Arizona English Language Arts Standards: Grade 3 Summary of Changes

Standards, Curriculum, and Instruction

Standards are what a student needs to know, understand, and be able to do by the end of each grade. Standards build across grade levels in a progression of increasing understanding and through a range of cognitive demand levels. Standards are adopted at the state level by the State Board of Education.

Curriculum refers to the resources used for teaching and learning the standards. Curricula are adopted at the local level by districts and schools.

Instruction refers to the methods used by teachers to teach their students. Instructional techniques are employed by individual teachers in response to the needs of students in their classes to help them progress through the curriculum in order to master the standards.

Overarching Changes to the 2016 Arizona ELA Standards (Impact K-12)

- The required percentages for the use of literary and informational texts across the school day have been removed. There are still 10 Reading Informational Text and 9 Reading Literature standards at each grade level, so a balance of texts is necessary. However, that balance is now determined at the local level.
- The 6-12 Literacy Standards for History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects have been removed. Grades 6-12 content area teachers will now integrate the new ELA Reading Informational Text, Writing, and Speaking & Listening standards in place of the Grades 6-12 Standards for Literacy in History, Science, and Technical Subjects.
- The two text complexity standards in grades 2-12 now require the use of quantitative and qualitative measures to determine the appropriateness of a text for a specific grade-level. Guidance on text complexity is found in the glossary.
- Examples in the standards that reference specific works or authors have been removed, as curricular items are adopted at the local level.
- A new K-5 Writing: Foundational Skills sub-strand was added to the standards to work with the K-5 Reading: Foundational Skills sub-strand and the Language strand to support early literacy skills.

Additions to the 2016 Arizona El 3rd Grade Standards	A Deletions from the 2016 Arizona ELA 3rd Grade Standards
• 3.RF.3.c	• AZ.3.RI.10 (This standard is subsumed in 3.RI.10.)
• 3.WF.1	• AZ.3.W.4 (This standard is subsumed in 3.W.4.)
• 3.WF.2	• AZ.3.L.1
• 3.WF.3	• 3.L.2.e (A version of this standard now appears in 3.WF.3)
• 3.L.1.j	• 3.L.2.f (A version of this standard now appears in 3.WF.3)
	• 3.L.2.g (A version of this standard now appears in 3.WF.3)

Moves within the 2016 Arizona	Parameter Changes/Clarification to the 2016 Arizona ELA 3rd Grade Standards
ELA 3rd Grade Standards	
• 3.L4.a (2010) moved to 3.L.4.c	• 3.RL.2 - Changed "Recount stories" to "Recount and paraphrase stories."
(2016)	• 3.RL.10 - Added language about using qualitative and quantitative elements for determining text complexity. See glossary for guidance on text
• 3.L4.b (2010) moved to 3.L.4.a	complexity.
(2016)	• 3.RI.2 - Changed "recount the key details" to "recount and and paraphrase the key details."
• 3.L4.c (2010) moved to 3.L.4.b	• 3.RI.10 - Added language about using qualitative and quantitative elements for determining text complexity. See glossary for guidance on text
(2016)	complexity.
	• 3.RF.3 - Changed "in decoding words" to "in decoding one-syllable or multisyllabic words."
	• 3.RF.3c - Changed "Decode multisyllable words" to "Apply knowledge of six syllable types to read grade level words accurately."
	• 3.SL.1.d - Changed "in light of" to "based on."
	• 3.SL.5 - Removed the word "engaging."

Areas of Emphasis to Consider

- The Language, Reading: Foundational Skills, and the new Writing: Foundational Skills standards are designed to work together to improve students' handwriting, decoding, encoding, sentence construction, grammar, and punctuation skills.
- The Writing: Foundational Skills standards call for spelling progressions starting with letter-sound correspondences in grades K-1 (WF.3), moving to patterns and syllables in grades 2-3 (WF.3), and then to morphology (Greek and Latin roots/affixes) in grades 4-5 (4.L.2.d, 4.RF.3 and 5.L.2.e, 5.RF.3).
- The Reading: Foundational Skills call for students to know and apply knowledge of the six syllable types to decode increasingly complex grade appropriate words in grades 1-5 (RF.3).
- The standards call for students to build knowledge through reading in all content areas.
- The standards call for students to speak and write about what they read by drawing upon evidence from the text.
- The standards call for students to closely and carefully read complex grade-level text.
- The standards call for students to focus on academic language when speaking, reading, and writing.

