

THIRD GRADE READING VOCABULARY

***New words and definitions are assigned weekly. Students are responsible for knowing each word's definition as well as using it in a sentence.

GRANDFATHER'S JOURNEY

1. towering: very tall; lofty
2. journey: a long trip
3. enormous: much greater than the usual size or amount; very large
4. steamship: a large ship that is powered by steam
5. New World: North and South America; the Western Hemisphere
6. scattered: to spread or throw about in various places; to separate or cause to separate and go in different directions
7. surrounded: to be on all sides of; form a circle around
8. marveled: to feel wonder and astonishment
9. astonished: to surprise very much; amaze

PHOEBE AND THE SPELLING BEE

1. groaning: to make a deep, sad sound
2. mock: not real; imitation; to make fun of in a mean way
3. correct: not having any mistakes; accurate; to mark the mistakes in, change to make right
4. legend: a story passed down through the years that many people believe but that is not entirely true
5. consonant: a letter of the alphabet that is not a vowel.
6. embarrass: to make someone feel shy, uncomfortable, or ashamed
7. disaster: an event that causes much suffering or loss
8. unusual: not usual, common, or ordinary
9. pedestrian: a person who travels on foot; walker
10. continue: to go on or do after stopping; to keep on happening, being, or doing; go on without stopping

OPT: AN ILLUSIONARY TALE

1. crooked: not straight; bent or curving
2. banners: a flag or other piece of cloth that has a design and sometimes writing on it.
3. prongs: one of the pointed ends of an antler or of a fork or other tool
4. gift: something given, a present; talent, ability
5. guard: a person who is assigned to watch over things; to keep safe from harm or danger; protect
6. length: the distance from one end to the other end
7. royal: of or pertaining to a king or queen or their family
8. within: in or into the inner part or parts of
9. straighten: to make or become straight; to put into proper order

MAX MALONE MAKES A MILLION

1. ceiling: the inside overhead surface of a room
2. section: a part of an area or group; a part taken from a whole, portion
3. cents: a coin of the United States and Canada
4. eager: wanting very much to do something
5. including: to have as part of the whole; contain
6. scene: the place where something happens; a part of an act in a play or movie
7. appendix: a short, hollow pouch that is attached to the large intestine
8. decimals: a period put before a decimal fraction; a fraction with a denominator of 10, or a multiple of 10 such as 100 or 1,000.
9. autograph: to write one's name in one's own handwriting; a person's signature written in that person's own handwriting.

10. mobbed: to crowd around in excitement or anger; a large number of people; crowd

CHAMPIONS OF THE WORLD

1. wrap: to cover by putting something around
2. souvenir: something that is kept because it reminds one of person, place, or event
3. fans: a person who is very interested in or enthusiastic about something
4. cork: the light, thick outer bark of a kind of oak tree
5. pitcher: a baseball player who throws the ball to the batter
6. celebrated: to observe or honor a special day or event with ceremonies and other activities
7. score: the points or a record of the points made in a game or on a test; to make a point or points in a game or test
8. season: any special part of the year; one of the four parts of the year, spring, summer, fall, or winter
9. Little League: a baseball league for children under thirteen years of age
10. Mark McGwire: a famous baseball player who hit 70 home runs
11. Sammy Sosa: a famous baseball player who hit 66 home runs

CITY GREEN

1. area: a particular space, region, or section
2. stems: the main part of a plant that supports the leaves and flowers
3. halfway: to or at half the distance; midway
4. rubble: rough, broken pieces of stone, rock, or other solid material.
5. petition: a formal request that is made to a person in authority; to make a formal request to
6. schedule: the time at which something is supposed to happen
7. excitement: the condition of being excited
8. heap: a collection of things piled together
9. lease: to rent; a written agreement for renting a house, apartment, or land

THE SUN, THE WIND, AND THE RAIN

1. canyons: a deep valley with very high, steep sides.
2. traded: to give one thing in return for something else.
3. handful: the amount the hand can hold at one time; a small number
4. eons: a very long period of time
5. jagged: having sharp points that stick out
6. grains: a tiny, hard piece of something; the seed of wheat, corn, rice, oats, and other cereal plants
7. flowed: to move along steadily in a stream
8. peaks: a high mountain, or the pointed top of a high mountain; a sharp or pointed end or top
9. crumble: to break into small pieces; to fall apart or be destroyed.

