

# Meeting Common Core Standards with Wixie®

**Grade 3**



## What is Wixie?

Wixie is a cloud-based tool third-grade students can use to write, paint pictures, and tell stories. Wixie provides a fun way for students to explore and respond to curriculum topics related to the Common Core Standards.

Students can add text to a Wixie page to practice their writing, draw ideas from their imagination using the paint tools, record narration for stories, and more. Student work is online and can be shared immediately through a URL as well as printed as booklets, comics, and more.



## Using Wixie with Third-Grade Students

In third-grade, a student's ability to read, write, do math, and explore the worlds of science and history is expanding rapidly. Their work with Wixie growing more sophisticated as their writing and drawing includes more detail and complexity. Respond to student work in the same way – with more detail and complexity and ask them lots of questions about their work.

As students complete the activities in this guide or play in Wixie on their own, ask them to share their thoughts and feelings. Give them the freedom to take some of the activities wherever their interests lead. Passion for learning is perhaps the most important thing you can teach students at this age.



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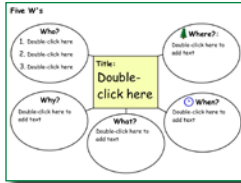
# Grade 3 Language Arts

## Reading: Literature

### Key Ideas and Details

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

#### What's the Main Idea?



Have students complete a leveled reader. Then, have each student define the main idea of the story in their own words. Once they have written the main idea, have them find three supporting facts from the story.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Templates folder, open the Graphic Organizers folder, and select the Main Idea activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

To extend the project, ask students to add pages to the Wixie file and use the Paint and Text tools to recreate their favorite scene. What could they draw in the background to share the main idea.

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.

#### Folktales



Folktales – traditional stories that include a moral – can be found in cultures around the world. Explore examples of a variety of folktales. You can find a great collection of American folktales at: [www.americanfolklore.net](http://www.americanfolklore.net). Once your students are familiar with the format, have them choose one of their favorite folktales and use Wixie to create and print booklets that retell the story.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Templates folder, and select the Booklet activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

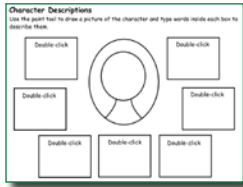
To give the project a more authentic spin, have the students retell the stories in the form of comic pages. Rather than using a template, have students create and illustrate four or six pages in Wixie. Then, have them click the Send button on the toolbar, choose the Print as Postcard (4 panel) or comic (6 panel) layout to create one comic sheet with each Wixie page as a panel.

## Reading: Literature

### Key Ideas and Details

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

#### Character Cause and Effect



Third graders begin to understand a character's, or characters', motivations and traits within a story. To help assess their growing ability, have them complete Wixie's Character Description activity to show the traits of the main character in a book you have read as a class or they have read independently.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Reading folder, open the Comprehension folder, and select the Character Description and the Cause and Effect activities. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

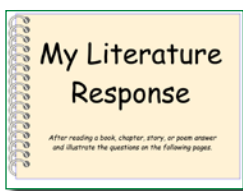
To challenge your students to share what they comprehend about the actions in a story, have them complete the Cause and Effect activity to describe events in the story. Make sure they identify the "who" for each cause. When they are finished, have them use both of their Wixie files to explain how the main character's motivations and feeling impacted the events in the story.

## Reading: Literature

### Craft and Structure

5. Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

#### Response to Literature



Asking students to share what they think and understand about what they have read helps you assess comprehension and validates their perspective. After students read a story or poem, have them respond to and illustrate the prompts on each page of the Response to Literature book. Ask them to use identify a chapter, scene, or stanza as they respond to and illustrate each sentence.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Reading folder, open the Comprehension folder, and select the Response to Literature activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Students can also use Wixie to create a book talk in which they share excerpts from the story, retell an important scene, and record their thoughts about the story.

# Reading: Literature

## Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

7. Explain how specific aspects of a text’s illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).

### Pictures Tell a Story



Illustrators work hard to make the text come to life in pictures, often using colors and different techniques to create the mood of a story. There are many great picture books out there, including the story of *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein, or check out graphic novels. Share an illustrated book with your class, and do a picture walk with your students. Ask students to share what they think happens on each page based on the illustrations.

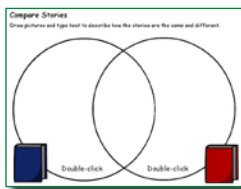
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Reading folder, open the Comprehension folder, and select the Key Ideas activity. Click the Customize button to add a copy to your projects and open it with students.

Open the Key Ideas activity in Wixie and project for your students. Work as a class to enter information about what they infer about characters, setting, and events using only the pictures in the book.

Next, read the story. How close were the students’ guesses to the actual characters, setting, and events in the story? Find a part that students didn’t know from the pictures. Ask them what the illustrator could have done to better help them understand. Ask students to develop their own illustrations for this passage at a center in your classroom and record their voice to point out the extra details in the illustrations and how they enhance the story.

9. Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series).

### Compare Stories



Have students read a series such as “Two Bad Ants” and “Just a Dream” by Chris Van Allsburg. After students have read two stories, use the Compare Stories activity in Wixie to compare them.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Reading folder, open the Literature folder, and select the Compare Stories activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Have students add text and pictures that show how each story is different in the parts of the circle that do not overlap. Then, ask them to brainstorm ways that the themes, settings, and plots are similar and write about or draw them in the place where the circles overlap.

# Reading: Informational Text

## Key Ideas and Details

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

### Explore Main Idea



Have your students think about the main idea as an umbrella that covers all of the content and holds it together. Share a couple of different nonfiction books related to a science or social studies topic you are studying. Look at the cover picture and title. What is the main idea? Now explore the titles, pictures, and text inside the book. How are they organized?

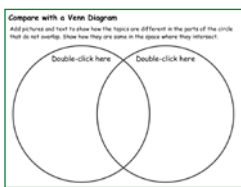
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Reading Folder, open the Comprehension folder, and select the Main Idea Umbrella activity. Click the Customize button to add a copy to your projects and open it with students.

Project a copy of Wixie's Main Idea Umbrella activity for students to see. Work together to add text that describes the main idea of one section. Also brainstorm key details from each paragraph in that section.

You can also have students use the Main Idea Umbrella activity on a nonfiction topic they will be exploring in their writing workshop. This will help them collect information for their writing. You can also have students create a page that illustrates the main idea using clip art, the text tool, and the paint tools.

3. Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect.

### The Right to Vote



The election period is a great time to discuss how the right to vote for all Americans came about. Read a book about Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Stanton, or Martin Luther King. Talk with your students about the suffrage movement and equal rights movement. What are some of the similarities to these two major movements? Why is the right to vote important to all United State Citizens?

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Templates folder, open the Graphic Organizers folder, and select the Venn Diagram activity. Click the Customize button to add a copy to your projects and open it with students.

First, open the activity and work as a class to compare the two using the Venn Diagram. Then, have students choose one of the events from the class comparison to research and share. Have each student create a page in Wixie with text, illustrations, and voice narration to share information and facts about each important part of the Right to Vote.

## Reading: Informational Text

### Craft and Structure

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.

#### Vocabulary Trading Cards



Students are more eager to learn new vocabulary when they get some choice in the matter. As you are exploring nonfiction on a topic in your classroom, ask your students to keep track of new words they encounter. Give them the definition or have them look up the meaning of each word on their list.

**Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Vocabulary folder, and select the Vocabulary Trading Card activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.**

At the end of the week, or unit, ask students to choose their favorite new word and create a trading card to teach the meaning to other students. Students should define the word so that other students can understand the meaning, use it in a sentence with the same context as the unit you are studying, and draw a picture that helps describe the meaning.

Then, have them click the Send button on the toolbar, choose Print, choose Repeat Page, and select Postcard so they can cut them out and distribute them to the rest of the class.

5. Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.

#### Research Geography of Our Nation



The United States has a variety of geography, which is shared in the song “America the Beautiful”. With teacher guidance, students will research a given geographical feature of the United States, such as the mountains, the plains or the desert using the Internet.

**Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Templates folder, and select the Booklet activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.**

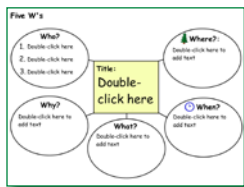
Students will then add text and drawing to this Wixie template to create a mini-booklet with the information learned through their Internet research. Have them add images to help enhance the booklet by selecting stickers and then using the search function to find images that match the geography the students are researching.

## Reading: Informational Text

### Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

7. Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).

#### A Picture is Worth a 1000 Words



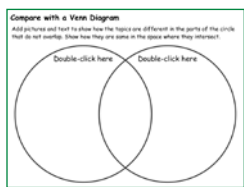
Locate before and after shots from a major event of a location or throughout history. Consider images of your local Main Street fifty years ago and today, or the skyline of a major city, or an area before and after extreme weather. Ask students what they can tell about the changes that took place from the pictures. Were the changes natural or man-made? Is there evidence of damages, changes thanks to technology, growth of the population?

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Templates folder, open the Research folder, and select the Notebook activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Have students choose a location and a point of history to find two images, one before the event and one after the event. Insert the images onto the page. Add text to describe the scene before the event and then on the next half of the page under the changed picture add how the scene changed and what caused it. Have the students print or present their page to share it with the rest of the class.

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

#### Two Sides of Every Tale



Read a version of The Three Little Pigs and then Jon Scieszka's "The True Story of the Three Little Pigs." Have the students compare the similarities and differences between the two texts. Let your students know you want them to compare the two books.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Templates folder, open the Graphic Organizers folder, and select the Venn -2 activity. Click the Customize button to add it to your projects and open it with students.

