

Year 3: Keeping your skills sharp over the summer

English

Reading: At least 20 minutes a day

Summer Reading Challenge

Reading Skills:

1. Scanning - use a page of the text, you select a word and see how long it takes for your child to find it. Quick reading is essential?
2. How many words can you read in 1 minute? Try and beat your score each time.
3. Discuss the texts you are reading. Ask questions and get children to think. I have attached a questions sheet that will support this.
4. Vocabulary - encourage children to talk about words they are unsure of. If children are reading independently, they could write these words down and discuss (or google) their meanings later.

Writing Skills:

Children in Year 3 would be expected to write for 20-30 minutes independently, punctuating sentences with full stops, capital letters, commas and apostrophes consistently.

Some activities you could do to encourage the use of these writing skills could be:

- Keeping a diary
- Writing out recipes or instructions (using the appropriate headings; you will need, method and a warning/caution section)
- Creative writing - use a picture or video as a way to stimulate a piece of writing. <https://www.literacyshed.com/home.html> has a lot of different sections that will appeal to everyone. A sports section, fantasy, adventure and fairy tale to name a few.
- Re-telling - Ask children to re-write a story that they know or enjoy. This is often easier because children just recount what they remember from a story; There is less 'thinking and imagining' going on.

You could also use the English lessons on BBC Bitesize. Although there are less extended writing activities here, there are plenty of smaller skills to revise that will ultimately feed into the narratives your children create.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zmyxyc/year-3-and-p4-lessons>

Children should complete any written task using fully cursive script. They have all mastered this. Unfortunately, it is a skill that takes a long time to master and a short time to fall out of good practice.

Maths

Maths Skills:

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1. Times tables - All children should be fluent in their 2,5,10,3,4 and 8 times tables. This includes division facts. Most children were nearly there by the Easter. You can use TimesTables Rockstars, the times tables sheets I had sent out for home learning or your own methods to practise these. Children should aim to answer 40 questions in 2 minutes (roughly 3 seconds per question).
2. Number bonds - Children should continue to practise number bonds within 100 (this means up to 100, but also totals less than 100). Children should be able to work these out mentally, counting on in tens and ones. Children should aim to answer 40 questions in 2 minutes (using the number bond sheets set for home learning) or roughly 3 seconds per question.

BBC Bitesize has been uploading daily lessons, and you may have already used some of these. The link below takes you to the Y3 Area, and there are daily lessons up to the 24th July, although you can still access lessons to prior learning.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zmyxxyc/year-3-and-p4-lessons>

It would be useful to work through any of these lessons, however working on the following aspects of maths should be a priority.

- Fractions - Bitesize lessons from 18th May-19th June
- Money - Bitesize lessons from 4th - 6th May
- Shape - Bitesize lessons from 18th June onwards
- Time - No bitesize lessons upload on this yet, but regular practise is easy to do.

Real-life maths would also be a great way to keep some of these skills in use. Activities could include baking, helping to plan trips with travel times and shopping practise (adding up amounts and giving change).

Reading Questions:

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Remembering

When and where did the story take place?
Who are the main characters?
What does the main character look like?
How does the book begin?
Where in the book would you find...?

Understanding

What is the book about?
From whose point of view is the story told?
What is happening?
What might this mean?
Which part do you like best? Why?

Applying

Can you think of another story with a similar theme?
Can you think of another story character similar to a character in this book?
Have you had any similar experiences?
Which stories have openings like this?
Can you think of another author who writes in a similar style?

Analysis

How has the author used description to show how this character is feeling?
How does the layout help...?
Can you explain why...?
Why did the author choose these words?
What evidence can you use to support your view?

Evaluating

Which text/story is better? Why?
Which parts of the text could be improved?
Which text is more persuasive? Why?
Did it have an effective ending?
Who would you recommend this to?

Creating

Using the evidence in the text, what do you think about...?
If you were the main character, how would you have reacted to this?
What would this character think?
Are there any other reasons why this might have happened?
Have the views in this text affected your opinion? Why? How?