DREAM WOLF

1. buffalo: a large North American animal that has a big shaggy head with short horns and a hump on its back; bison. Any of various oxen of Europe, Asia, and Africa
2. echoes: the repeating of a sound. Echoes are caused when sound waves bounce off a surface
3. darkness: a partial or total absence of light; the result of a light going out.
4. den: a place where wild animals rest or sleep.
5. kinship: a relationship or close connection
6. shelter: to find or take refuge; to give shelter to; something that covers or protects.
7. ripe: fully grown and ready to be eaten.
8. herds: a group of animals that live or travel together.
9. haunches: a part of the body of a person or animal including the hip and upper thigh.

SPIDERS AT WORK

1. capture: to catch and hold a person, animal, or thing.
2. ruin: harm or damage greatly. Destruction, damage, or collapse
3. skills: the power or ability to do something.
4. prey: an animal that is hunted by another animal for food.
5. arachnids: any of a large group of small animals without a backbone. The body of an arachnid is divided into two parts. Arachnids have four pairs of legs and no antennae or wings.
6. struggles: to make a great effort.
7. serious: dangerous, not joking; sincere.
8. liquid: a form of matter that is not a solid or a gas. A liquid can flow easily. It can take on the shape of any container into which it is poured
9. feelers: a part of an animal's body that is used for touching things.
10. black widow: a black spider. The female black widow is poisonous and has a red mark on her body. The female black widow is larger than the male.
11. daddy long-legs: a kind of bug that looks like a spider. A daddy-longlegs has a small, round body and eight very long, thin legs.

TIME FOR KIDS: WEB WONDERS

1. crops: plants that are grown to be used as a food or to be sold for profit.
2. woven: formed or made by lacing together thread, yarn, or strips of straw or other material.
3. respect: high regard or consideration; to have or show honor or consideration for.
4. hatch: to come from an egg
5. earthquake: a shaking or trembling of the ground. Earthquakes are caused by rock, lava, or hot gases moving deep inside the earth.
6. dragonflies: an insect that has a long, thin body and two pairs of wings.
7. tarantula: a hairy spider that is found in warm areas.
8. soldiers: a person who is a member of an army.

MOSES GOES TO A CONCERT

1. concert: a performance, usually a musical performance by a number of musicians.
2. musician: a person who is skilled in playing a musical instrument, composing music, or singing.
3. ill: not healthy or well; sick
4. applaud: to show approval or enjoyment of something by clapping the hands.
5. orchestra: a group of musicians playing together on various instruments. The area just in front of a stage in which the orchestra plays
6. triangle: a musical instrument made of a metal bar bent in the shape of a triangle. A figure or object with three sides and three angles.
7. percussionist: one who is skilled in playing percussion instruments, such as the drum, cymbal, xylophone, and piano.
8. instrument: a device for producing musical sounds. A device used for doing a certain kind of work; tool.
9. deaf: not able to hear, or not able to hear well.
10. conductor: a person who leads a group of musicians. A person on a train or bus who collects fares and assists passengers.
11. vibration: rapid movement back and forth or up and down.

THE LITTLE PAINTER OF SABANA GRANDE

1. dawn: the first light that appears in the morning.

2. adobe: a sandy kind of clay used to make bricks. Bits of straw are sometimes mixed with the clay, and the bricks are dried in the sun.
3. shallow: not deep
4. sloth: a slow-moving animal that lives in the forests of South America. Sloths use their long arms and legs and their curved claws to hang upside down from trees.
5. blossoms: the flower of a plant or tree, especially one that produces fruit. To have flowers or blossoms; bloom.
6. miserable: very unhappy; wretched. Causing discomfort or unhappiness.
7. faded: to lose freshness; wither. To lose or cause to lose color or brightness.
8. toucan: a bird that has a heavy body, a very large beak, and colorful feathers.
9. imaginary: existing only in the mind; unreal.

