

St. Thomas's Day School believes that summer is a wonderful time for children to engage in fun-filled math activities and real-world math experiences. Math is inherent in almost all summer experiences—trips, ball games, sports, board games, trading cards, puzzles, camps and cooking. It is everywhere! The enclosed list includes family-oriented activities that aim to maintain math facility in a fun and interesting way while reinforcing the intrinsic value that your family places upon mathematical development. The activities are recommended, but not required. The goal is for you to have fun with your child.

# St. Thomas's Day School



Summers are wonderful. Never forget your summers. Stuart Little

Summer Math  
Entering 3rd Grade

## Summer Math Goals

- Develop an understanding about how math pertains to the real world.
- Promote life-long learning habits.
- Foster math as a shared experience between parent and child.
- Broaden children's interests and stimulate their imaginations.
- Engage in meaningful conversations about math
- Prepare children for the future.
- Promote critical thinking and problem solving abilities
- Have fun!

## Math Matters!

- Children who practice math frequently, understand the world around them better.
- Math is a language that describes the ideas that make up our world.
- Math activities can promote critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- Math is the foundation for many sciences and for music.
- Math is interesting and can stimulate your mind.
- Mathematics is woven throughout almost everything we do.
- The process of learning math boosts your brain power.

## Recommendations

- Have your child practice mental math by asking him/her to add three single digit numerals in his/her head.
- Arrange 3-4 playing cards to build the largest/smallest numeral possible.
- Have your child practice fractions by measuring out ingredients while cooking.
- Ask your child to tally how many different license plates he/she sees on the road.
- Ask your child to calculate how much change he/she should get when you pay for an item in a store.
- Count the rooms in your house and make some fraction facts about them.

**MATHEMATICS Is Fun!**

# Summer Reading Entering 3rd Grade

## St. Thomas's Day School



At St. Thomas's Day School, we seek to make children life-long readers by nurturing an early interest in books and by encouraging recreational reading. We strive to instill confidence so that the children become independent readers who love literature. This includes building good habits and teaching the children the importance of reading every single day. We believe that children need opportunities to discuss, reflect, listen to, and question texts from a variety of genres.

**We think we can, so we can.**

### Summer Reading Goals

- Promote life-long reading habits.
- Foster reading as a shared experience that includes reading aloud to and with your child.
- Broaden children's interests and stimulate their imaginations.
- Engage in meaningful discussions about books.
- Discover different viewpoints and literacy genres.
- Build vocabulary, enhance fluency, and deepen understanding.

### Reading Matters!

- Children who read often, read better.
- Reading exercises our brains and improves concentration.
- Reading teaches children about the world around them.
- Reading improves vocabulary and develops a child's imagination.
- Reading helps kids develop empathy.
- Children who engage in the reading process perform better academically.
- Reading is entertaining and stretches the mind.

### Recommendations

- Read a chapter book with your child.
- Visit the library weekly.
- Peruse a magazine in the magazine section at the book store.
- Join a reading incentive program at the library.
- Ask your child to write a review of a book he/she read.
- Read a book on a digital device.
- Start a book club with your child and a few of his/her friends.
- Listen to audio books  
[www.audiobooks.com](http://www.audiobooks.com)

**Be Sure to READ! READ! READ!**

**Suggested Summer Language Arts Activities**  
**St. Thomas's Day School - Rising Third Grade**

The following is a list of activities that you may want to do over the summer with your child to have fun with reading and writing. The activities span a variety of levels and some of them may be difficult for your child. The activities are meant to be completed with an adult.

**Postcards from Around the World**

Pretend you are traveling on a trip around the world. Choose a country that you are interested in visiting. Create a postcard that you might send to a friend from that place. For the front of the postcard, create a picture representing that part of the world. Have an adult help you do some research about what it is like there. On the back of the postcard, write a message about something you might have seen or learned when you were there.

**Talk Show Guest**

Pretend you are on a talk show with Oprah Winfrey, a talk show host who reviews books. Ask a member of your family to interview you about a book you read, like Oprah might interview an author. Questions can include specific information about the plot, the characters, and the illustrations, as well as more open-ended questions that make you think and give your opinion. End the interview by sharing why you would or would not recommend the book to a friend.

**Story Necklaces**

After reading a book, use a piece of string to make a necklace representing the story in that book. Decorate that necklace with three symbols: one for the beginning of the story, one for the middle of the story, and one for the end of the story. Spend time making the symbol detailed with as much information as possible. For example, for the story of "The Three Little Pigs", the first symbol or picture might include some straw, some sticks, and some bricks. The second picture might include a wolf. The last picture might be a pig holding a brick. After you make the necklace, share it with someone in your family. Use each symbol to help you retell the story.

