

Third Grade	March 2024
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Twin Ridge Elementary

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Upcoming Events

- Thursday, March 21st** - End of Term
- Friday, March 22nd** - Teacher Work Day, Schools Closed
- Friday, March 29th** - Spring Break: Good Friday, Schools Closed
- Monday, April 8th** - Return to School

CURRICULUM UPDATES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading:

Students will continue to work through Module 6 (Animal Behaviors). In this module, students will listen to, read, and view a variety of texts and media that present them with information about animal survival. A genre focus on nonfiction will provide students with opportunities to identify the author's purpose, central idea, and text structure in order to better understand unfamiliar texts. As students build their vocabulary and synthesize topic knowledge, they will learn more about the way animals utilize behaviors and characteristics that help them answer the essential question: *What behaviors help animals survive?*

Additionally, students will begin to work on Module 7 (Make a Difference). In this module, students will listen to, read, and view a variety of texts and media that provide information about building communities. A genre focus on narrative nonfiction provides students with opportunities to identify the author's purpose, text structure, and text and graphic features in order to better understand unfamiliar texts. As students build their vocabulary and synthesize topic knowledge, they will learn more about the way a dedicated individual or group of people can help make a community stronger and better that help answer the essential question: *How can one person make a meaningful difference in their local or global community?*

Learn more about how you can support your child at home in [Module 6](#) and [Module 7](#) Family Connection Newsletters.

Writing:

The writing focus for Module 6 will have students writing an informational/expository essay to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. Throughout this module, with guidance and support, students will develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing components of an informational writing piece.

The writing focus for Module 7 will have students writing an opinion essay about how their choices can have positive or negative effects at school. Throughout this module, with guidance and support, students will develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing components of an opinion writing piece.

In addition to our writing tasks, students will continue working to understand grammar skills to improve their writing. Students will work to form and use regular and irregular verbs as well as explain the function of adverbs in sentences. Students will also continue to practice writing in complete sentences by using commas and punctuation marks in their writing.

MATH

This month we begin working in Unit 4 - Fractions: Equivalence and Comparison, Measurement, and Data. Over the course of Unit 4, students will:

- understand what a fraction is
- use a fraction to show equal parts of a whole
- draw a model to show a fraction
- understand how a number line can show fractions
- find a fraction on a number line
- understand what equivalent fractions are
- use fraction models to show equivalent fractions
- use number lines to show equivalent fractions

We will also continue to focus on problem solving. Students have been working on reading word problems carefully. They then identify what the problem is about, determine what question they are being asked to answer, and look back into the problem to find mathematical information to help them find the answer.

SOCIAL STUDIES

In the Geography and Economic Development of Maryland unit, students will answer the compelling question: *How does where you live shape how you live?* Students will continue learning about the different physical and human-made features found in Maryland. In addition, students will learn about the different geographical features as well as the economy in the different regions of Maryland. They will also explore how the economic development in Maryland impacts people and the environment.

In the Civics and Government Development of Maryland Unit, students will start to analyze the structure and function of the Maryland state government. In addition, students will learn how to examine and explain the importance of civic virtue and participation in the community.

PATHS UPDATES

The PATHS program teaches and reinforces many key aspects of Social Emotional Learning, shown through research to improve behavior, reduce conflict and improve academics. This month, we will continue to practice using the control signals poster when solving problems, identifying emotions, and how to be a good friend.