THE PATCHWORK QUILT

1. attic: the space just below the roof of a house.
2. flexed: to bend
3. gazed: to look at something a long time. A long steady look.
4. snipping: the act or sound of cutting with scissors in short, quick strokes.
5. costume: clothes worn in order to look like someone or something else.
6. mischievous: playful but naughty
7. anxious: wanting very much; eager. Nervous, worried, or fearful about what may happen.
8. pattern: the way in which colors, shapes, or lines are arranged or repeated in some order.
9. trimmed: to cut away or remove parts to make something neat and orderly.
10. examined: to look at closely and carefully; check. To question in a careful way or test, usually to discover what a person knows.
11. jingled: to make or cause to make a tinkling or ringing sound.

PECOS BILL

1. combine: to cause to mix together; blend.
2. wilderness: a natural place where no people live. In a wilderness there may be a dense forest and wild animals.
3. stumbled: to lose one's balance; trip
4. located: 1.)to put or settle in a particular place; 2.)to find the place or position of
5. mustang: a wild horse that lives on the American plains; bronco.
6. invented: 1.)to make or think of for the first time; create 2.)to make up
7. longhorns: a breed of cattle with very long horns. Longhorns were once common in the southwestern United States.
8. prairie: flat or rolling land covered with grass. A prairie has few trees.
9. tall tale: a made-up story or exaggerated story; a tale too fantastic to believe
10. bronco-busting: the act of taming and training wild horses.
11. lasso: a long rope with a loop. A lasso is used to catch animals. To catch with a lasso.

A VERY COOL PLACE TO VISIT

1. palace: a very large, grand building where a king, queen, or other ruler usually lives.
2. creeps: to move slowly along the ground or over a surface
3. beauty: a quality that makes a person or a thing pleasing to look at, hear, or think about
4. pure: 1. Nothing but 2. Not mixed with anything else
5. furniture: tables, chairs, beds, and other movable articles used in a home or office
6. visitors: a person who visits
7. Sweden: a country in northern Europe

8. northern lights: shining bands of light that can be seen in the night sky in the Northern Hemisphere.

THE TERRIBLE EEK

1. humans: 1. A person. 3. Being or having to do with a person or persons
2. weight: the amount of heaviness of a person or thing
3. battering: to hit over and over again with heavy blows.
4. triumphant: successful or victorious.
5. haughtily: thinking of oneself as much better than other people; in an arrogant way.
6. screeched: to make a shrill, harsh cry or sound
7. motion: the act of changing place or position; movement.
8. completely: thoroughly, totally
9. reply: something said, written, or done in answer. To answer in speech, writing, or action
10. meal: 1. The food served or eaten at one time. 2. Grain or other food that has been ground.

IN MY FAMILY

1. comforting: to ease the sorrow or pain of someone.
2. mesquite: a tree or shrub native to the Southwestern U.S. and Mexico.
3. members: a person, animal or thing that belongs to a group.
4. designed: to make a plan, drawing, or outline of; make a pattern for. An arrangement of shapes, parts, hair or colors; pattern
5. dozens: a group of twelve
6. El Jardin: a neighborhood restaurant
7. piñata: a colorfully decorated container originally used in Latin American Christmas and birthday celebrations. It is filled with fruit, candy, and gifts and hung by a string.
8. encouraging: to give courage, hope, or confidence to; urge on.
9. relatives: a person who belongs to the same family as someone else.
10. conjunto: a kind of band that plays drums, accordion, guitar and bass
11. nopalitos: edible, freshly cut cactus pads.
12. empanadas: sweet turnovers filled with sweet potato or squash