Work with your class to compare the two stories and record your ideas on the Venn Diagram. Students will likely first come up with differences in content between the two books. If necessary, lead the conversation toward identifying differences in style and delivery. Record their observations on the Venn diagram.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Templates folder, open the Graphic Organizers folder, and select the Venn -3 activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Now read "The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig" by Eugene Trivizas. Have the students compare all three tales, with similarities in the center. Have students add a page to draw their favorite scene from the three tales and then record their voice sharing why this was their favorite scene and what is happening in the scene.

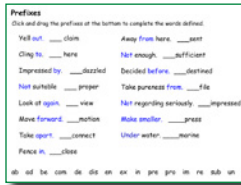


# Reading: Foundational Skills

## Phonics and Word Recognition

### 3. Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

#### Practice with Prefixes



Wixie contains a wealth of activities on parts of speech. The specific activities can help you zero in on specific areas for practice for English Language Learners. Rather than working as a whole class or even in a lab situation, consider making specific activities available for student practice at a center in your classroom.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open Language Arts folder, open Parts of Speech folder, and select the Prefixes and/or Suffixes activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

The Prefixes and Suffixes activities ask students to drag the prefix or suffix at the bottom of the page to complete words that include a short definition or description. Have students print or save their finished work to use as an assessment of skill mastery as you work one-on-one with other students.

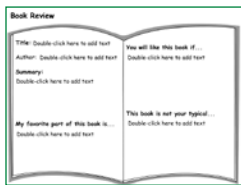
Students can also create a word journal using multisyllabic words and words with common suffixes (for example, likable, admirable, adorable). They can extend their written journal entries by drawing pictures of the meaning and narrating each word and its sounds.

## Writing

### Text Types and Purposes

#### I. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

#### Book Review



Have students choose one of the books they have read and enjoyed to share with others and use Wixie to create a wanted poster for the selected book. They can use Wixie's paint tools to illustrate their favorite parts of the book.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Reading folder, open the Literature folder, and select the Wanted: Book Review activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Students can also create postcards or trading cards to tell other students about books in the library. Have students use the Send button to print out the pages as postcards (four to a page) or comics (six to a page). Then cut them out, laminate them, and share them with other students at your school to help them choose books when they visit the school library.

# Writing

## Text Types and Purposes

2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

### The Best Way to Spend a Saturday



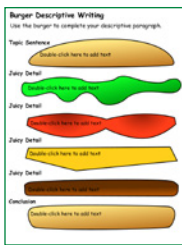
As students learn how to write informative texts, focus on the structure of their writing more than on the content. Ask your students what would be the best way to spend a Saturday. How will they get around? What would they like to do? Who will they spend their day with? Have each student use the Flowchart activity to plan out the necessary steps.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Writing folder, and select the Flow Chart activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Once their steps and ideas have been added to the flowchart, assign and have students use the Booklet activity (Activities>Templates>Booklet) to write in complete sentences using order words (first, after, next, and finally) in their writing. Have students print booklet style, fold, and share their books with peers and family.

3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

### Descriptive Writing - Burger Style



Have students develop a personal narrative about something that occurred recently, such as a field trip or a science experiment. A familiar event should help them easily determine sequence as well as remember specific details to make their writing descriptive. Have each student plan their writing using the Burger Writing activity in Wixie. In this simple diagram, students start with the topic and brainstorm juicy details that make their story tasty and interesting.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open Language Arts folder, open Writing folder, and select the Burger Writing activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

After the introduction and conclusion (the buns that hold the piece together) and the juicy details have been outlined, have students write and illustrate each idea on a separate page in Wixie. Print out the pages as a comic or embed them in the class website to create online books.

## Writing

### Production and Distribution of Writing

6. With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

#### Our Holiday Customs



As a class, brainstorm the different holidays that they celebrate. What parts of the celebration make the holiday special? Ask how the students celebrate the holiday that makes it special.

Have students choose their favorite holiday or select one from a list. Have them log in to Wixie and design a page that explains how they celebrate this holiday to make it special. If possible, have students share pictures from their actual family celebration. Include other images, text and audio.

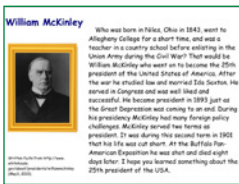
When students are finished with their page, have them click the Wixie button and choose Share. Log in to your teacher account, open the Wixie application, click the Wixie button and choose Import Pages to collect student work into one file. Embed the project onto the class webpage or blog or share the link in your school's social media platform.

## Writing

### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

7. Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.

#### Author Biography



Ask the class who are some of their favorite authors, and why that person is their favorite. As the class brainstorms the reasons they like different authors, or illustrators, and record the information.

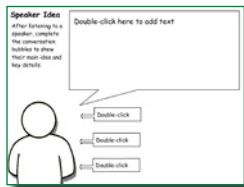
Next, have the students start researching using biographies in the library and favorite websites. Once the students have finished with their research, have them log into Wixie and create a biography booklet or presentation about their favorite author.

