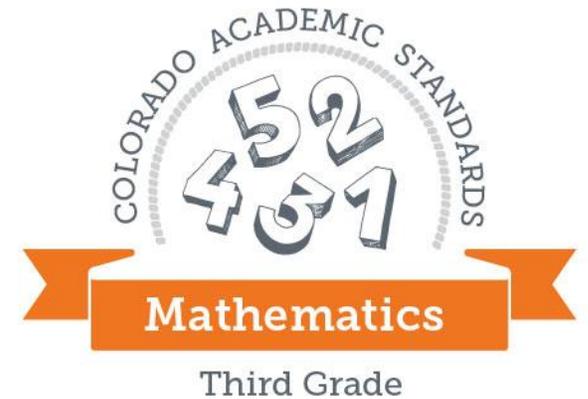


# A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



## Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for Third Grade Mathematics. This guide offers some learning experiences students may engage in during this school year, experiences that may also be supported at home.

## Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas – emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

## Mathematics for Elementary Schools (k-5)

The mathematics standards in the elementary years focus on developing students' understanding of number and those concepts from geometry that strengthen students' ability to visualize number. In each grade students are asked to make sense of problems, explain their thinking, and show their world using mathematics.

## Where can I learn more?

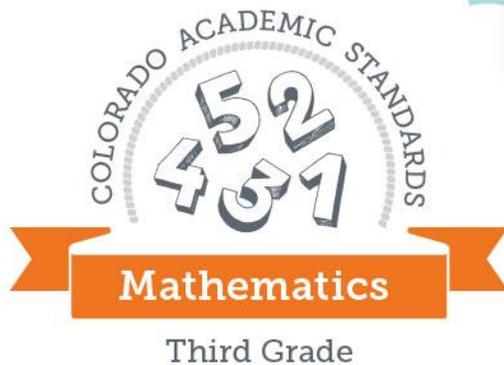
- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Mary Pittman, Mathematics Content Specialist at 303-854-4560, [Pittman\\_m@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Pittman_m@cde.state.co.us)



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

**Colorado PTA**  
everychild. onevoice.

At the end of  
Third Grade,  
students can...



## Mathematics Learning Expectations for Third Grade

### Number

Fluently (consistently) multiply and divide within 100; add and subtract within 1000; understand the relationship between multiplication and division; understand fractions as numbers.

### Geometry and Measurement

Find the area of a rectangle and connect area to the meaning of multiplication and division; create categories of shapes based on attributes.

### Data

Create pictographs and bar graphs and connect them to the concepts of multiplication and division.

## Throughout the Third Grade, you may find students...

- Solving word problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.
- Showing multiplication and division using pictures of equal groups and equations; playing games to build fluency (consistency) with basic facts by discovering patterns related to multiplication and division.
- Connecting their work with fractions to their work with whole numbers (verbally counting with fractions); drawing shapes to show fractions; locating fractions on a number line and ruler
- Determining shapes that belong to more than one category (all squares are rectangles but not all rectangles are squares).
- Covering shapes with squares to understand the difference between area and perimeter.