Arizona English Language Arts Standards

Reading Standards for Lite	rature
Key Ideas and Details	
3.RL.1	Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
3.RL.2	Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.
3.RL.3	Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.
Craft and Structure	·
3.RL.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.
3.RL.5	Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.
3.RL.6	Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.
Integration of Knowledge	and Ideas

Arizona English Language Arts Standards

Reading Standards for Literature	
Key Ideas and Details	
3.RL.1	Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
3.RL.2	Recount and paraphrase stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in text.
3.RL.3	Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.
Craft and Structure	
3.RL.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.
3.RL.5	Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.
3.RL.6	Distinguish one's own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.
Integration of Knowledge and Idea	s

illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting). 3.RL.8 (Not applicable to literature) 3.RL.9 Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series). Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity 3.RL.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry, at the high end of the grades 2–3 text complexity band independently and proficiently. Reading Standards for Informational Text Key Ideas and Details 3.Rl.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers. 3.Rl.2 Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea. 3.Rl.3 Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect.	3.RL.7	Explain how specific aspects of a text's
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3.RL.7	Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by
	the words in a story (e.g., create mood,
	emphasize aspects of a character or setting).
3.RL.8	(Not applicable to literature)
3.RL.9	Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and
	plots of stories written by the same author
	about the same or similar characters (e.g., in
	books from a series).
Range of Reading and Level of Text	t Complexity
3.RL.10	By the end of the year, proficiently and
	independently read and comprehend literature,
	including stories, dramas, and poetry, in a text
	complexity range determined by qualitative and
	quantitative measures appropriate to grade 3.
Reading Standards for Information	al Text
Key Ideas and Details	
3.RI.1	Ask and answer questions to demonstrate
	understanding of a text, referring explicitly to
	the text as the basis for the answers.
3.RI.2	Determine the main idea of a text; recount and
	paraphrase the key details and explain how they
	support the main idea.
3.RI.3	Describe the relationship between a series of
	historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or
	steps in technical procedures in a text, using
	language that pertains to time, sequence, and
	cause/effect.
Craft and Structure	

3.RI.4	Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.
3.RI.5	Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.
3.RI.6	Distinguish their own point of view from that of the author of a text.
Integration of Knowledge and Id	deas
3.RI.7	Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).
3.RI.8	Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/second/third in a sequence).
3.RI.9	Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.
Range of Reading and Level of T	Text Complexity
3.RI.10	By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 2–3 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

3.RI.4	Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.
3.RI.5	Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.
3.RI.6	Distinguish one's own point of view from that of the author of a text.
Integration of Knowledge and Idea	ns
3.RI.7	Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).
3.RI.8	Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/second/third in a sequence).
3.RI.9	Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.
Range of Reading and Level of Tex	t Complexity
3.RI.10	By the end of the year, proficiently and independently read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in a text complexity range determined by qualitative and quantitative measures appropriate to grade 3.

AZ.3.RI.10	a. By the end of the year, read and comprehend functional texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 2–3 text complexity band independently and proficiently.		
Reading Standards: Foundation	nal Skills	Reading Standards: F	Foundational Skills
Phonics and Word Recognition		Phonics and Word Re	ecognition
3.RF.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words. a. Identify and know the meaning of the most common prefixes and derivational suffixes. b. Decode words with common Latin suffixes. c. Decode multisyllable words. d. Read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.	3.RF.3	Know and apply phonics and word analysis skills in decoding one-syllable or multisyllabic words. a. Identify and know the meaning of the most common prefixes and derivational suffixes. b. Decode words with common Latin suffixes. c. Apply knowledge of the six syllable types to read grade-level words accurately. d. Read grade-level appropriate irregularly spelled words.
Fluency		Fluency	
3.RF.4	Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension. a. Read on-level text with purpose and understanding. b. Read on-level prose and poetry orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression on successive readings. c. Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary	3.RF.4	Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension. a. Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding. b. Read grade-level prose and poetry orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression on successive readings. c. Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.
Writing Standards		Writing Standards	
Text Types and Purposes		Text Types and Purp	oses

3.W.1	Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons. a. Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons. b. Provide reasons that support the opinion. c. Use linking words and phrases (e.g., because, therefore, since, for example) to connect opinion and reasons. d. Provide a concluding statement or section.	3.W.1	Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, using reasons to support one's point of view. a. Introduce the topic or text, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons. b. Provide reasons that support the opinion. c. Use linking words and phrases (e.g., because, therefore, since, for example) to connect opinion and reasons. d. Provide a concluding statement or section.
3.W.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. a. Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aiding comprehension. b. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details. c. Use linking words and phrases (e.g., also, another, and, more, but) to connect ideas within categories of information. d. Provide a concluding statement or section.	3.W.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. a. Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aiding comprehension. b. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details. c. Use linking words and phrases (e.g., also, another, and, more, but) to connect ideas within categories of information. d. Provide a concluding statement or section.