Student biographies should have a title page, information about the author's early life and about the author's published works. Include images, text and audio. Link to or embed the web shows on your classroom or school website to share with family and community.

## Speaking & Listening Comprehension and Collaboration

2. Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

### Career Fair



It is important to connect the learning that goes on inside the classroom with the work and lives of people outside of it. One common way we make this connection is by inviting “experts” to our classes to share knowledge and information as it relates to their career. Encourage students to take notes about what they are hearing.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open Language Arts folder, open Reading folder, and select the Comprehension folder>open the Speaker Idea activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

After a guest visits, have students complete the Speaker Idea activity in Wixie to summarize the information they learned. Have students print out their pages and use them to discuss the visit with another peer or share with the entire class.

## Speaking & Listening Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

### Class Memory Book



At the end of the school year, let students know that they will create a page for their class memory book. You might choose to have each student recount a favorite event, or brainstorm as a class, a list of things that happened over the year and assign an even to each student as their topic for the class memory book.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Templates folder, and select the Memory Book activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

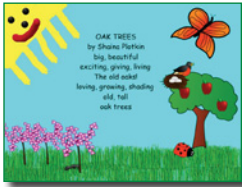
Ask each student to write about the event, use the Paint tools and stickers to add appropriate illustrations, and then click the Record button to record their description of the event. Link to or embed their projects on your classroom or school website to share with family and community.

## Speaking & Listening

### Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

5. Create engaging audio recordings of stories or poems that demonstrate fluid reading at an understandable pace; add visual displays when appropriate to emphasize or enhance certain facts or details.

#### Our Preferred Poetry Podcast!



Poetry is a great way to learn to read aloud with intonation, cadence, and expression, especially when the poems are silly and written for kids! Collect your class's favorite poems or give students time to explore the poems at [www.gigglepoetry.com](http://www.gigglepoetry.com). Have each student select a poem they want to read and illustrate.

Have students copy and paste the text from [gigglepoetry.com](http://gigglepoetry.com) onto a blank Wixie page. Have them use the Paint tools and Stickers to add illustrations that support the content of the poem. Click the record button to record the student reading the poem with intonation and inflection.

Link to each student's Wixie page from your classroom website to create a poetry destination for parents to visit. To combine all of their pages into one file you can embed on your web site, have them click the Wixie button and choose Share. Log in to your teacher account, open the Wixie application, click the Wixie button and choose Import Pages to collect student work into one file.

## Language

### Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

#### Vocabulary Trading Cards



As you read to the class or as students are reading independently, have students raise their hand to let you know they encounter an unfamiliar word. Have them ask the rest of the class if anyone can help share the meaning of the word. Keep a list of these new words and post it where all students can see and add to it.

**Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Vocabulary folder, and select the green Vocabulary activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.**

At the end of the week or unit, ask students to choose a word from the list and create a vocabulary trading card to teach others about the word. Students should define the word so that other students can understand the meaning, use it in a sentence with the same context as the unit you are studying, and draw a picture that helps describe the meaning. Have students print enough copies of their page using the Send button in Wixie. Here they can choose Print, Repeat Page, and Postcard to print copies they can cut out and distribute to the rest of the class.

# Language

## Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

### Create an Idiom Dictionary



Some idioms are easy to understand (i.e. All bark and no bite) due to the obvious figurative connection, but others aren't quite so easy and require cultural or historical knowledge (i.e.: that attorney is an ambulance chaser). Assign each student an idiom and have them use Wixie to create dictionary entries that explain their idiom with text, illustration, and narration.

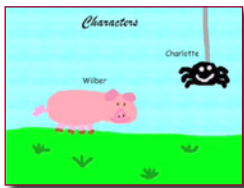
**Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Language Arts folder, open the Writing folder, and select the Idiom activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.**

Once the pages are created, you can have students print them as trading cards or postcards to share with the class (Send button). But printed projects won't include narration, so you may also want to link to each student's idiom page from your classroom web site to create your own online idiom dictionary to share as a resource for others outside of school.

## Language Arts Lesson

While individual activities can be used to address specific language standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

### Digital Book Talks



Students explore character, plot, and theme as they develop a trailer to promote a book they have read.

### Engage

Getting students to read isn't always easy. Choose one of your favorite books and share it with your students in a way you think will get them excited about reading it. Then, tell why it was your favorite book.

Ask students what gets them excited about reading. Is it the characters? Is it the setting, an exciting plot, interesting themes, or a personal connection with the story?

Let your students know they will be using Wixie to create a booktalk in the style of a movie trailer to promote one of their favorite books.

First, have students determine which book they want to promote. Then, ask them to answer the following questions: Have I read another book by the same author? Did I like it as much as this book? What genre is this book? Is this a book part of a series? Do I have a personal connection to this book?

To better advertise their book, students need to be able to identify the theme. Themes are the fundamental and often universal ideas explored in a literary work. They are BIG ideas, like friendship, love, and courage. For example, when a character stands up for a friend in a story, we can infer from their actions that friendship and courage are themes in the story.

