

LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
English Language Arts Learning Expectations: Grade 3

Massachusetts  
Standards

Strand:  
Writing

Students will be able  
to:

With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. *(Standard 4)*

Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences. *(Standard 10)*

Big Ideas

- Through forms of writing, writers develop their ability to reason, communicate and defend ideas, and convey an experience to their audience.
- Writers who know how to change the organizational structures, word choice and tones of the texts they create are better able to convey the messages they intend.
- Effective writing requires both imaginative thinking and the ability to step back and critique one's creation in order to improve it.
- Use of standard English conventions are essential to a writer's success in conveying a message.
- Research encourages a deep and thorough exploration of a subject area in ways that build lasting knowledge and result in a more thorough understanding of the topic than that gained solely from individual sources or general reading.

Key Outcomes

Students will demonstrate an understanding of **writing** by:

- Writing opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons. *(Standard 1)*
- Writing informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. *(Standard 2)*
- Writing narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences. *(Standard 3)*
- Writing poems, descriptions, and stories in which figurative language and the sounds of words (*e.g., alliteration, onomatopoeia, and rhyme*) are key elements. *(Standard 3A)*

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the **writing process** by:

- Developing and strengthening writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing. *(Standard 5)*
- Using technology to produce and publish writing (*using keyboarding skills*) as well as interacting and collaborating with others. *(Standard 6)*

Students will demonstrate an understanding of **investigation to gain new insight** by:

- Conducting short research projects that build knowledge about a topic. (*Standard 7*)
- Recalling information from experiences or gathering information from print and digital sources; (*Standard 8*)

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### **Essential Knowledge and Skills**

**Students will:**

**Opinion** (*Standard 1*)

- Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.
- Provide reasons that support the opinion.
- Use linking words and phrases (*e.g., because, therefore, since, for example*) to connect opinion and reasons.
- Provide a concluding statement or section.

**Informative** (*Standard 2*)

- Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aiding comprehension.
- Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.
- Use linking words and phrases (*e.g., also, another, and, more, but*) to connect ideas within categories of information.
- Provide a concluding statement or section.

**Narrative** (*Standard 3*)

- Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.
- Use dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations.
- Use temporal words and phrases to signal event order.
- Provide a sense of closure.

**With guidance and support from peers and adults, students will:**

- Demonstrate a command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grade 3 when editing for conventions
- Take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.