3.W.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences. a. Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally. b. Use dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations. c. Use temporal words and phrases to signal event order. d. Provide a sense of closure.	3.W.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences. a. Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally. b. Use dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations. c. Use temporal words and phrases to signal event order. d. Provide a sense of closure.
Production and Distri	ibution of Writing	Production and Dist	ribution of Writing
3.W.4	With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)	3.W.4	With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
AZ.3.W.4	a. With guidance and support from adults, produce functional writing (e.g., friendly and formal letters, recipes experiments, notes/messages, labels, graphs/tables, procedures, invitations, envelopes) in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.		
3.W.5	With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grade 3.)	3.W.5	With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grade 3.)

3.W.6	With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.
Research to Build and	Present Knowledge
3.W.7	Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.
3.W.8	Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.
3.W.9	(Begins in grade 4)
Range of Writing	
3.W.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

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3.W.6	With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.
Research to Build and Present Kno	owledge
3.W.7	Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.
3.W.8	Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.
3.W.9	(Begins in grade 4)
Range of Writing	
3.W.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
Writing Standards: Foundational S	kills
Sound-letter Basics and Handwriti	ng
3.WF.1	Demonstrate and apply handwriting skills. a. Read and write cursive letters, upper and lower case. b. Transcribe ideas legibly in cursive and manuscript, with appropriate spacing and indentation.
3.WF.2	Standard ends at grade 2.
Spelling	

Speaking and Listening Standards	
Comprehension and Collaboration	

3.WF.3

Know and apply spelling conventions and patterns.

- a. Spell single-syllable words with less common and complex graphemes (e.g., ough, augh, old, ind, -ost, -ild families).
- b. Identify language of origin for words, as noted in dictionaries.
- c. Spell singular and plural possessives (e.g., teacher's, teachers').
- d. Spell regular two-and three-syllable words that:
- Combine all basic syllable types: closed, VCe (Vowel-Consonant-silent e), open, vowel team, vowel-r, and consonant le.
- 2. Include common, transparent prefixes and suffixes (e.g., re-, pre-, sub-, un-, dis-, mis-; -able, -ness, -ful, -tion).
- e. Spell grade-level appropriate words in English, as found in a research-based list (*See guidelines under *Word Lists* in the ELA Glossary), including:
- 1. Irregular words.
- 2. Pattern-based words.

Speaking and Listening Standards

Comprehension and Collaboration

3.SL.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacherled) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
	a. Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.
	b. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., gaining the floor in respectful ways, listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion). c. Ask questions to check understanding of information presented, stay on topic, and link their comments to the remarks of others. d. Explain their own ideas and understanding based on the discussion.
3.SL.2	Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
3.SL.3	Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.
Presentation of Knowledge and Ide	eas
3.SL.4	Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

Conventions of Standa	Conve	nti	
Language Standards		Langu	ag
3.SL.6	Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification. (See grade 3 Language standards 1 and 3 for specific expectations.)	3.SL.6	
3.SL.5	Create engaging audio recordings of stories or poems that demonstrate fluid reading at an understandable pace; add visual displays when appropriate to emphasize or enhance certain facts or details.	3.SL.5	

3.SL.5	Create audio recordings of stories or poems that demonstrate fluid reading at an understandable pace; add visual displays when appropriate to emphasize or enhance certain facts or details.
3.SL.6	Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification. (See grade 3 Language standards 1 and 3 for specific expectations.)
Language Standards	
Conventions of Standard English	

