

**Poudre School District
LANGUAGE ARTS
ESSENTIAL STANDARDS for THIRD GRADE**

**STANDARD 1: READING
Students read and understand a variety of materials**

1.1 BENCHMARK: COMPREHENSION SKILLS

Students will use a variety of comprehension skills in reading (e.g., preview, predict, compare and contrast, self-monitor, summarize)

- Identify what is known and needs to be known about a topic before reading about it
- Apply information and make connections from reading
- Draw inferences using contextual clues
- Use information in texts to support main ideas
- Summarize text passages, focused on literal meaning, supported with details from text

1.2 BENCHMARK: PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

Make connections between texts and prior knowledge and identify knowledge needed before reading about topic

1.3 BENCHMARK: READING PURPOSE

Adjust reading strategies for different purposes

- Read at an appropriate rate
- Use organizational patterns to comprehend texts (e.g., chronological order, sequencing, cause and effect)

1.4 BENCHMARK: WORD RECOGNITION STRATEGIES

Use a variety of word recognition skills and resources

- Use prefixes, suffixes and roots to decode multi-syllabic words
- Use self-correcting strategies to decode unknown words

1.5 BENCHMARK: VOCABULARY

Use information from reading to increase vocabulary and enhance language usage

- Use word walls and other sources to determine word meaning

**STANDARD 2: WRITING AND SPEAKING
Students write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences**

2.1 BENCHMARK: GENRE

Write and speak in a variety of genres

- Write narrative texts with characters and setting (place)
- Write personal narratives with beginning, middle and end
- Write basic expository paragraphs

2.2 BENCHMARK: AUDIENCE AND PURPOSE

Write and speak for a variety of audiences and purposes

- Understand that writing has voice

2.3 BENCHMARK: WRITING PROCESS

Use the steps of the writing process (e.g., plan, draft, revise, edit, share)

- Know and practice all steps of the writing process
- Revise and edit writing to produce a second draft to be shared
- Use basic editing marks to correct first draft, e.g., spelling, capitalization, punctuation, inserting a word or letter

***Skills listed on this document should be mastered at the grade level where they appear.**

- 2.4 BENCHMARK: DEVICES AND WORD CHOICE**
Use a variety of devices (e.g., figure of speech, symbolism, dialect, vocabulary) to convey meaning
- Use active and precise verbs
 - Use a variety of **sentence** beginnings
- 2.5 BENCHMARK: ORGANIZATION**
Use a variety of strategies to organize written and oral presentations (e.g., lists, outlining, cause/effect, comparison/contrast)
- Use graphic organizers and lists to organize writing
 - Organize writing with a main idea and supporting details
- 2.6 BENCHMARK: PRODUCT PRESENTATION**
Use appropriate strategies to publish writing
- Choose presentation method appropriate to the **purpose**
 - Create a legible document
 - Write in cursive style

STANDARD 3: LANGUAGE STRUCTURE

Students write and speak using conventional grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling

- 3.1 BENCHMARK: GRAMMAR AND USAGE**
Use conventions of grammar and usage in writing and speaking
- Use correct subject/verb agreement
- 3.2 BENCHMARK: SENTENCE STRUCTURE**
Use correct sentence structure in writing
- Write complete simple **sentences**
- 3.3 BENCHMARK: PUNCTUATION**
Use conventions of punctuation in writing
- Use commas for day, month and year; greetings and closings in friendly letters; and cities and states
 - Use apostrophes in contractions
- 3.4 BENCHMARK: CAPITALIZATION**
Use conventions of capitalization in writing
- Capitalize simple titles and holidays (Miss Jones, Fourth of July)
- 3.5 BENCHMARK: SPELLING**
Use conventions of spelling in writing
- Use age-appropriate spelling with phonetic spelling for difficult words
 - Identify, use and spell regular plurals

STANDARD 4: THINKING AND VIEWING

Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing

- 4.1 BENCHMARK: THINKING AND ANALYTICAL SKILLS**
Use thinking and analytical skills in writing, reading, speaking, listening and viewing
- Understand oral directions
- 4.2 BENCHMARK: PROBLEM SOLVING**
Use reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing to define and solve problems

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- 4.3 BENCHMARK: OPINIONS**
Recognize, express and support opinions orally and in writing
- Identify opinions
- 4.4 BENCHMARK: AUTHOR’S POINT OF VIEW**
Know the purpose, perspective and historical and cultural influences of a speaker, author or director
- Identify narrator of a story
- 4.5 BENCHMARK: EVALUATION**
Use a variety of criteria to evaluate information (e.g., reliability, accuracy, relevancy)
- Understand that rubrics and checklists are used to evaluate student work

STANDARD 5: RESEARCH

Students read to locate, select and make use of relevant information from a variety of media, reference and technological sources

- 5.1 BENCHMARK: RESOURCES**
Understand the structure, organization and use of resources to gather information for research
- Use a variety of informational resources to locate information, with support
 - Alphabetize to the third letter
- 5.2 BENCHMARK: ORGANIZATION OF INFORMATION**
Use a variety of strategies to organize information
- Use resources to locate information about a topic
 - Sort information as it relates to a specific topic and specific **purpose**
- 5.3 BENCHMARK: DOCUMENTATION**
Document information sources
- List resources used by title
- 5.4 BENCHMARK: RESEARCH PRODUCTS**
Communicate the results of research

STANDARD 6: LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience

- 6.1 BENCHMARK: LITERARY TERMINOLOGY**
Recognize and use literary terminology
- Identify physical and personality traits in characters
- 6.2 BENCHMARK: READING GENRES**
Read a variety of literary and informational texts
- Read, respond to, and gain meaning from a variety of literature (e.g., folk tales, legends, directions)
- 6.3 BENCHMARK: CULTURE**
Read to learn about culture
- Compare tales from different cultures by character types or observation of the use of natural phenomena (e.g., seasons, constellations, land formations, animal behaviors)
- 6.4 BENCHMARK: LITERARY ANALYSIS**
Use a variety of strategies to understand and analyze texts

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