions in a range of books eg good versus evil
- Consider the effect of the author's choice of language
- Offer opinions about what they have read and justify their views

Writing

Writing is developed through teaching the following:

Spelling: Children should learn to spell new words correctly and have opportunities to practise spelling skills. They will begin to learn and use the words included in Appendix 1 of the National Curriculum for years 3 & 4. They will be taught spelling patterns and conventions, building on the spellings taught in Year 2.

Handwriting: This will continue to be taught, building on the joined writing started in Year 2 and with the aim of increasing consistency and fluency throughout their independent writing.

Composition (structure): This includes vocabulary, grammar and punctuation. To develop their composition skills, the children will be taught to

- Plan, draft, compose, edit and evaluate their writing
- Use an increasing range of sentence structures
- Write sentences that include when, where and why something happens
- Write for a range of purposes and audiences as part of their work across the curriculum. In year 3 this will include (cross curricular example, schools to insert their own)
- Check whether their work makes sense

Grammar will be taught throughout the writing process and teachers will follow the terms and concepts of Appendix 2 of the National Curriculum.

Should you wish for a more detailed explanation, please follow this link to the [Primary National Curriculum document](#)