

Hi Almost-Third-Grader,

Third grade is an exciting and very important school year. As a third grader, you become an “upper elementary student,” and you will be expected to take on a lot of responsibility for your own work. In third grade, you will work harder than ever before, however you will also have a lot of fun learning new topics. Next year you will be learning about countries around the world, simple machines, chemistry, and much, much more!

To help you prepare to become a third grader, this letter explain several things you can do over the summer to exercise your brain. You will need a healthy pink brain, not a flabby gray brain, in September. Some of the assignments below are mandatory; other assignments you can work on when you feel your brain can use a workout.

While you are expected to be responsible for your own homework, you should ask your parents for help with any of the assignments that are confusing. Lastly, if you have any questions or need any help over the summer, you can always send Ms. Gregory and Mrs. Zimmerman an email at: msgregoryps33@gmail.com and ps33class344@gmail.com, and one of the third grade teachers will try to write you back as soon as possible.

Have a wonderful summer!
The Third Grade G&T Teachers



Summer Assignment Information for Students Entering G&T Third Grade

1) Required: Summer Writing Journal

Your writing journal will be a way of practicing the craft of writing, and recording your interesting thoughts over the summer. (Your journal can be a notebook, a pad, a computer word processing file, paper stapled together, a scrapbook, or any other similar material.) Your journal does not need to be in diary-form. You can write stories, poems, jokes, collect facts, review movies and books, write about the news, describe interesting people and places, or anything else that interests you! Your writing can include sketches, diagrams, data, questions, opinions, juicy vocabulary, memories, and more. You will be doing a lot of writing, research, and word-collecting as a third grader, and this is a good warm-up for third grade, as well as a wonderful chance to live a writerly life. Consider the advice of poet William Wordsworth, and “fill your paper with the breathings of your heart.” Please complete at least one long entry per week, or several short entries per week. You will use your Summer Journal to draft an initial piece of writing in the fall, so please bring your journal to school by Monday, September 8, 2014.

2) Required: Introductory Letter

Please write one letter to your third grade teacher introducing yourself so that your teacher can get to know you a bit before the new school year begins. You may either send your letter via “snail mail” to the address below, or email your letter to ps33class344@gmail.com or msgregoryps33@gmail.com. (If you email your letter, please type your letter yourself, even if you use your parents’ email address.) In your letter please share about your summertime activities, about your interests and hobbies, and about yourself as a student.

“Snail Mail” Address: P.S. 33 Chelsea Prep
Alycia Zimmerman or Lindsay Gregory
281 Ninth Avenue
New York, NY 10001

3) Required: Summer Reading Log

Keep track of the books that you read over the summer and record them on the summer reading log. Bring your reading log back to school in the fall. Reading over the summer is your most important homework. Try to read a balance of fiction and non-fiction. If you need book recommendations or just

want to chat about a great book you've read, send an email and we can set up a time to meet with you at a public library to discuss your reading life. We can't wait to tackle our piles of books we've wanted to read too!

4) Math Practice (strongly recommended)

You can use your GoMath workbooks from second grade to brush up on your math skills over the summer. Work on the pages that you have not yet completed. You can hand your workbooks in to your teacher in September.

Some topics that you should practice over the summer include:

- Multi-digit addition
- Multi-digit subtraction
- Word problems
- Memorizing your multiplication facts from 2-12
- Multiplication (1 digit by 2 digits)

Visit www.alyciazimmerman.com/summer-2014-homework--more.html to check out a list of suggested math websites under the "Summer Learning" tab.

5) Typing Practice (strongly recommended)

Brush up on your keyboarding skills this summer so that you are a speedy and accurate typist in third grade. Learning to type with the correct fingering is efficient and will save you a lot of time. There are several websites to help you practice typing. One great website is: www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/
Another fun typing website is: www.abcya.com/kids_typing_games.htm

Other Suggestions: Participate in the summer reading club at your local public library branch. (This year's theme at the NYPL is reading and science; your library can tell you all about their special events throughout the summer.) You may also want to participate in the Barnes and Noble Summer Reading Incentive Program in order to receive a free book from the bookstore.

Explore the world, keep your eyes open as a careful observer, ask questions every day, try something new, and have fun! ☺

