



Milestones Matter

Your Child's Communication: THIRD GRADE

By the end of third grade, your child should be able to do the following tasks in each area:

Listening

- Pay attention in groups
- Understand grade-level information

Speaking

- Speak clearly and know when to talk with a soft or loud voice
- Ask and answer questions
- Be a part of conversations and group discussions
- Use words related to school subjects; for example, math, science or history words
- Stay on topic, use eye contact and take turns in conversation
- Summarize a story
- Explain what she learned in school

Reading

- Understand phonics, or how sounds and words go together
- Use word analysis skills; knowing root words, prefixes and suffixes
- Use clues from a story to help understand what she reads
- Predict and explain what will happen next in stories
- Ask and answer questions about what he reads
- Use what she knows to learn about new topics
- Read grade-level books with few mistakes
- Reread and correct errors

Writing

- Plan, organize, revise and edit
- Write stories, letters and short reports
- Use details in writing
- Spell simple words correctly
- Correct most spelling mistakes
- Use a dictionary or online resource when needed

Here are some things you can do to help your child learn to listen, speak, read and write.

- Find interesting books, magazines and news stories for your child to read
- Encourage active listening, like forming opinions and making connections to daily life
- Discuss links between what is read and heard at school, at home and in other daily activities
- Help your child spot spelling patterns, including word beginnings and word endings
- Talk about new words that your child hears
- Get your child to write letters, journal entries, blogs and short stories for fun

This information was adapted with permission from information provided by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.
<https://www.asha.org/public/speech/development/communicationdevelopment.htm>

If you have any concerns about your child's development, you can talk with your pediatrician, seek a clinical speech-language evaluation or contact your child's school district. You can also sign up for a free online hearing and language screening with a speech-language pathologist from Boys Town National Research Hospital at <http://bit.ly/hearing-language-screening> or by calling (531) 355-5610. The screening will let you know if more hearing or language testing is needed for your child.

Clinical Evaluations

Boys Town Pediatrics offers speech-language evaluations and therapy for children with communication concerns. Call 531-355-5807 to schedule an appointment with a speech-language pathologist.

Boys Town National Research Hospital - Downtown Medical Campus
555 N. 30th St.
Omaha, NE 68131

Boys Town Speech-Language Clinic
14015 Flanagan Blvd., Suite 101
Boys Town, NE 68010

Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health offers services for children with behavioral, social-emotional or academic development concerns. Call 531-355-3358 to schedule an appointment.

Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health
13460 Walsh Dr.
Boys Town, NE 68010

Educational Evaluations

Your child may qualify for a free assessment through the school district in which you reside. Some local districts are listed below.

Bellevue Public Schools
402-293-4000

Gretna Public Schools
402-332-3265

Bennington Public Schools
402-238-3044

Millard Public Schools
402-715-8302

DC West Community Schools
402-359-2583

Omaha Public Schools
531-299-0242

Elkhorn Public Schools
402-289-2579

Papillion-La Vista Community Schools
402-537-6200

Fremont Public Schools
402-727-3000

Westside Community Schools
402-390-2100