CACTUS HOTEL

1. nectar: the sweet liquid formed in flowers
2. saguaro: a tall, sparsely branched cactus native to the Southwestern United States and Mexico.
3. discovered: 1. To notice; come upon. 2. To see or find out for the first time
4. insects: any of a large group of animals without a backbone. The body of an insect is divided into three parts. Insects have three pairs of legs and usually two pairs of wings.
5. treat: something that is a special pleasure
6. bores: to make a hole in
7. paloverde: a tree native to the desert.
8. insulated: to cover or surround with a material that slows or stops the flow of electricity, heat, or sound.
9. remains: 1. to be left 2. To stay behind in the same place
10. ribs: 1. Something that looks like or acts as a rib 2. One of the curved bones that are attached to the backbone and curve around to enclose the chest cavity. The ribs protect the heart.
11. tough: 1. Not easy to break, cut, or damage; strong 2. Able to put up with difficulty, strain, or hardship

BIG BLUE WHALE

1. equator: an imaginary line around the Earth. It is halfway between the North and South Poles.
2. mammal: a kind of animal that is warm-blooded and has a backbone.

3. calm: not moving; still
4. feast: to have a feast; eat richly. A large, rich meal on a special occasion.
5. vast: very great in size or amount.
6. adult: having grown to full size; mature
7. blubber: a layer of fat under the skin of whales, seals, and some other sea animals.
8. krill: tiny, pale pink, shrimp-like creatures the size of a person's little fingers.
9. swallow: to cause food to pass from the mouth to the stomach. A small bird with long wings.
10. baleen plates: tough, flexible bristles hanging from a whale's top jaw.

JJ'S BIG DAY

1. powdered: made into fine bits by grinding, crushing, or crumbling
2. experts: a person who knows a great deal about some special thing.
3. clams: an animal that has a soft body and a hinged shell in two parts.
4. switched: to change
5. compared: to study in order to find out how people or things are alike or different.
6. gain: to get or develop as an increase or addition.
7. squid: a sea animal with long tentacles used as food for whales.
8. funnel: a utensil that has a wide cone at one end and a thin tube at the other.
9. mammal: a kind of animal that is warm-blooded and has a backbone.

LON PO PO

1. disguised: to change the way one looks in order to hide one's real identity or to look like someone else; something that changes or hides the way one looks.
2. route: a road or other course used for traveling
3. delighted: to have or take great pleasure
4. claws: a sharp, curved nail on the foot of a bird or animal
5. paced: to walk back and forth across
6. gingko: a tree with fan-shaped leaves and yellow fruit
7. furious: very angry
8. Lon Po Po: a wolf
9. Shang: eldest and most clever sister
10. Paotze: youngest child
11. Tao: plump, middle sister

ANIMAL FACT/ ANIMAL FABLE

1. temperature: the degree of heat or cold. Temperature is often measured with a thermometer.
2. fable: a made-up or untrue story; a story that is meant to teach a lesson
3. bother: to give trouble to; annoy
4. expects: to think, suppose
5. porcupine: a forest animal whose body is covered with sharp quills
6. rapidly: very quickly; fast
7. beliefs: a feeling that something is true, real, or worthwhile
8. magnified: to make something look bigger than it really is
9. attack: to begin to fight against with violence; assault; the act of attacking
10. ostrich: a large bird that has a long neck, long, strong legs, and a small flat head. The ostrich is the largest of all living birds. It cannot fly, but it can run very fast.
11. label: a piece of cloth, paper, or other material that is fastened to something and gives information about it; to put a label on

THE MANY LIVES OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

1. hero: a person who is looked up to by others because of his or her great achievements of fine qualities.
2. experiment: a test that is used to discover or prove something by watching results very carefully. To make an experiment or experiments.
3. printer: a person or company whose business is to print books, magazines, or other material. An instrument that can be connected to a computer to produce a printed copy of a file that is stored on a disk
4. persisted: to continue firmly and steadily
5. scientific: having to do with or used in science
6. discuss: to talk over, speak about
7. curious: eager to know or learn
8. advice: an idea how to solve a problem or how to act in a certain situation.
9. almanac: a book that gives facts about the weather, the tides, and the rising and setting of the sun for every day of the year.
10. translated: to say in or change into another language.
11. wit: the ability to make clever, amusing, and unusual comments.

