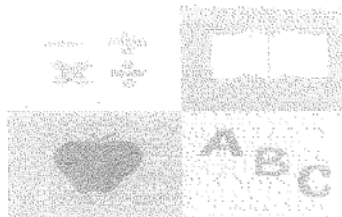


Important Third Grade Math Pointers



Math Workshop Model

We will be using the Balanced Math Instructional Model this year. This balanced workshop model follows a similar flow to the models used in Language Arts and provides students with added opportunities to explore a concept, develop critical thinking, present that thinking to peers, and receive peer and teacher feedback. This Workshop approach develops student problem solving skills and fosters flexible thinking. Students will be exposed to multiple ways of arriving at the same answer which allows them to arrange and rearrange numbers in a variety of ways to become efficient, fluent mathematicians.

Basic Fact Fluency is Important

This year in third grade, your child will be spending a good deal of time working on increasing the speed at which he/she completes basic addition and subtraction problems. Your child will also learn basic multiplication and division skills and work to increase the speed of completion.

There is great importance placed on these basic skills for good reason. When students are able to quickly compute basic facts, it is easier for them to learn more complicated concepts in the future. For instance, in fourth grade when your child is finding the lowest common denominator between two fractions, having a strong knowledge of basic multiplication and division will allow him/her to focus more attention on the new concept, rather than struggling with finding a quotient.