Common themes your students can look for in their books include friendship, love, cooperation, courage, loyalty, determination,

fairness, anger, and being different.

As a class, explore how authors use themes to guide their writing. Ask students to reread important parts of the book and take notes as they analyze the book's characters, setting, and plot to determine the theme.

The actions of the main character are a great place to look for the theme.

To gather information students can use to develop their booktalk, use graphic organizers like thought webs and the 5 W's to show the central theme of the book as well as events in the story that relate to the theme.

### Create

Next, have students prepare a script for their booktalk. An exciting script should include:

- + An interesting hook.
- + A vivid description of an event that supports the theme.
- + The title and name of the author at the conclusion.
- + A call to action.

Remind students that showing the story is more effective than trying to retell the story. As they write the script, have them think of the booktalk as a movie trailer. Their goal is to leave the viewer with a compelling reason to check out that book!

To transform their ideas into reality, it is helpful to have a storyboard or map of each student's vision. The storyboard should include

## Language Arts Lesson (continued)

information about which portion of the script each scene will include and what images and sound files will be used to support it.

Have students use Wixie to build their booktalk. They can use images from Pics4Learning or create their own images using the Paint tools. Students can use the Record feature to capture narration on each page of the project.

### Share

Share the book trailers with the rest of the class or show them on the morning announcements

to encourage others to read. The librarian may choose to display the book talks in the library as other classes come in for their scheduled library time. If your district or community has public access television, try to get your students' booktalks aired. This is a great way to encourage the entire community to read!

### Common Core Standards

- RL 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.
- RL 3. Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.
- RL 5. Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.
- RL 6. Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.
- RFS 4. Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
- W 1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.
- W 4. With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
- W 5. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
- LS 2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- SL 4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.
- L 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- L 2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- L 3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.



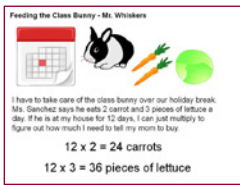
# Grade 3 Mathematics

## Operations & Algebraic Thinking

### Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division.

1. Interpret products of whole numbers, e.g., interpret  $5 \times 7$  as the total number of objects in 5 groups of 7 objects each. For example, describe a context in which a total number of objects can be expressed as  $5 \times 7$ .

#### Multiplication in the Real World



Real life practice of the multiplication tables will help the students understand why they need the skill and will help them retain the skill. Have the students think of a time when they had to add items that were already grouped together, such as there are “five tables with seven new books on each table. How many new books did the library receive?”

Assign each student a multiplication fact. Then have the student open Wixie, and using the Wixie tools, write their “real world” multiplication story. Use images to show the objects being grouped. Add audio to the slide sharing how multiplication made solving the problem easier. Then share the project.

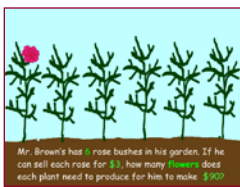
As the teacher, import all of the pages into one class file. Embed the project on your class website or share the link on your class networking page.

## Operations & Algebraic Thinking

### Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division.

3. Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems in situations involving equal groups, arrays, and measurement quantities, e.g., by using drawings and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem.

#### Now That's a Problem



Read Bunches and Bunches of Bunnies by Louise Mathews to your students. This book explains the concept of multiplication using pictures. Work as a class to brainstorm everyday objects that work for multiplication word problems.

Have each student brainstorm a word problem and then use Wixie to write out the word problem and add illustrations that show the multiplication. For example, “Mr. Brown has 5 rose bushes in his garden. If he can sell each rose for \$3, how many roses does each plant need to produce for him to make \$30?”

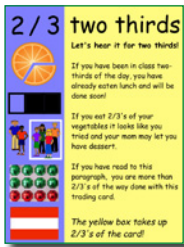
Have each student duplicate their first page to show how they would solve the equation mentioned in the word problem. The second page should demonstrate how to solve the problem with an equation and by highlighting the array in the image.

# Operations & Algebraic Thinking

## Solve problems involving the four operations, and identify and explain patterns in arithmetic.

5. Apply properties of operations as strategies to multiply and divide. <sup>2</sup> Examples: If  $6 \times 4 = 24$  is known, then  $4 \times 6 = 24$  is also known. (Commutative property of multiplication.)  $3 \times 5 \times 2$  can be found by  $3 \times 5 = 15$ , then  $15 \times 2 = 30$ , or by  $5 \times 2 = 10$ , then  $3 \times 10 = 30$ . (Associative property of multiplication.) Knowing that  $8 \times 5 = 40$  and  $8 \times 2 = 16$ , one can find  $8 \times 7$  as  $8 \times (5 + 2) = (8 \times 5) + (8 \times 2) = 40 + 16 = 56$ . (Distributive property.)

### Student-created Tutorials



Talk to students about the commutative, associative, and distributive properties of multiplication and how these can be applied to problems to make them easier to solve. For example, the distributive property means you can multiply a number by breaking the number into parts, like tens and ones, multiplying the parts separately, and adding the products.