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS

1. report: an account, statement, or announcement, often formal or prepared for the public
2. avoid: to keep away from
3. period: a portion of time; a punctuation mark used at the end of a declarative or an imperative sentence, or at the end of an abbreviation.
4. brief: short in time
5. frequently: happening often; taking place again and again
6. gradual: happening little by little; moving or changing slowly
7. hurricane: a storm with very strong winds and heavy rain
8. portion: an amount of food served to one person
9. drifts: something that has been moved along or piled up by air or water currents.
10. abandon: to leave without intending to return; desert
11. sanitation: the protection of people's health by keeping living conditions clean.

PURE POWER

1. model: a small-sized copy of something. To make or design something.
2. pollution: the act or process of polluting. Harmful materials such as certain gases, chemicals, and wastes.
3. coal: a black mineral that is burned as a fuel to heat buildings or make electricity. Coal is mostly carbon and is formed from decaying plants buried deep in the earth under great pressure.
4. fuels: something that is used to produce heat or power by burning.
5. energy: the capacity for doing work. Some forms of energy are light, heat, and electricity.
6. future: the time that is to come
7. entire: having all the parts; with nothing missing
8. produce: to make or create something
9. solar: using or powered by the energy of the sun. Having to do with or coming from the sun.

THE BAT BOY AND HIS VIOLIN

1. talented: having or showing talent
2. equipment: anything that is provided for a particular purpose or use; supplies
3. perform: to sing, act, or do something in public that requires skill
4. mistakes: something that is not correctly done, said, or thought
5. invisible: not able to be seen; not visible

6. pennant: a long, narrow flag that is shaped like a triangle
7. inning: one of the parts into which a baseball or softball game is divided
8. accept: to receive or admit, often with favor or approval, to take something that is given.
9. cleats: a projecting piece on the bottom of a shoe that gives it grip
10. integrated: to make open to people of all races; to bring parts together into a whole

TWO BAD ANTS

1. gripped: to take hold of firmly and tightly
2. antennae: one of a pair of long thin body parts, such as that on the head of an insect or a lobster.
3. kingdom: a country that is ruled by a king or a queen
4. bobbed: to move up and down or back and forth with a jerky motion.
5. crystal: something that certain substances form when they change into a solid. Crystals have flat surfaces and a regular shape.
6. vanished: to go out of sight or existence.
7. unbearably: in a way that is unendurable or unable to be tolerated.
8. bitter: having a biting, harsh bad taste.
9. stunned: to make unconscious.
10. whirling: turning around quickly in a circle.

DO ANIMALS THINK

1. subject: something thought or talked about; a course or field that is studied
2. crafty: skillful in deceiving; sly; cunning
3. behavior: a way of behaving or acting
4. brain: the large mass of nerve tissue inside the skull of persons and animals. The brain controls the actions of the body. The brain is also the center of thought, memory, learning, and the emotions.
5. social: living together in organized communities
6. solve: to find the answer to
7. mimic: to imitate, especially in order to make fun of
8. instinct: a way of acting or behaving that a person or animal is born with and does not have to learn
9. communicate: to exchange or pass along feelings, thoughts, or information.

WILBUR'S BOAST

1. boasting: to talk, too much or with too much pride about oneself; brag. A bragging statement.
2. hurl: to throw hard and fast; fling
3. considering: to keep in mind
4. spinnerets: an organ for producing silk threads through the secretion of silk glands.
5. conversation: talk between two or more persons.
6. interrupted: to break in upon or stop a person who is acting or speaking.
7. sedentary: doing or requiring much sitting, not active
8. seized: to take hold of; grab. To get control of, capture.
9. hesitated: to wait or stop a moment, especially because of feeling unsure

THE KOALA CATCHERS

1. loops: to make a rounded shape formed by the part of a string, wire, or rope that crosses itself.
2. koala: a furry, chubby animal that lives in Australia.
3. snug: fitting very closely or tightly.
4. pouches: 1. A small bag that can be closed. 2. A natural pocket of skin in the shape of a bag for carrying the young of a female marsupial.
5. starve: to suffer from or die of hunger

6. rescuers: someone who saves or frees people or animals.
7. eucalyptus: a tall evergreen tree or shrub that grows in warm climates.
8. strip: to pull off
9. crate: a box made of wooden slats.