**Write a Letter to a Friend**

Stay in touch with your friend by sending him/her a handwritten letter. Be sure to start your letter with a greeting, such as "Dear friend, or Hi," and to close your letter with something like "Sincerely, or Your friend,". For an added touch, include a picture or something special you have been doing. Hint: Writing a letter is like having a conversation with the person who receives the letter. Typically, you share something about yourself and then ask a question so that the other person has a chance to respond. Asking questions invites the other person to participate in the conversation. Once you have written the letter, ask an adult to help you address an envelope and mail the letter.

**Scavenger Hunt**

Hide 5 objects around your home. Create a scavenger hunt with clues to help people find the items you have hidden. Write clues with specific details about how to find the objects. For example: "Object #2 is next to a green chair on the 1st floor of the house. Each clue should be written on a separate piece of paper. Ask someone to find your objects using the clues.

### **Make Your Own Comic**

After reading a book, make a comic based on the book you just read. Think about what happened in the book and choose events from the story that you want to draw. Be sure to follow the sequence of the story, including main events. Try to include a beginning, middle, and end of the story. Using a ruler and marker, divide the paper into squares. Draw one scene per square, and write captions beneath each drawing. Share your comic with someone in your family.

### **Make a Poster**

Listen to an audiobook or a book read aloud by an adult. Pretend that the main character in the book is going to make a movie and you need to advertise the movie. Make a poster with a picture of the main character in your favorite scene from the book. Be sure to include the title and author of the book, as well as the name of the main character. On your poster, include 5 words that describe the main character.

### **Create a Story Timeline**

After you read a book, draw a timeline of the events that happened in the story. Include what happened at the beginning of the story, what happened in the middle of the story, and what happened at the end of the story. Include a drawing of your favorite scene from the book.

### **Secret Message**

Write a secret message for someone in your family. Make your message beautiful and include one thing you love about that person. Surprise the person by hiding the message in a place where that person will find it.

### **Optional Skill Review**

For those of you who would like additional practice in the area of language arts, Tri-C Publication, Inc. offers a ***Summer Language Arts Review*** workbook. The book contains skill review with an answer key and can be ordered at [https://www.summerskills.com/summer\\_skills\\_books/language\\_arts\\_books/](https://www.summerskills.com/summer_skills_books/language_arts_books/). When ordering, please keep in mind that the summer skills book for the grade just completed is appropriate for most students.

**Suggested Summer Math Activities**  
**St. Thomas's Day School - Entering Third Grade**

The following is a list of activities that you may want to do over the summer with your child to have fun with math. The activities span a variety of levels and some of them may be difficult for your child. The activities are meant to be completed with an adult.

**Separating Numbers**

Make handouts of a three-columned chart with hundreds, tens, and units written across the top of the handout from left to right. Ask your child to write down some large numbers you announce by placing the digits in the correct column to represent the place value.

**Breakdown of a Day**

Instruct your child to write out his/her activities for the day, beginning with the time he/she gets up and ending with the time he/she go to sleep. Have your child label each activity with a start time and an end time. Ask your child to calculate the elapsed time for each activity. Further the activity by having your child order his/her activities from longest to shortest. Have your child do this for several days or a week.

**Plant a Graph**

Grow a plant. Every week, take measurements of the height of the plant. Keep a record and after a few weeks begin the line graph. On the "x-axis" (horizontal) have the week number and on the "y-axis" (vertical) have the height in centimeters. This graph can then be used for activities such as prediction, comparing growth between different weeks, or reviewing the height of the plant at the end of a specific week.

**Time Riddles**

On small strips of paper, write out a variety of story problem parts from which you can devise elapsed time problems for you and your child to solve. Include a variety of times (e.g. 2:55 p.m.), durations (e.g. 35 minutes), time-related prepositions (e.g. before or until), and a set of events (e.g. breakfast or soccer practice). Create a solvable math riddle using a time, duration, activity and preposition. For example, "There are thirty-five minutes until soccer practice. Soccer practice is at 2:55 p.m. What time is it now?" Work with your child to solve the riddle. Repeat this activity several times. An analog clock would be helpful for checking answers.

**Maps, Maps, Maps**

Gather several maps of different-sized geographic areas. For instance, you can use a school map, a city map, a state map, a map of the U.S., and a map of the world or a globe. Show how these maps use different units to measure length. Demonstrate how each map fits into the other. Let your child experiment with the maps and have them measure several distances on each map. Have your child draw conclusions about the size of the units. How many units wide is their state on a U.S. map? How wide is their state on the state map?

\* "Google Maps" is a friendly online adaptation of this activity.