Have students work to develop multi-page projects in Wixie that introduce a property of multiplication or division and demonstrate how it can be used as a strategy to solve sample operations.

Having students create their own tutorials provides them with an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge while helping their peers. Link to student tutorials from your classroom web site so students can use the tutorials as homework, review, and for differentiation.

# Operations & Algebraic Thinking

## Solve problems involving the four operations, and identify and explain patterns in arithmetic.

9. Identify arithmetic patterns (including patterns in the addition table or multiplication table), and explain them using properties of operations. For example, observe that 4 times a number is always even, and explain why 4 times a number can be decomposed into two equal addends.

### Multiplication Patterns

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

While many students can simply memorize the multiplication tables, others need to see and understand the underlying patterns to be able to apply this knowledge to fractions and other operations in the future.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Math folder, open the Templates folder, and select the Multiplication Chart activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Have each student open the Multiplication Chart activity in Wixie. Look at the numbers in the 5 column. See if students identify that the product always ends with a 0 or a 5. Then, work with students to see if you can determine a simple rule (like even and odd) for this pattern.

Let students explore the multiplication chart on their own. Encourage them to look diagonally as well as horizontally and vertically. What other patterns can they find? How do 0 and 1 work?

# Number & Operations: Fractions

## Develop understanding of fractions as numbers.

1. Understand a fraction  $1/b$  as the quantity formed by 1 part when a whole is partitioned into  $b$  equal parts; understand a fraction  $a/b$  as the quantity formed by  $a$  parts of size  $1/b$ .

### Real World Fractions



When represented only by numbers, fractions can be scary. This is why most people introduce fractions with mathematics manipulatives or familiar objects like chocolate bars. After exploring how to identify and create basic fractions using a chocolate bar or another manipulative, assess your students' understanding using various Wixie Fractions activities.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open Math folder, open Numbers and operations folder, open Fractions folder, and select the Fractions activities you want to use. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

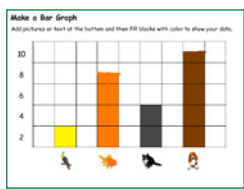
As your students start to identify fractions in the world around them, have them create a poster sharing examples of fractions in the real world.

# Measurement & Data

## Represent and interpret data.

3. Draw a scaled picture graph and a scaled bar graph to represent a data set with several categories. Solve one- and two-step “how many more” and “how many less” problems using information presented in scaled bar graphs. For example, draw a bar graph in which each square in the bar graph might represent 5 pets.

### Favorite Bar Graphs



Have students use the Make a Graph Activity, as the basis for their own data collection. Have small teams of students choose a topic (like favorite food, sports, or pets) and have them survey the members of their team and other class teams.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Math folder, open the Templates folder, and select the Make a Graph activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Team members should determine the largest number of respondents in any category so they can select units of measurement for the graph. Teams can then work together to collect data and then individually record it in Wixie by filling in each square with a solid color using the paint bucket or by adding stickers to each square to create a pictograph.

# Measurement & Data

## Geometric Measurement: Understand concepts of area and relate area to multiplication and to addition.

6. Measure areas by counting unit squares (square cm, square m, square in, square ft, and improvised units).

### Find the Area



Finding the area of various geometric figures is a simple and useful mathematical operation that often proves useful in the real world, for example when you need to know much carpet to buy to re-carpet a room in your house.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open Math folder, open the, Measurement folder, and select the Find the Area activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Work with students to develop foundations in determining area using the Find the Area activity. Project the activity where all students can see and work together to count the squares. Continue by having students work, individually to assess their understanding.

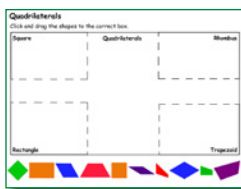
To extent their learning, have students use the Grid activity to design a new playground. Then, have students fill in squares to estimate the area each part of the playground will occupy.

# Geometry

## Reason with shapes and their attributes.

1. Understand that shapes in different categories (e.g., rhombuses, rectangles, and others) may share attributes (e.g., having four sides), and that the shared attributes can define a larger category (e.g., quadrilaterals). Recognize rhombuses, rectangles, and squares as examples of quadrilaterals, and draw examples of quadrilaterals that do not belong to any of these subcategories.

### Quadrilaterals



Talk about shapes in different sizes and categories. Any four-sided, 2-dimensional shape with straight sides is a quadrilateral. There are special types of quadrilaterals like rhombus and rectangles. Use this activity to practice understanding of the different types of quadrilaterals

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open Math folder, open Geometry, and select the Quadrilaterals activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

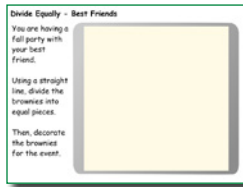
After students complete the activity, have them add a text box or record their voice to share the rule for what makes each type of quadrilateral different from the others.

