

**Approaching Expectations**  
**(0-19)**

Third-grade students performing at the **Approaching Expectations** level should read and comprehend informational texts and literature of low-to-moderate complexity and sometimes struggle to meet the demands of grade level texts. Third-graders performing at the **Approaching Expectations** level should be able to:

**ELAGSE2RI 1**

- Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

**ELAGSE2RI 2**

- Identify the main topic of a multi-paragraph text as well as the focus of specific paragraphs within the text.

**ELAGSE1RI 3**

- Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.

**ELAGSE2RI 6**

- Identify the main purpose of a text, including what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe.

**ELAGSE2RL 1**

- Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

**ELAGSE2RL 2**

- Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.

**ELAGSE1RL 3**

- Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.

**ELAGSE2RL 5**

- Describe the overall structure of a story including describing how the beginning introduces the story, the middle provides major events and challenges, and the ending concludes the action.

**Meets Expectations**  
**(20-24)**

Third-grade students performing at the **Meets Expectations** level should read and comprehend informational texts and literature of moderate complexity and are meeting the demands of grade level texts. Third-graders performing at the **Meets Expectations** level should be able to:

**ELAGSE3RI 1**

- Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

**ELAGSE3RI 2**

- Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

**ELAGSE3RI 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.

**ELAGSE3RI 6**

- Distinguish points of view from the author of texts and explain what makes these points of view distinct or similar.

**ELAGSE3RI 9**

- Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.

**ELAGSE3RL 1**

- Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers

**ELAGSE3RL 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.

**ELAGSE3RL 3**

- Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

**ELAGSE3RL 4**

- Determine the meaning of words and phrases both literal and nonliteral language as they are used in the text.

**ELAGSE2RL 5**

- Analyze the overall structure of a story by describing why the author used specific narrative or words in the beginning, the middle, and the ending of the story.

**Beyond Expectations**  
(25-30)

Third-grade students performing at the **Beyond Expectations** level should read and comprehend informational texts and literature of moderate-to-high complexity and are meeting the demands of grade level texts. Third-graders performing at the **Beyond Expectations** level should be able to :

**ELAGSE3RI 1**

- Ask and answer **complex** questions to demonstrate understanding of texts, referring explicitly to the texts as the basis for the answers.

**ELAGSE3RI 2**

- Determine **implicitly stated** main ideas of **texts**; recount key details and explain how they support main ideas

**ELAGSE3RI 4**

- Determine the meaning of **sophisticated** academic and domain-specific words and phrases in texts relevant to grade level topics or subject areas.

**ELAGSE3RI 6**

- Distinguish **indirectly stated** points of view from the author of texts and explain what makes these points of view distinct or similar.

**ELAGSE3RI 9**

- Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic **and provide evidence from texts to support the comparisons.**

**ELAGSE3RL 1**

- Ask and answer **complex** questions to demonstrate understanding of texts, referring explicitly to the texts as the basis for the answers

**ELAGSE3RL 2**

- Recount stories including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures **by explaining key details in sequential order**; determine **implicitly stated** central messages, lessons, or morals and explain how they are conveyed through key details in the text.

**ELAGSE3RL 3**

- Describe **intricate components of complex** characters in stories and explain how their actions contribute to **complex** sequences of events in stories.

**ELAGSE3RL 4**

- Determine the meanings of **sophisticated** words and phrases as they are used in texts, distinguishing literal from **complex** nonliteral language.

# Grade 3 English Language Arts Performance Level Descriptors (PLD)



Grade 3 English Language Arts / Reading Comprehension Mastery Assessment

	<p><b>ELAGSE2RL5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Analyze the overall structure of a story by describing why the author used specific narrative or words in the beginning, the middle, and the ending of the story <b>and how the specific language or narrative supports the main idea or theme of the text.</b></li></ul>
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