

Grade Level Introduction:  
Third Grade  
2020-2021



### Teacher Contact Information

**Mrs. Melissa Doyle**

*B.S. Psychology – Washington State Univ.*

*M.A. in Teaching – Univ. of Portland*

*ACSI and Arizona Certified*

*Years taught: 10, Years at Casas: 6*

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**Mrs. Amber Kramer**

*B.A. Elementary Education from Point Loma*

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### Grade Level Description

Third grade is an exciting and pivotal year. Our goal is to cultivate in our students a love of God and a love of learning in an atmosphere of respect, acceptance, excellence and love. As third grade teachers, we enjoy creating a rich and fun environment where students can be successful academically, socially and spiritually.

Our curriculum is fun and engaging. Differentiated instruction aims to reach students with different abilities and learning styles by including a variety of activities, games, centers, and role playing. Integrated units provide a highly successful approach that enhances instruction, increases comprehension, provides higher level thinking, and advances vocabulary and writing skills.

Bible is taught as a subject, as well as integrated throughout all other areas of instruction.

In the third grade, we focus on a life-changing relationship with Jesus and daily application of Biblical principles. Students learn Bible verses, songs and Chapel presentations.

Go Math is taught in a math block. Students are actively involved at their readiness level during our Guided Math rotations.

Book Clubs are a big part of third grade. In these groups, students gain a love for reading. Students are given literature choices that fall within their readiness level for reading. Students are actively engaged in responding and writing about high engagement literature.

In writing, we use the Six Traits of Writing model. Students learn to write poetry, fictional stories, narratives, research and biographies, and friendly and formal letters. Emphasis is placed on the writing process, as well as the end product.

Science and Social Studies are often integrated with the Language Arts instruction. Topics include Biomes, Early Exploration, Inventions, and Ancient Civilizations. These fun and enriching units include labs, projects, field trips, and simulations. Highlights include an Ancient Civilization Day, owl pellet dissection, and an Invention Convention.

Technology and computers are used on a regular basis. Students are encouraged to use technology to do research, presentations, and create word documents that include graphics.

### Grade Level Resources

**Bible:** Purposeful Design

**Reading/Language Arts/Writing:**

McGraw-Hill Wonders

Six-Traits of Writing

Literature Circles

**Math:** Go Math

**Science:** Harcourt/Varied text sets and additional resources

**Social Studies:** Harcourt Publishers

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**Special Events**

Biome Projects  
Owl Pellet Dissection  
Ancient Civilization Day  
Early Explorer Reports  
STEM Science Activities  
Invention Convention  
Spelling Bee  
Book Clubs  
Math Olympics

**Field Trips**

Flandrau Center – U of A  
Symphony  
Golf 'N Stuff

**Service Projects**

100 Hours of Service  
Letters of Encouragement project  
Feed My Starving Children