# Geometry

## Reason with shapes and their attributes.

2. Partition shapes into parts with equal areas. Express the area of each part as a unit fraction of the whole. For example, partition a shape into 4 parts with equal area, and describe the area of each part as  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the area of the shape.

### It's a Party!



We all know how important it is to get the biggest piece of dessert! But what do you do to avoid conflict when you are the host? Divide equally! Ask your class to describe the meaning of the word equal. What does equal mean when you talk about shapes in math? To assess your students' understanding of equal, have them complete the multi-page Divide Equally activity in Wixie.

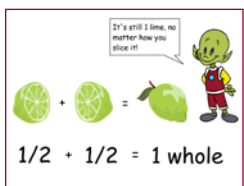
**Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Math folder, open the Geometry folder, and select the Divide Equally activity. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.**

Once they have the hang of dividing equally, ask your students to draw a picture of equal parts and then write a story to support the illustration. You can use the Sentence Strip activity as a template, or have them add a new page to the Divide Equally activity.

## Math Lesson

While individual activities can be used to address specific mathematics standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

### Fantastic Fractions



Students will use Wixie to demonstrate the concept of fractions and how fractions are written in mathematical terms.

### Engage

Discuss the concept of fractions with your students. Help them understand the concept of less than 1, but greater than 0. Provide everyday examples of fractions, such as slices of pizza, orange segments, or squares of a chocolate bar. You can have students work along with you as you read *The Hershey's Milk Chocolate Bar Fractions Book* by Jerry Pallotta and Rob Bolster.

Show how you can divide one object into many objects and how this translates into a written fraction. For example, when 1 chocolate bar is separated into 4 pieces, each piece equals  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the chocolate bar.

Have students work with their parents, or other family members, to brainstorm a list of foods and household objects that can easily be divided into fractions. Have students share their ideas as you create a master list of objects. Have students bring objects to school and work as a class to discuss how each whole object can be divided into pieces that represent fractions.

### Create

Let students know that they will work in teams to demonstrate how to divide a whole into fractions. Divide students into small groups

of 3–5. Have each team choose an object from the list that the class brainstormed.

Have the team create a storyboard that demonstrates how they will divide their object into different fractions. Their storyboards should demonstrate how they will show the object as a whole, how it will be divided into fractions, and how these fractional parts will be labeled. This will help you evaluate for comprehension before they begin working.

Each team should determine which pages in the project that each team member will create. Have each student work to design their assigned page. When they are all finished, have them click the Wixie button and choose Share. Then, they can click the Wixie button and choose Import Pages to collect the pages from their team into one file.

### Share

Celebrate their success by having each team share its presentation with the rest of the class or to another class learning fractions. As they present, ask team members to share what they learned about fractions as they built their project. You may also want to share the completed files by embedding the projects on your web site.

### Common Core Standards

NOF 1. Understand a fraction  $\frac{1}{b}$  as the quantity formed by 1 part when a whole is partitioned into  $b$  equal parts; understand a fraction  $\frac{a}{b}$  as the quantity formed by  $a$  parts of size  $\frac{1}{b}$ .

NOF 3. Explain equivalence of fractions in special cases, and compare fractions by reasoning about their size.

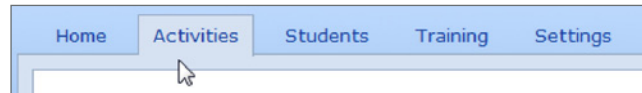
G 2. Partition shapes into parts with equal areas. Express the area of each part as a unit fraction of the whole.

## Appendix A

### Assign Activities by Common Core Standard

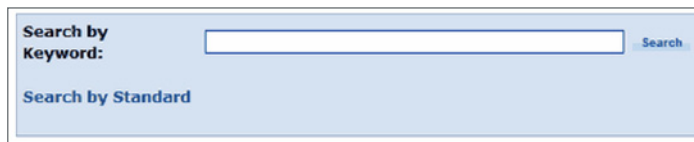
You can assign activities in Wixie that you find by searching the Common Core Standards. Log in to Wixie with your teacher username and password.

Click the **Activities** tab.

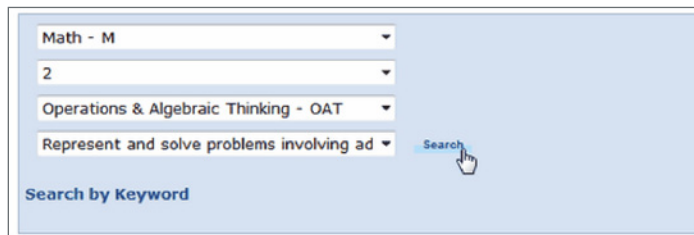


You will see the Activities page.

Click the **Search by Standard** link at the bottom of the page.



Use the pull-down menus to narrow down your search by subject, grade, topic, and subtopic.



Click the **Search** button.

Scroll to the top of the page to see Wixie activities for this standard.

Click an activity to view all standards associated with it, to assign it to specific students in a class, or to customize.