**Which Do You Prefer to Eat?**

Make a deck of fraction cards with the same denominator. Ask your child whether s/he likes to eat a certain food. Tell your child to put a thumbs up (like it) or a thumbs down (dislike it). Pick up two fraction cards and ask your child which fraction s/he would prefer to eat of that food. Ask your child to draw the fraction. Make sure his/her choice correlates to his/her preference for that food (i.e. for disliked food, your child should choose the smaller fraction). Repeat the steps with another food. For a challenge, use fractions with different denominators.

### **Temperature**

Have your child check the temperature in the morning, afternoon, and evening. Use the information gathered to make a graph displaying the data from that day. Notice which time of day was the hottest and the coolest. Ask questions to stimulate your child's thinking, such as, "What happened to the temperature throughout the day?" Have your child collect temperature data for two days (adding more days when ready) and plot them on the same graph.

### **Fraction Go Fish**

To play this game you will need playing cards with fractions (halves, quarters, and thirds) on one side. The fractions can be depicted with both numerals and partially shaded circle graphs or just numerals. The rules are similar to regular Go Fish except that you need a variable number of matching cards to lay them down. To lay down a set, the player must collect enough of one fraction to equal one whole (2 halves, 3 thirds, 4 fourths)

Deal five cards to each player and spread the rest face down in the middle of the group. Players first inspect their cards and lay down any complete sets that they have. Then the person with the first turn asks another specific player for something he or she needs to make a set. If that person has it he or she must hand it over, if not he or she must say, "Go Fish," and the player picks a card from the pile in the middle. The first person to lay down all his or her cards wins.

### **Need to Regroup**

Give your child pieces of paper with the digits 0-9. Instruct your child to randomly build addition problems with three-, four-, or five-digit numbers. Tell your child that their problems must require regrouping. If the numbers he/she have built don't, have them switch certain digits so that regrouping becomes necessary. After solving the initial problem, have your child add another number to this existing sum. Remember, the operation must always require regrouping. You can also do this activity with subtraction.

### **Dreambox**

Have your child spend time reviewing the skills that were taught in 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade using Dreambox. Dreambox can be accessed from any computer, 24 hours a day using the link: <https://play.dreambox.com/login/aaft/sttds>

To access Dreambox from an iPad, go to <http://www.dreambox.com/ipad> or search for "Dreambox Math" in the App Store. When prompted in the app, use this School Code: aaft/sttds. Your child's name can be found in the class STTS-2.

\* For those of you who would like additional practice in the area of mathematics, Tri-C Publication, Inc. offers a ***Summer Math Skills Sharpener*** workbook. The book contains about thirty, 2-page lessons of mixed review with an answer key and can be ordered at <http://www.summerskills.com/books/summer-math-skills-sharpener-1>. When ordering, please keep in mind that the summer skills book for the grade just completed is appropriate for most students.

# St. Thomas's Day School

## Picture Books

- *Brother Eagle, Sister Sky, A Message from Chief Seattle* by Susan Jeffers
- *Dandelions* by Eve Bunting
- *Fly Free* by Roseanne Thong
- *The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses* by
- *The Junkyard Wonders* by Patricia Polocco
- *The Keeping Quilt* by Patricia Polocco
- *Mirette on the High Wire* by Emily Arnold McCully
- *Mirror* by Jeannie Baker
- *Miss Nelson is Missing* by Harry Allard
- *My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother* by Patricia Polocco
- *Nothing Ever Happens on 90<sup>th</sup> Street* by Roni Schotter
- *The Other Side* by Jacqueline Woodson
- *Red Dancing Shoes*
- *Red Dancing Shoes* by Denise Lewis Patrick
- *Rosa* by Nikki Giovanni
- *Rumpelstiltskin* by Paul Zelinsky
- *Saturdays and Tea Cakes* by Lester Laminack
- *The Selfish Giant* by Oscar Wilde
- *Smoky Night* by Eve Bunting
- *Tibili: The Little Boy Who Didn't Want to Go to School* by Marie Leonard

# Entering 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

## Chapter Books

- *A to Z Mysteries series* by Ron Roy
- *The Bailey School Kids series* by Marcia Thornton Jones and Debbie Dadey
- *The Boxcar Children series* by Gertrude Chandler Warner
- *Class Clown* by Joanna Hurwitz
- *Clementine* by Sara Pennypacker
- *Daisy Dawson series* by Daisy Dawson
- *Henry and Ribsy* by Beverly Cleary
- *How to Be Cool in Third Grade* by Betsy Duffy
- *How to Eat Fried Worms* by Thomas Rockwell
- *Judy Moody series* by Megan MacDonald
- *Kelsey Green, Reading Queen* by Claudia Mills
- *The Magical Ms. Plum* by Bonny Becker
- *Marty McGuire* by Kate Messner
- *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate
- *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *Stink series* by Megan McDonald
- *Third Grade Detectives* by George Edward Stanley
- *Time Warp Trio* by Jon Scieszca
- *The Trumpet of the Swan* by E. B. White

