



Mission Statement

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools, in cooperation with parents and the community, will educate and prepare all of our students to be knowledgeable, responsible, contributing members of a global society.

Wayne-Westland Community Schools
36745 Marquette
Westland, MI 48185
Phone 734-419-2000
Fax 734-595-2123
Gregory J. Baracy, Ed.D.,
Superintendent

Parent Guide **Third Grade** **Learning** **Standards** *2007 – 2008*

The State Board of Education is in the process of reviewing and approving new Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE) for Social Studies and Science in all elementary grade levels. They are expected to be approved by October 2007.

Below is what is currently being taught .

Social Studies

The Wayne-Westland Elementary Social Science/Studies Curriculum provides students with the skills they need to be able to participate effectively as citizens of the U.S. and, of a global community.

Students will develop the ability to inquire, to engage in public discourse, to make decisions and to be involved citizens through historic, geographic, economic and civic perspectives. *The Regions of the United States* will be the focus of study for third grade.

The purpose of the third grade social studies curriculum is to introduce students to the study of physical, cultural and geographical factors which influence the regions of the United States.

- Students will attain an awareness of the United States regions. Regions can be divided by natural characteristics such as landforms or climates and by cultural characteristics such as political, economic and social.
- They will learn how people adapt to their environment and use technology to modify it. In addition students will study how various regions interact.

Science

It is increasingly important for students to have an understanding of science. That is why the emphasis on experiments and hand-on activities continue to be important in third grade. Units will include:

- Chemical Tests
- Rocks and Minerals
- Plant Growth
- Light/Space & Planetarium



***Grade Level Content
Expectations
(GLCEs)
have been established
by the
Michigan Department
of Education
for English Language
Arts & Math.
These are described in
the parent guides
available from MDE or
your school office.***



***great ...
Futures Start
Right Here!***

Special Area Classes

Wayne-Westland Community Schools provide instruction in five elective content areas for all elementary students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade. The five classes are music, visual arts, physical education, media information, and life skills. Each class meets for 50 minutes, (kindergarten for 20 minutes), once a week. The curriculums for each class is based on the state and national standards and benchmarks. Lessons are planned to support the core content areas.

A brief summary of each class is as follows:

- **Music:** experiences include singing, listening, creating rhythms, and learning about musicians. Fifth graders explore sound production on electronic equipment.
- **Visual Arts:** experiences include drawing, painting, designing, and sculpting, as well as working in clay, paper, and fibers, to develop visual, spatial, and manipulative skills.
- **Physical Education:** students are taught basic skills in a variety of sports activities, with much attention to physical fitness.
- **Media Information:** experiences include reading, viewing, listening, and using technology for understanding, enjoyment and to access information.
- **Life Skills:** experiences include units in character education, nutrition/health, career awareness, and problem solving.