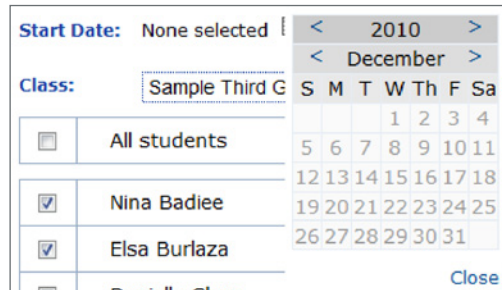
You will see a preview of the activity and a description.



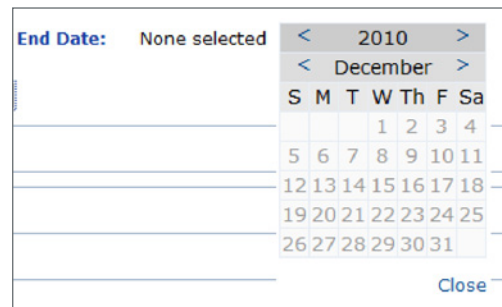
Click the **Assign** button.

You will see a dialog that will allow you to assign the activity to a class or individual students.

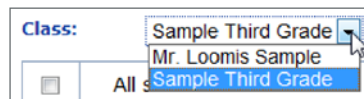
Click the **Start Date** calendar to select the first day you want students to see the activity in Wixie.



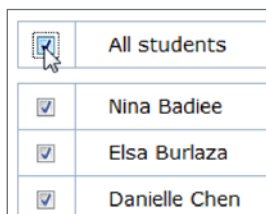
Click the **End Date** calendar to select the last day you want students to see the activity in Wixie.



Use the **Class** pull-down menu to select the class of students you want to view.



If you want every student in the class to see the activity, click the All students check box.





If you only want individual students to see the activity, click the check box for each student.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nina Badiee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elsa Burlaza
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Danielle Chen
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alejandra Deitrich

To assign the same activity to students in another class, select the class using the **Class** pull-down menu.

When you are finished choosing students, click the **Save** button.



You will see the activity in the Assigned Activities section of the Activities page.



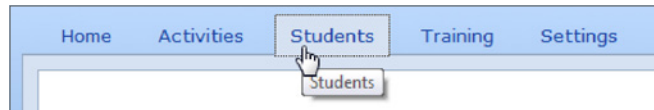
The students you selected will see the activity on the dates you specified.

## Appendix B

### Assign Common Core Standards to Student Work

Log in to Wixie with your teacher username and password.

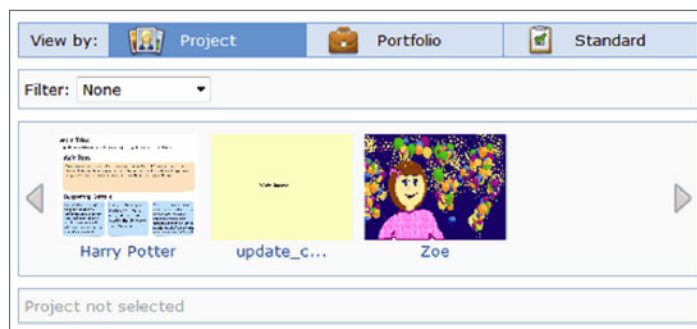
Click the Students tab.



Select a student to view their projects.

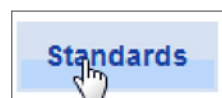


You will see all of the Wixie projects created by the student.



Click a project to open it.

Click the Standards button below the project.

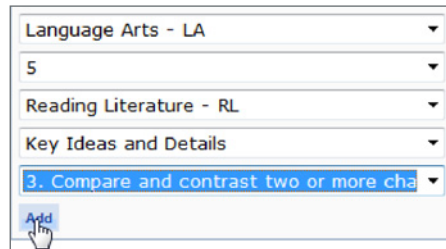


You will see any standards that have already been attached.

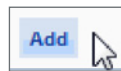
Click the Add button to assign additional standards.



Select standard criteria for the activity, or project, from the pull-down menus.



Click the Add button to assign the selected standard, or standards, to the activity.



## Grade 3

### Peer collaborative learning in Wixie

*“Our kindergarten students at Meiklejohn Elementary School didn’t know their log ins for Wixie, so I had the fourth-graders design shape activities in Wixie for them with directions like, ‘Fill in the triangle shapes with red,’ ‘Drag the shape word inside the shape,’ or ‘Find how many squares are in the drawing.’*

*The fourth-graders then helped their kindergarten buddies learn their Wixie log in and worked with them to complete the shape activities they designed.*

*One student decided that he would teach his buddy about proper nouns and shapes, so he had his buddy drag the proper nouns in a circle and the nouns in a square. When I shared my concerns that it might be too hard, he said, ‘But Mrs. Swenson, I have a really smart buddy!’ He was right, and the buddy did just fine learning the proper nouns and the shapes!”*

—Melissa Swenson