3.L.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. a. Explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences. b. Form and use regular and irregular plural nouns. c. Use abstract nouns (e.g., childhood). d. Form and use regular and irregular verbs. e. Form and use the simple (e.g., I walked; I walk; I will walk) verb tenses. f. Ensure subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement. g. Form and use comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs, and choose between them depending on what is to be modified. h. Use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. i. Produce simple, compound, and complex sentences.	3.L.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. a. Explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences. b. Form and use regular and irregular plural nouns. c. Use abstract nouns (e.g., childhood). d. Form and use regular and irregular verbs. e. Form and use the simple verb tenses (e.g., I walked; I walk; I will walk). f. Ensure subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement. g. Form and use comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs, and choose between them depending on what is to be modified. h. Use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. i. Produce simple, compound, and complex sentences. j. Write one or more paragraphs that explain a main idea within a topic and support it with details and conclusions/closure.
AZ.3.L.1	j. Write multiple sentences in an order that supports a main idea or story		

3.L.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of	3.L.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of
	Standard English capitalization, punctuation,		Standard English capitalization, punctuation,
	and spelling when writing.		and spelling when writing.
	a. Capitalize appropriate words in titles.		a. Capitalize appropriate words in titles.
	b. Use commas in addresses.		b. Use commas in addresses.
	c. Use commas and quotation marks in dialogue.		c. Use commas and quotation marks in dialogue.
	d. Form and use possessives.		d. Form and use possessives.
	e. Use conventional spelling for high-frequency		
	and other studied words and for adding suffixes		
	to base words (e.g., sitting, smiled, cries,		
	happiness).		
	f. Use spelling patterns and generalizations (e.g.,		
	word families, position-based spellings, syllable		
	patterns, ending rules, meaningful word parts)		
	in writing words.		
	g. Consult reference materials, including		
	beginning dictionaries, as needed to check and		
	correct spellings.		
Knowledge of Language		Knowledge of Language	
3.L.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions	3.L.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions
	when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.		when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
	a. Choose words and phrases for effect.		a. Choose words and phrases for effect.
	b. Recognize and observe differences between		b. Recognize and observe differences between
	the conventions of spoken and written Standard		the conventions of spoken and written Standard
	English.		English.
Vocabulary Acquisition and Use	·	Vocabulary Acquisition and Use	,

3.L.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown	3.L.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown
	and multiple-meaning word and phrases based		and multiple-meaning word and phrases based
	on grade 3 reading and content, choosing		on grade 3 reading and content, choosing
	flexibly from a range of strategies.		flexibly from a range of strategies.
	a. Use sentence-level context as a clue to the		a. Determine the meaning of the new word
	meaning of a word or phrase.		formed when a known affix is added to a known
	b. Determine the meaning of the new word		word (e.g., agreeable/disagreeable,
	formed when a known affix is added to a known		comfortable/uncomfortable, care/careless,
	word (e.g., agreeable/disagreeable,		heat/preheat).
	comfortable/uncomfortable, care/careless,		b. Use a known root word as a clue to the
	heat/preheat).		meaning of an unknown word with the same
	c. Use a known root word as a clue to the		root (e.g., company, companion).
	meaning of an unknown word with the same		c. Use sentence-level context as a clue to the
	root (e.g., company, companion).		meaning of a word or phrases.
	d. Use glossaries or beginning dictionaries, both		d. Use glossaries or beginning dictionaries, both
	print and digital, to determine or clarify the		print and digital, to determine or clarify the
	precise meaning of key words and phrases.		precise meaning of key words and phrases.
21.5		21.5	
3.L.5	Demonstrate understanding of word	3.L.5	Demonstrate understanding of word
	relationships and nuances in word meanings.		relationships and nuances in word meanings.
	a. Distinguish the literal and nonliteral meanings		a. Distinguish the literal and nonliteral meanings
	of words and phrases in context (e.g., take		of words and phrases in context (e.g., take
	steps).		steps).
	b. Identify real-life connections between words		b. Identify real-life connections between words
	and their use (e.g., describe people who are friendly or helpful).		and their uses (e.g., describe people who are
	c. Distinguish shades of meaning among related		friendly or helpful). c. Distinguish shades of meaning among related
	words that describe states of mind or degrees of		words that describe states of mind or degrees of
	_		_
	certainty (e.g., knew, believed, suspected, heard, and wondered).		certainty (e.g., knew, believed, suspected, heard, and wondered).
	neard, and wondered).		neard, and wondered).

3.L.6	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate	3.L.6	A
	conversational, general academic and domain-		C
	specific words and phrases, including those that		S
	signal spatial and temporal relationships (e.g.,		S
	After dinner that night we went looking for		A
	them).		t

3.L.6	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate
	conversational, general academic, and domain-
	specific words and phrases, including those that
	signal spatial and temporal relationships (e.g.,
	After dinner that night, we went looking for
	them).