# Summer Reading List

## 2021 Nutmeg Nominees

- *After the Fall (How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again)* by Dan Satat
- *Because* by Mo Willems
- *Borrowing Bunnies: A Surprising True Tale of Fostering Bunnies* by Cynthia Lord
- *The Cardboard Kingdom* by Chad Sell
- *Carter Reads the Newspaper* by Deborah Hopkinson
- *Game Changers: The Story of Venus and Serena Williams* by Lesa Cline-Ransome
- *Ida, Always* by Caron Levis
- *The Infamous Ratsos* by Kara LaReau
- *Jasmine Toguchi, Mochi Queen* by Debbi Michiko Florence
- *Magic Ramen: The Story of Momofuku Ando* by Andrea Wang
- *Rescue & Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship* by Jessica Kensky & Patrick Downes
- *Seashells: More Than a Home* by Melissa Stewart
- *We Don't Eat Our Classmates* by Ryan T. Higgins
- *Wedgie & Gizmo* by Suzanne Selfors
- *The World is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Zaha Hadid* by Jeanette Winter

# St. Thomas's Day School

## Biographies

- *All Star! Honus Wagner the Most Famous Baseball Card Ever* by Jane Yolan
- *Django: World's Greatest Jazz Guitarist* by Bonnie Christensen
- *Duke Ellington* by Andrea Pinkney
- *Gabby Douglas: Going for Gold* by Tori Kosara
- *Go Free or Die: A Story About Harriet Tubman* by Jeri Ferris
- *Heart of a Champion: The Dominique Dawes Story* by Kim Washburn
- *Harvesting Hope: The Story of Caesar Chavez* by Kathleen Krull
- *Helen Keller* by Margaret Davidson and Wendy Watson
- *Martin's Big Words* by Doreen Rappaport
- *Pop! The Invention of Bubble Gum* by Meghan McCarthy
- *Through My Eyes: A Quarterback's Journey, Young Reader's Edition* by Tim Tebow
- *Time for Kids: Benjamin Franklin: A Man of Many Talents* by Editors of Time Kids
- *What Are You Figuring Now?: A Story About Benjamin Banneker* by Jeri Ferris
- *Who Was Blackbeard?* By James Buckley

# Entering 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

## Information Books

- *Around the Globe- Must See Places in North America* by Baby Professor
- *The Dorling Kindersley Ultimate Visual Dictionary* by Dorling Kindersley Publishing
- *George Did It* by Suzanne Tripp Jurmain
- *Hungry Plants* by Mary Batten
- *Let's Learn About Wolves* by Breanne Sartori
- *Moonwalk: The First Trip to the Moon* by Judy Donnelly
- *National Geographic Kids World Atlas* by National Geographic Author
- *The New Way Things Work* by David Macaulay and Neil Ardley
- *Ocean: A Visual Dictionary* by DK
- *Reef Life: A Guide to Tropical Marine Life* by Brandon Cole
- *Skeleton (Dorling Kindersley Eyewitness Books)* by Steve Parker
- *Time for Kids: The Big Book of Why – 1, 001 Facts Kids Want to Know* by Editors of TIME for Kids Magazine
- *Tsunamis (True Books: Earth Science)* by Chana Stiefel
- *The Very First Americans* by Cara Ashrose
- *Weird but True 7: Outrageous Facts* by National Geographic Kids
- *Weird Creatures* by Laura Marsh

# Summer Reading List

## Poetry

- *Almost Late to School* by Carol Diggory Shields
- *Blast Off: Poems About Space* by Lee Bennett Hopkins
- *Butterfly Eyes and Other Secrets of the Meadow* by Joyce Sidman
- *Falling Up* by Shel Silverstein
- *If You're Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand: Poems About School* by Kalli Dakos
- *It's Raining Pigs and Noodles* by Jack Prelutsky
- *Kids Pick The Funniest Poems* by Bruce Lansky
- *My Parents Think I am Sleeping* by Jack Prelutsky
- *The New Kids on the Block* by Jack Prelutsky
- *Poetry for Young People: Robert Frost* by Gary D. Schmidt and Henri Sorensen
- *Poems to Learn by Heart* by Caroline Kennedy
- *Street Music: City Poems* by Arnold Adoff
- *Take Me Out of the Bathtub and Other Silly Dilly Songs* by Alan Katz
- *Toasting Marshmallows: Camping Poems* by Kristine O'Connell George
- *Under the Moon & Over the Sea* by John Agard