

Grade 3 Reading ISAT Proficiency Level Descriptors

Advanced

In the area of reading, third grade students typically performing at the Advanced level demonstrate a **thorough understanding** of grade-level skills. These students

- consistently use graphics, graphs, tables, diagrams, parentheses, italics, and bold print to understand text.
- consistently use knowledge of base words, common prefixes, suffixes, synonyms, and antonyms to determine meaning of unknown words.
- consistently identify cause-effect, compare-contrast, and descriptions that support comprehension.
- consistently organize and sequence written directions.
- consistently draw conclusions based on text.
- consistently identify different genres of literature.
- consistently identify elements of setting and plot.

Proficient

In the area of reading, third grade students typically performing at the Proficient level demonstrate a **satisfactory understanding** of grade-level skills. These students

- locate information using alphabetical order past the second letter.
- use graphics, graphs, tables, diagrams, parentheses, italics, and bold print to understand text.
- decode words with 2–4 syllables using syllable types and syllable patterns.
- use knowledge of base words, common prefixes, and common suffixes to determine meaning of unknown words in isolation and in context.
- identify synonyms, antonyms, and simple analogies to determine the meaning of words in context.
- draw simple conclusions based on information from text.
- identify cause-effect, compare-contrast, and descriptions that support comprehension.
- identify main idea, facts, and/or sequencing of important information from expository text.
- follow simple multi-step written directions.
- identify different genres of literature.
- describe characters within a literary selection.
- identify all aspects of the setting.
- identify elements of plot in literary text.
- identify the lesson or theme of a fable or folktale.

Basic

In the area of reading, third grade students typically performing at the Basic level demonstrate a **limited understanding** of grade-level skills. These students

- inconsistently use context clues, base words, prefixes, and suffixes to determine the meaning of unknown words.
- identify limited details from literal text.
- identify limited aspects of setting.
- identify some characters in text.