Grade 3
Pass+
Third-grade students performing at the Pass+ level demonstrate advanced understanding when reading, comparing, and responding to a range of grade-level appropriate texts, including literature and nonfiction. Students display advanced writing skills using appropriate Standard English conventions when producing different writing forms.

When reading literature, such as fiction and poetry, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 3 students scoring at the Pass+ level include:

- Describe how each successive part of a text builds on earlier sections;
- Describe characters and how their actions contribute to the plot of a text; and
- Synthesize and connect ideas across texts of the same author.

When reading nonfiction, such as articles and excerpts from books, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 3 students scoring at the Pass+ level include:

- Determine the main idea in a text and use details to support main ideas;
- Determine relationships among events in texts; and
- Compare and contrast important points and details in two texts.

When writing, students craft well-organized, clearly focused, and detailed narrative, persuasive, and informative compositions, including a response to a literature or nonfiction text, using varied word choices and appropriate Standard English conventions. Specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 3 students scoring at the Pass+ level include:

- Write focused compositions containing several ideas and descriptive word choices;
- Connect ideas using transitions and phrases; and
- Provide a developed ending or concluding paragraph.

Grade 3
Pass
Third-grade students performing at the Pass level demonstrate proficient understanding when reading, comparing, and responding to a range of grade-level appropriate texts, including literature and nonfiction. Students display proficient writing skills using appropriate Standard English conventions when producing different writing forms.

When reading literature, such as fiction and poetry, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 3 students scoring at the Pass level include:

- Answer questions about what is read;
- Retell what is read;
- Determine theme;
- Describe characters; and
- Determine how an author uses words and phrases to provide meaning.
When reading **nonfiction** texts, such as articles and excerpts from books, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 3 students scoring at the *Pass* level include:

- Answer questions about what is read;
- Determine the main idea in a text;
- Explain how an author uses reasons and facts for support of ideas;
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text;
- Use text features to locate information in what is read;
- Identify text structure and understand its relevance; and
- Distinguish the purposes of various media messages.

When **writing**, students construct proficient narrative, persuasive, and informative compositions, including a response to a literature or nonfiction text, using mostly appropriate Standard English conventions. Examples of specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 3 students scoring at the *Pass* level include:

- Recognize reliable sources;
- Write to a specific audience and purpose;
- Write paragraphs with topic sentences;
- Provide an ending or concluding statement; and
- Write compositions containing interesting word choices and organized ideas.

**Grade 3**

** Did Not Pass  
Third-grade students performing at the *Did Not Pass* level demonstrate limited understanding when reading, comparing, and responding to a range of grade-level appropriate texts, including literature and nonfiction. Students display limited writing skills using basic appropriate Standard English conventions when producing different writing forms.

When reading **literature**, such as fiction and poetry, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 3 students scoring at the *Did Not Pass* level include:

- Find answers in a text;
- Determine point of view of the narrator or characters; and
- Use sentence clues to find meanings of unknown words.

When reading **nonfiction**, such as articles and excerpts from books, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 3 students scoring at the *Did Not Pass* level include:

- Find answers in a text;
- Use sentence clues to find meanings of unknown words; and
- Distinguish between fact and opinion.

When **writing**, students display limited writing skills when producing narrative, persuasive, and informative compositions, including a response to a literature or nonfiction text, using basic appropriate Standard English conventions. Examples of specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 3 students scoring at the *Did Not Pass* level include:

- Write complete sentences;
- Introduce ideas; and
- Write compositions containing basic word choices and ideas.